

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

A CHRISTIAN VOICE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS JUSTICEREVIVAL.ORG

### **LETTER FROM** THE BOARD CHAIR **& EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### **Dear Fellow Advocate,**

Last year brought a number of breakthroughs and new beginnings in Justice Revival's quest to expand and deepen Christian commitment to human rights in the United States, even as we lamented modest legislative progress at home and grave new threats to justice abroad.

As our nation continued to feel the effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic, we successfully pivoted to provide innovative Christian education on justice and rights through a new, web-based event series. Through "The Heart of Human Rights: Faith-Fueled Advocacy on Issues of Our Day," we hosted leading faith and justice experts to address timely topics such as voting rights, policing reform, and gender equality under the law. Hundreds of faith advocates across the nation joined us for these unique educational programs and many reported immediate plans to take action in response.

Through our expanding seminary education efforts, Justice Revival brought Christian insight on human rights to current and future faith leaders around the world, reaching an international audience through the Overseas Ministry Study Center and forging a new partnership with a Baptist seminary in Northern Virginia.

Our 2021 programming included our first-ever event to honor Human Rights Day and Advent, with special guest Lisa Sharon Harper giving a resounding keynote address. The year also brought our first Texasbased lecture series. All events were held virtually, given the public health situation.

Perhaps our boldest step forward in 2021 was convening and launching the #Faith4ERA campaign, a growing interfaith movement for equal rights under the U.S. Constitution. Justice Revival has recruited a dozen organizational partners, garnered hundreds of faith leader signatures, advocated with key U.S. lawmakers, and taken to the media airwaves to call for recognition of the Equal Rights Amendment. We were honored to receive a note of commendation from one U.S. senator, and accolades from both sides of the aisle for our Policy Brief on the ERA.

In the face of sustained partisan division, we continued to renew our conviction that the image of God in each cherished individual must be respected. Violations around the world - from the military junta in Myanmar, to the civil war in Ethiopia, to the Taliban takeover of



#### LEARN MORE ABOUT

The Heart of Human Rights justicerevival.org/ education

#Faith4ERA justicerevival.org/era

Policy Brief on the ERA justicerevival.org/brief

Afghanistan - remind us how urgent the cause of liberal democracy, rule of law, and universal human rights remain. As we pray for neighbors in each of these places, and now Ukraine, we sustain hope that America will live more fully into its promised ideals of freedom, equality, and justice for all - for the good of our citizens at home and the wider world.

We remain grateful and inspired by the many fellow sojourners who make up the Justice Revival community, now over 4,500 strong. Thank you for sharing this vision of upholding the inherent rights of all God's children, as a way to welcome a more just and peaceful future. Your presence and partnership remind us that God is indeed here in our collective midst, an active agent in the sacred struggle for justice.

In solidarity & faith,

Jennifer Gee

Allyson McKinney Timm

Jennifer Gee Board Chair

**Allyson McKinney Timm** Founder & Executive Director *Left:* Hundreds of faithful advocates joined Justice Revival online for a new series of timely events on urgent human rights issues, and many reported immediate plans to take direct action in response.

*Right:* Students at Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia heard from Justice Revival Founder Allyson McKinney Timm, who opened the spring lecture series sponsored by the Morrison-Novakovic Center for Faith and Public Policy.

3

## CHRISTIAN HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

### "The Heart of Human Rights" - A Web-Based Event Series

In 2021, Justice Revival launched Phase II of our flagship human rights education program by creating a web-based event series that brought together leading faith advocates and human rights experts to explore a range of urgent justice issues.

This series, "The Heart of Human Rights: Faith-Fueled Advocacy on Issues of Our Day," highlights courageous leaders' struggles and triumphs for justice in modern-day America, and underscores the human rights dimensions of these causes. Events on protecting voting rights, transforming policing, and ensuring constitutional equality drew hundreds of participants from across the nation and remains available online as an educational resource: justicerevival.org/education.

Nevada State Senator and ordained minister, Dr. Pat Spearman, and Freedom Road, LLC president, author, and activist Lisa Sharon Harper joined us for, "Full Inclusion, True Equality, Greater Justice." They underscored our shared moral responsibility to pursue gender equality, and the historic opportunity Americans have to secure an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Rev. Alvin Herring, executive director of Faith in Action. and Myrna Pérez, then director of the Brennan Center's Voting **Rights and Elections Program** and now a federal judge on the Second Circuit, joined Justice Revival for "The Right on Which All Others Rest: Defending the Sacred Right to Vote." These experts illuminated the many ways voter suppression targets communities on the basis of race. They emphasized the urgency of working to secure an unfettered right for all U.S. citizens to access the ballot box, and the important role people of faith can play in this movement.

