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GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION - January 26, 2008

## **Poor People's Caravan & Movement Assembly** - Atlanta, GA

Monday 11 February 2008, by Collective / Multiple signers (Date first published: 11 February 2008).

The People's Movement Assembly process is one way organizations are working to build on the momentum of the first US Social Forum and engage communities to build organizing models to respond to local pressures and increase grassroots power. In Atlanta, we held a Young People's Assembly (December 2007) and a Poor People's Movement Assembly to connect local demands to coordinated actions including the World Social Forum Global Day of Action on January 26, 2008.

Initiated by the organizers of the annual **Poor People's Day** events at the Capitol (Georgia Citizens' Coalition on Hunger, Project South, and the Up & Out of Poverty Now! Coalition) and inspired by the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic Poor People's Campaign for Economic Justice launched by Dr. King in 1968, this multi-issue coalition brought the voices and demands of millions of working and poor people to the Georgia State Capitol. We stood side by side with movements around the world answering the **World Social Forum's call for a GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION** 

## Poor People's Caravan and People's Movement Assembly

Close to 600 strong.

Five 25ft monster flatbed trucks

3 busloads

20 trucks and cars

And . . .

1 horse and buggy

Caravaned for 8 miles through downtown Atlanta

We posted up banners at **6 sites** including Grady Hospital (Healthcare for the People), Atlanta Detention Center (Freedom for the People), MARTA (Accessible Transportation for the People), Luxury condos (Housing for the People), CNN Center (Media for the People), and Atl Public Schools (Education for the People).

Task Force for the Homeless staged a Reverse Eviction at the Atlanta Housing Authority to protest the mass evictions and scheduled demolition of Atlanta Public Housing. The huge caravan for liberation converged on the Georgia State Capitol where SPARK/Georgians for Choice held a Reproductive Justice rally. The crowd marked their votes for quality education, migrant rights, disability rights, accessible transportation, affordable housing, and other issues on The People's Ballot with spray paint and stencils to demand transformation of our city, state, country, and world.

The Caravan rolled to the Georgia Citizen's Coalition on Hunger for the Poor People's Movement Assembly. We shared food and felllowship. We heard from speakers, testimonials, and the amazing Youth Ensemble of Atlanta. We broke out into workshop groups to discuss the root causes, effects, and solutions to Poverty, Racism, and War & Violence. The groups announced **12 Resolutions for Action** that demand community-led changes ranging from Living Wages and Family Support to the end of the militarization of our communities. (We will send out a final version of the Resolutions for Action in a formal report as part of the People's Movement Assemblies happening across the country.) It was cold outside, but the fires were burning in our hearts, and our spirits were HIGH!

Huge shout outs to all the volunteers and sponsoring organizations – including: Georgia Peace & Justice Coalition, People's Institute for Survival & Beyond, WAND, GA Vote Connection, the Grady Coalition, Equal Voice Campaign, the Task Force, SPARK; and the entire Poor People's Day Planning Committee led by the Hunger Coalition for working on key pieces throughout the process.

Check out the attached pictures the following links to videos so you can see and hear this fabulous action –  $% \left( \mathcal{A}_{1}^{2}\right) =0$ 

LINKS to videos and coverage of Poor People's Caravan, Assembly, and the Global Day of Action Press conference:

Thanks to Artemis Productions for all the great video coverage.

\*Were Making Noise!! ACTION VIDEO

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UM\_Wtq6azFw&NR=1

Global Day of Action Press Conference:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkgFEI-DHFk&feature=related

Theresa Davis Prelude 2 Global Day of Action:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NHpRxfov94&feature=related

Emery Wright at the Global Press Conference:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXLEx4C0tsE&feature=related

Sandra Robertson:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULAIsI0FTAI&feature=related

Global Day of Action Interviews:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdShLPHp\_I0&NR=1

We made the Evening News! (4 channels, at 6pm, 11pm, and 7am the next day!)

\*11Alive News Article:

http://www.11alive.com/news/article\_news.aspx?storyid=110212

GALEO Poor Peoples Day article:

http://www.galeo.org/story.php?story\_id=0000004109

Also . . . Check out <u>http://www.myspace.com/peoplesmovementassembly</u>