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PASTANDSUP.ORG



**State:** Pennsylvania

**Core Constituency/Target Audience:** Working people from urban and rural communities

**Website:** [pastandsup.org](http://pastandsup.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/PAStandsUp](https://facebook.com/PAStandsUp)

**Twitter:** @PAStandsUp

**Instagram:** @pa\_stands\_up

**Donate:** [secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-pa-pasu](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-pa-pasu)

PA Stands Up was founded in 2018 with the goal of building a multiracial movement of working people committed to creating a Pennsylvania that works for everyone. They have allowed for several grassroots organizations and campaigns across the state to combine forces, deepen their involvement, and scale up their work to build people power across Pennsylvania.

Over the past three years, PA Stands Up has made tremendous gains across the state, developing nascent resistance groups into lasting grassroots infrastructure in areas where there had been little to no progressive investment. By investing deeply in membership development and new organizing tactics, PA Stands Up has created one of the strongest independent organizations in the country.

## STATE LEGISLATIVE WORK

PA Stands Up works to elect progressive champions to the state legislature. They will be working to expand their membership, develop new leaders and equip progressive candidates with the skills they need to run and win in 2022.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PA Stands Up did much of the work that helped lead to a Biden victory in Pennsylvania and helped elect progressive champions at the state legislative level in 2020. In 2020 alone, they made more than 8.6 million voter contact attempts and held more than 450,000 conversations with Pennsylvania voters. They also engaged 2,000 dues-paying members, nearly doubling their membership.

## GOALS IN 2022 CYCLE

PA Stands Up has launched a new candidate training program focused on winning the state legislature in 2022. Their long-term goal is to build governing power that is multiracial, working class, and committed to co-governance. In 2022, they aim to:

- Hold elected leaders accountable on the issues that matter.
- Grow their active volunteer base and develop grassroots leaders in urban and rural areas.
- Train existing leaders, identify and cultivate new leaders, and prioritize multiracial, working class, and youth leadership.
- Recruit and train a cohort of progressive champions for the state legislature.
- Elect champions to the US Senate, Congress and state governorship.

## ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO PA STANDS UP

PA Stands Up is harnessing the power of organizing statewide issue campaigns that cut across urban and rural communities. This year, they are focused on 3 priority campaigns:

### **Climate**

PA Stands Up is working to tie climate justice to economic and racial justice, mobilizing a larger, multiracial base to counteract fracking and slow/reverse the effects of the climate crisis.

### **Housing**

PA Stands Up is working to guarantee accessible, adequate and affordable housing for all -- in rural counties and in cities.

### **Mass Liberation**

In the wake of the 2020 protests for Black liberation, PA Stands Up is working on local and statewide transformation to the criminal justice system -- from jails and prisons to police in schools.



## STATE BRIDGES SPEAKER

### Carrie Santoro, Interim Executive Director

Carrie Santoro is the Interim Executive Director of Pennsylvania Stands Up, a multi-racial grassroots organization with 9 local chapters and more than 2,000 dues paying members committed to building a Pennsylvania for all of us. Carrie was a founding member of Lehigh Valley Stands Up and chair of the PA Stands Up Delegates Assembly. Before coming to PA Stands Up, she was the Campaign Manager for Rev. Dr. Greg Edwards' historic campaign for US Congress and she has held senior organizing and communications roles at labor, faith, and immigrants' rights organizations. Carrie grew up in a conservative, working class family in small town Pennsylvania. She is a survivor of poverty and the proud mother of two children.

## IN THE NEWS

- ['Democracy requires full representation': Group pushes for racially equitable redistricting | Thursday Morning Coffee](#)
- [For Pennsylvania election, grassroots groups unite in novel strategy to beat Trump](#)
- [These Pennsylvania Organizers Don't Want To Be Called Saviors – They're Survivors](#)
- [PA progressives see Biden's infrastructure push as a chance to go big on climate change](#)

## PENNSYLVANIA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided Government (since 2015)
- **Gubernatorial Election:** 2022
- **Length of House term:** 2 years
- **Length of Senate term:** 4 years
- **Redistricting:** A bipartisan redistricting commission draws Pennsylvania's Congressional and state maps.
- **Sister District Target:** Blue Inroads