Nicole Austin-Hillery of Human Rights Watch, Justin Hansford of the Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center, and Rev. Terrance M. McKinley of Sojourners joined us for "Uprooting Racism and Reimagining Policing." Together, these leaders analyzed the racially discriminatory state of U.S. policing and discussed appeals to international human rights authorities for accountability. They inspired listeners to play an active role in eradicating this abuse.

Thank you to all of you who joined us and took action in response! Many of you reported plans to contact your Members of Congress, educate and mobilize within your church, and learn more about your local community's experiences of injustice.

Justice Revival will continue this series in 2022, with planned events on abolishing the death penalty, responding to violence against women, and ending solitary confinement of prisoners. Each event will again include specific calls to action. Keep an eye on our events page for details: **justicerevival.org/events**.

#### Seminary and Church-Based Education

Justice Revival continues our focus on educating current and rising faith leaders on the profound interconnections between Christian convictions



#### **2021 HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS**



and human rights principles. In 2021, we forged a new partnership with **John Leland Center for Theological Studies** in Arlington, Virginia, a seminary in the Baptist tradition. Allyson McKinney Timm taught several classes for the school's "Institute for Justice Formation," using case studies of George Floyd's murder and the migrant family separation crisis to explore how Christian thinkers understand human rights as an expression of biblical justice.

Justice Revival also returned to the **Overseas Ministry Study Center**, now housed at **Princeton Theological Seminary**, to offer an online seminar version of our flagship course, "**Human Rights in Christian Perspective**." This course was tailored for the international cohort of missionaries, pastors, and scholars who spend a sabbatical season at OMSC—including participants from Myanmar, Iran, and China, for whom human rights concerns were pressing and personal.

Over the summer, Allyson McKinney Timm presented the annual summer lecture series at **St. Phillip Presbyterian Church** in Houston, Texas. About forty members of the congregation gathered to explore biblical and theological sources of human rights that inform our Christian witness for justice in the world.

If your faith community is interested in inviting Justice Revival to preach, teach, or discuss human rights in person or online, reach out at: **justicerevival.org/invite-us**.





*Left:* Justice Revival's Allyson McKinney Timm addressed the Pepperdine Caruso School of Law community for their Dean's Speaker Series in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. She shared the story behind the #Faith4ERA Campaign and drew from her experiences advocating for gender equality in the U.S and overseas.

*Right:* Justice Revival released the Interfaith Statement of Support for the Equal Rights Amendment in February 2021. Lisa Sharon Harper (pictured) along with fifty other Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and other faith leaders urged Congress early on to clear the way for the ERA. Over 500 more faith leaders have since endorsed the petition.



"Christians believe that all people have the divine fingerprint and are fearfully, wonderfully made. The church has a responsibility to protect these lives. We've allowed others to take lives that only God can give and take."

-REV. TERRANCE M. MCKINLEY Director of Racial Justice Mobilizing, Sojourners



"I think we all know that [ultimately] love and justice wins, but we need to be using our hands to write the middle of the story."

-MYRNA PÉREZ

Former Director of the Brennan Center's Voting Rights and Elections Program, Federal Judge on the Second Circuit

5

### **FULL INCLUSION, TRUE EQUALITY:** THE #FAITH4ERA CAMPAIGN

The year 2021 saw Justice Revival break ground on an historic interfaith campaign for gender equality in our nation's constitution. In February, Justice Revival convened the #Faith4ERA campaign, a diverse interfaith initiative that currently includes a dozen organizational partners, united in support for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

The ERA is a basic human rights reform that ensures:

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

A large majority of Americans support the ERA, and most mistakenly believe it has already been adopted. The U.S. is among a small minority of countries that lacks language to protect women's rights or prohibit gender discrimination in its constitution. Now that three fourths of states have ratified the ERA, it should be the 28th Amendment, but political opposition has left its status unclear.

The campaign began with the launch of an Interfaith Statement of Support for the ERA, signed by over 560 Protestant, Catholic,



Media covered the growing groundswell of interfaith support for the ERA. Justice Revival published several op-ed articles, including one in The Columbus Dispatch, which drew support from Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown.



Evangelical, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, and Sikh faith leaders. Our partners at Sojourners and Freedom Road, among others, joined us for a media event in February to voice our shared conviction, affirmed in the Statement, that **all people are** equally valuable in the sight of their Creator, and thus deserve equal regard in human laws and legal systems.

