



JCKFTC

ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2023



WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Quick “Thank You”	PAGE 2
JCKFTC 2023: In Review.....	PAGE 3
Education Policy (JCPS & Beyond).....	PAGE 4
Energy & Climate Justice	PAGE 5
2023 Youth Organizing Fellowship.....	PAGE 7
Democracy Work.....	PAGE 8
Gallery: Life in JCKFTC.....	PAGE 9
Get Involved.....	PAGE 11

A Quick “Thank You”

Dear JCKFTC member and friend,

As the end of 2023 approaches, we want to share our gratitude for your support throughout this BIG year of change! JCKFTC is now stronger because of the community we have been able to create here in Louisville’s hub, Smoketown. Together, we have ate, made art, analyzed elections, and shared our hearts – and we’re only getting started.

As you read through this annual report, it is our hope that you’ll see the power of “we”. Across issues and landscapes, JCKFTC has carved out a space to nurture and empower; From our triumphs in our Power101 courses to challenging the systems around us in education, energy justice and voting rights.

We’ve (still) got work to do. Continue to join us and speak truth to power.

Thank you.

Take good care and see you in 2024,
Flaco, Nyeila, Julie & Imani - The JCKFTC Organizing Team



JCKFTC 2023: In Review

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Held every second Monday of the month, members of the Jefferson County Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (JCKFTC) convene with organizers to discuss community issues and projects. Ranging from flagship chapter issues like Education policy, Youth Organizing and Democracy Work – chapter members make up a diverse community of issues and work done around Louisville.

2023 ANNUAL (JCKFTC) MEETING

- Raised annual chapter fundraising goal to \$7,500
- Elected Sandra Shanaberger as steering committee representative, and Amelia Acosta Powell as alternate



QUICK STATS ON 2023 JCKFTC MEMBERSHIP

- **137** members since January 2023
- **426** over **9** monthly chapter meeting sign-ups (total for 2023)
 - **Second highest** event registrations across KFTC-state
- **9** Power101 Courses overall with **95%** attendee experience responsiveness
- Funded (through member donations & organization allocations) **\$10,000** Youth Organizing Fellowship, including stipends for **12 fellows (aged 9+)**

Education Policy 2023 (JCPS & Beyond)

In Spring 2023, KFTC undertook a massive project in collaboration with Race Forward's HEAL Together campaign to survey and listen to community concerns around education policy. Ranging from issues on transportation, curriculum, and school redistricting, the JCKFTC Education Policy work-team took listening sessions around Louisville's communities to capture the needs and experiences of JCPS families and educators.

TAKEAWAYS

- 52+ responses to HEAL Together survey (75% of participants from Jefferson County as of mid-August 2023)
- 4 listening sessions held around Louisville in Downtown, West and South-end neighborhoods
- 8 Education Policy Work Team Meetings with 105+ registrations
- Representation from organizations:
 - Louisville Male High School Black Student Union;
 - Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS);
 - JCPS Diversity Equity and Poverty dept;
 - Leadership for Educational Equity;
 - Metro United Way of Louisville;
 - University of Louisville - Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences dept
 - Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)



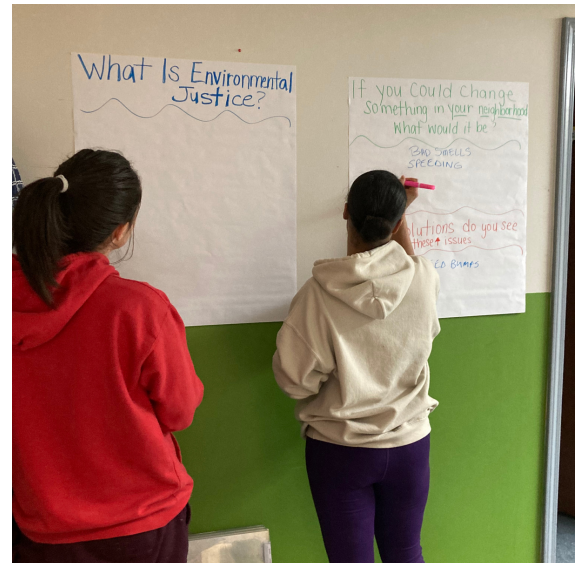
Energy & Climate Justice

CLEAN AIR, CLEAN ENERGY & A HEALTHY FUTURE

Energy Justice Working Group Launched the Campaign Against LG&E's Risky Gas Plants!