Using our expertise at the crossroads of human rights and Christian ethics, Justice Revival also published an expert Policy Brief on the Equal Rights Amendment, making the Christian and legal case for this watershed reform.

Allyson McKinney Timm's March article in **Sojourners** magazine, "If We are Equal Before God, We Must be Equal Before the State," debunked common myths about the ERA and explored the basis in Christian theology for equal rights under the law.

*Left:* Justice Revival and #Faith4ERA campaign allies mobilized faith leaders and advocated with key U.S. senators from Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and West Virginia for a bill to remove an arbitrary congressional deadline on ERA ratification. Pictured here are Justice Revival and Sojourners advocates outside the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

*Right:* In December people of faith across the country joined Justice Revival to celebrate Advent and Human Rights Day, and to reflect on our struggles for justice in 2021. Founding Board Member Rev. Erin K. Grayson hosted the event, which set our growing community on fire for justice.

While religious opponents are often blamed for thwarting the cause of equality five decades ago, we are working hard to write a new history in which Christ followers declare that our daughters, sisters, mothers, and LGBTQ+ siblings all count equally.

Justice Revival would like to express our continued gratitude to **Debbie McLeod** of Houston. Texas and the Grant Me the Wisdom Foundation, who generously provided the financial foundation for our ERA campaign in earlier years.

advocacy efforts.

In pursuit of anti-racist criminal justice reform, we endorsed calls to the United Nations for international accountability for excessive police force against Black Americans. We kept the Justice Revival community up to date on voting rights, with digital explainers on draft legislation, racially biased voting restrictions, and ways to support voting rights access for all U.S. citizens.

Justice Revival raised awareness about a spike in anti-Asian hate crime reports in early 2021 and urged Christians to speak out against discrimination and hateful speech. During Pride Month, we stood in solidarity and compassion with the LGBTQ+ community.

Justice Revival stepped outside our customary domestic focus to sign an interfaith statement on the crisis in Myanmar, urging the military junta to stop indiscriminate violence that claimed civilian lives, worsened displacement, and increased food insecurity. Human rights violations in any context are a threat to the dignity of all God's children.

## **A CHRISTIAN VOICE** FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In honor of Human Rights Day and Advent, the Justice Revival community gathered online in December to listen, pray, sing, and worship in the spirit of Beloved Community. The Rev. Erin K. Grayson, a founding Justice Revival board member, hosted "Reflect, Revive, Rejoice!," our first event of this kind.

Throughout the year, Justice Revival stood up for human rights in the United States and beyond through our digital education and

7

### **MILESTONES**

Justice Revival was thrilled to grow our team in 2021, adding our first Program Officer, Charlie **Palladino**, and Communications Manager, Mary Grace Puszka. These skilled part-time professionals have been vital to our accomplishments this year.

We were blessed to have a number of talented interns and volunteers join us throughout the year. Thank you Naomi Wong Hemme, Emily Swanigan, Mary Katherine McCullough, Prachi Lawani, Megan Perry, Iris Jung, and Meghan Tschanz for your dedication and commitment to this mission and vision.

We are continually grateful for the dedication and vision of our governing board of directors,



"It has always been my dream to work at a human rights organization

and my internship with Justice Revival allowed me to merge my Christian faith and my passion for human rights. This internship has helped me find ways to advocate for all people to have the opportunities that I have been blessed to have."

-PRACHI LALWANI



who contribute their time, energy, expertise, and financial support to Justice Revival throughout the year. Special thanks to Erin **Grayson** for hosting our inaugural Human Rights Day event and Teisha Garrett for her invaluable hands-on help throughout our Human Rights Day fundraising campaign.

The Justice Revival team gathered in Washington, D.C. for our first in-person summer retreat, themed "Renewing Our Strength in the Lord." The team traveled from Florida, New York, Maryland, and Virginia for a day of fellowship and renewal. We reflected on scripture, learned more about our teammates, and shared strategies for personal and professional growth.



The Justice Revival Board meets on Zoom: Derick D. Dailey, Board Treasurer; Jennifer Gee, Board President; Patrick Carolan, Former Board Member; Allyson McKinney Timm, Fundraising & Communications Intern Board Member; Erin K. Grayson, Board Secretary; and Teisha Garrett, Board Member.

### **FINANCIAL** REPORTS

Your continued generosity sustained Justice Revival's growing momentum in 2021. A total of 118 donor households and organizations contributed \$87,707. Individual donors again made up the largest component of revenue at 86.7%. Grant income (including employer and foundation matching gifts) amounted to 11% and organizational income (from churches) nearly 2%.

#### While our 2021 revenue represents a modest 5.19% decrease compared to 2020, it does not reflect an additional \$36,500 in donations initiated in 2021 but delayed due to mail and administrative issues. With those funds included, Justice Revival would have seen total contribution income of \$124,207 in 2021, for growth of 34% over 2020. This would be consistent with our significant year over year revenue growth since 2018.



"Justice Revival is a community of passionate and loving individuals

who are working tirelessly to advocate for human rights for all people in the United States. It was a blessing to be part of this team."

-MARY KATHERINE MCCULLOUGH Advocacy & Mobilizing Coordinator on the ERA

Through continued fiscal discipline, we spent just 81% of our approved budget in 2021. Over 68% of expenditures went directly to our education and advocacy programs. Net operating income of -\$26,630 for the year was better than budgeted, as we had planned to invest up to \$33,345 of retained earnings to promote continued growth.

Justice Revival closed the year with over \$45,000 in cash on hand and a healthy donor retention rate of over 50%, well above the nonprofit industry average.

Board Treasurer





#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AS OF DEC. 31, 2021

INCOME	
Contributions - Individuals	76,047
Contributions - Organizations	1,660
Grant	10,000
In-Kind	49,000
Total Income	136,707
EXPENSES	
Communications & Marketing	4,013
Fundraising	2,196
Personnel Expenses	80,502
In-Kind	49,000
Program Expenses	3,043
Rent & Office	8,418
Professional Services	8,855
Printing and Related	1,920
Insurance	2,163
Depreciation Expense	1,858
Other Expenses	3,743
Total Expenses	165,712
Change in Net Assets	(29,005)
Net Assets Beginning of Period	74,943
Net Assets End of Period	45,937

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DEC. 31, 2021

ASSETS	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	46,322
Fixed Assets - Net	2,542
Other Assets	-
Total Assets	48,864
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	-
Other Liabilities	2,927
Total Liabilities	2,927
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	45,937
Restricted	-
Total Net Assets	45,937
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	48,864

## **THANKS TO** OUR DONOR COMMUNITY

We would like to extend a special word of heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed financially to Justice Revival's ministry in 2021. Thank you for giving generously to continue growing our capacity to inspire and support Christian action for human rights.



## DONOR HONOR ROLL

### **Benefactors**

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Left: Long-time Justice Revival partner Prof. Jeffrey R. Baker (left) and Dean Chalak Richards (center) hosted Allyson McKinnev Timm for a student faculty dinner after Timm's keynote lecture at Pepperdine Caruso School of Law. Also pictured are law students Lindsey Kirchoff (right) and Marielle Sider (second from right), who have worked in support of our ministry.

*Right:* Using our expertise at the crossroads of human rights and Christian ethics, Justice Revival published an expert Policy Brief on the Equal Rights Amendment, which received accolades from both sides of the aisle

Marsha Rhea Jessica Rodzen David W. Roones Michael Shelley Bonnie Sherman Jennifer Taddeo Meghan Tschanz Jennifer Villegas Margo & Larry Williams Justin Winslow



### RENEW YOUR SUPPORT IN 2022

The faithful commitment shown by members of this community as been a powerful source of support for Justice Revival's mission of defending human rights. Thanks to your generosity and vision, this ministry has continued to innovate, expand, and grow the impact of our education and advocacy programs year after year.

If you're among the hundreds of donors who have supported our work in the past, we want to reiterate our gratitude for all of your contributions, and ask if you can sustain or increase your giving this year.

If you've not yet made a financial gift, we hope you'll prayerfully consider making 2022 the year when you participate with a donation of any size, as an outward expression of your personal commitment to justice for all.

Your gift in 2022 will enable Justice Revival to expand the reach of our groundbreaking Christian human rights education program, with calls to action on abolishing the death penalty, ending solitary confinement, and eradicating gender based violence. It will continue growing the historic #Faith4ERA campaign for full constitutional equality. You'll be supporting efforts to preach, teach, and proclaim that God's love for justice should mean human rights for all.

A CHRISTIAN VOICE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS JUSTICEREVIVAL.ORG We hope you'll consider making a sustaining monthly gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or any amount you feel moved to give. Your generous support makes an important difference!

To donate today visit: justicerevival.org/donate.



Justice Revival P.O. Box 6216 Washington, DC 2015

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