In 2023, members:

- Launched a campaign against LG&E's risky gas plants, fighting against the approvals that LG&E needed from the KY Public Service Commission (PSC).
- Rallied outside of LG&E headquarters in August against the gas plants and their other planned fossil fuel infrastructure.
- Volunteered to go canvassing with the VEs in August to raise awareness about the issue.
- Garnered more than 400 comments to the PSC against the gas plants, with our partner network Kentuckians for Energy Democracy.
- Spoke out against the gas plants at the PSC's public meetings in Louisville and online.
- Spoke out against the risky gas plants at the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control Board meetings in October and November.
- Are continuing to fight for clean air, clean energy, and a healthy future for Louisville!



Energy & Climate Justice

CLEAN AIR, CLEAN ENERGY & A HEALTHY FUTURE

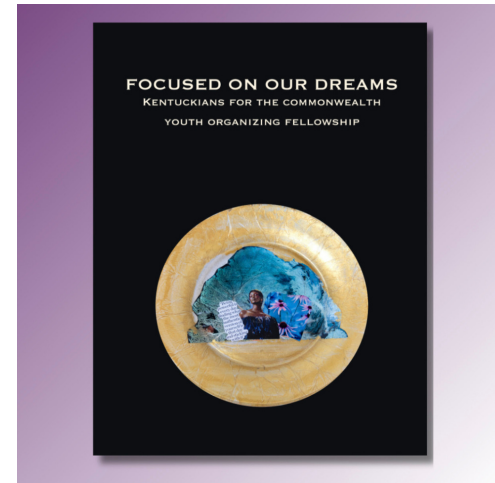
KY Just Transition Coalition Envisions a Climate Resilient Future for Louisville

- Launched a campaign to ensure that the federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is equitably implemented in Louisville to lead to transformative changes.
- Hosted 5 volunteer events to go canvassing in:
 - Park Duvalle
 - Shawnee
 - California
 - Chickasaw
 - Smoketown
- Facilitated 5 Community Visioning Sessions to hear community members' top environmental concerns and their dreams for an improved neighborhood, and a more sustainable, equitable Louisville.
- Play Cousins Collective joined coalition partners of KFTC, REACT, KSEC, SEIU-IUE, CWA, and Hood to the Holler.

More Awesome Energy Justice Work in Jefferson County KFTC:

- 4 Voter Empowerment Canvassers (VEs) canvassed for energy and climate justice 20 hours a week for 9 weeks, having 667 deep conversations at the door about pollution, LG&E's risky gas plants, and envisioning a more resilient future together.
- Julie attended Climate Justice Alliance national convening in July to meet with other folks moving the climate movement forward as BIPOC-led, base-building organizations.
- With the Metropolitan Housing Coalition & Louisville Metro Government, we were accepted into a U.S. Department of Energy program called Communities LEAP (Local Energy Action Program).
 - Hosted a Housing Stakeholder Session in December and Cassia Herron spoke about KFTC's work.
 - Were awarded a US Department of Energy Buildings Upgrade Prize, receiving \$400,000 for energy efficiency in affordable housing in Louisville.

2023 Youth Organizing Fellowship



The 2023 Youth Organizing Fellowship is a program by the Jefferson County chapter of KFTC (JCKFTC) and Black Lives Matter Louisville (BLML) to equip and engage Louisville Youth in activism & social justice issues specific to Louisville and Kentucky, with a theme of Environmental Justice. Locally sourced from JCKFTC's partnership with Noe Middle School art students, the program is a continuation of the collaborative process between traditional and community learning: empowering students to expand their interests outside of the classroom, into new environments.

The 2023 cohort supported 12 stipend-paid local JCPS (elementary to middle school) students with 6-day, no-cost programming – touring the Carl Braden Center, Chickasaw Park, the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, Louisville City Hall and the Lyric Theatre (Lexington, KY).

- **Storytelling and community organizing**
- **Understanding Power**
- **Intersections between Climate, Race, Age, and Artivism**
- **2023 Youth Art Book in collaboration with Julia Youngblood**
- **Outside-In Strategy: City Politics**

Democracy at Work

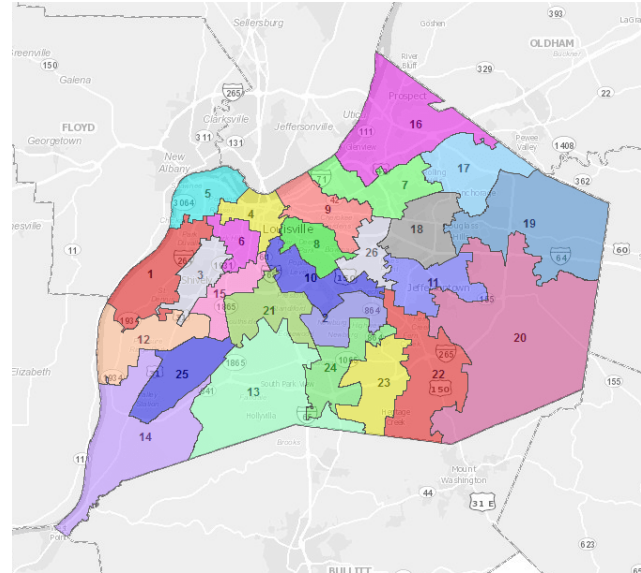
CHAPTER ENDORSEMENTS: 2023 Louisville Metro Council

In September 2023 JCKFTC members engaged in a survey to gauge input on endorsements in 2023 Louisville Metro Council elections for districts 3, 6, 8 – plus level of endorsement

- 18 responses from JCKFTC membership
- Chapter elected to recommend KFTC/New Power PAC endorsements for:
 - Shameka Parrish-Wright (DEM - Lou Metro district 3)
 - Philip Baker (DEM/Incumbent - Lou Metro district 6)
 - Ben Reno-Weber (DEM/Incumbent - Lou Metro district 8)

SCOPE & IMPACT

- 4 PAC Canvassing events in endorsed districts
- 15,000+ voters texted in districts 3, 6 & 8 by JCKFTC Members & Allies
- 9,000+ voters called in CallHub Campaign

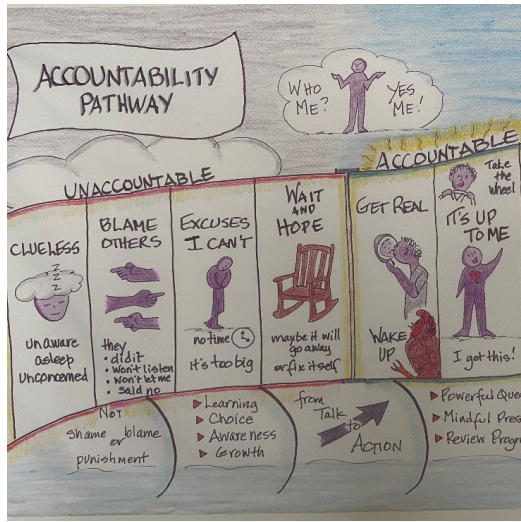


A campaign poster for the Metro Council Text-Bank Party. It features three candidates: Shameka Parrish-Wright (District 3), Phillip Baker (District 6), and Ben Reno-Weber (District 8). The poster includes the logos for 'NEW POWER' and 'KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH Jefferson County'. A text box at the bottom provides details for the virtual session on Friday, November 3, 2023, at 6pm, with a registration link and sign-up URL. The text at the bottom reads: 'Join JCKFTC as we text-bank for our metro council endorsements!'.



This work is made possible by you.







KEEP UP WITH US IN 2024.

LOCAL ORGANIZERS:

- Flaco Aleman - flaco@kftc.org
- Nyeila Jones - nyeila@kftc.org
- Julie Donna - julie@kftc.org
- Imani Smith - imani@kftc.org



LOUISVILLE OFFICE:

735 Lampton Street, Louisville, KY
40203

P.O. Box 1450, London, KY 40743

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KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH JEFFERSON COUNTY

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