

**QUARTERLY REPORT**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER**  
**October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**  
**WLIB-AM**

**4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER REPORT**

**October 7th- Happy Birthday Rev. Sharpton!**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd- NAN OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**

**Minister Tyrone Richardson**-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

**Guests**

**Rev. Larry Camp- Pastor, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Brooklyn**

**Rev. Lawrence Aker- Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, Brooklyn**

**Rev. Dr. Adolphus Lacey- Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn**

**Bishop Mitchell Taylor- Pastor, Cathedral of Hope, Queens, NY.**

**Rev. Dr. Johnnie Green-Pastor, Mt. Neboh Baptist Church, Harlem**

**Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins**

**DA Alvin Bragg**

**DA Eric Gonzalez**

**Senator Cordell Cleare**

**Senator John Liu**

**Congressman Adriano Espaillat**

**Congressman Charles Rangel**

**Manhattan BP Mark Levine**

Rev. Chris Williams- Greater Zion Hill Baptist Church, Harlem

Asst Pastor Caura Washington New MT Zion Harlem

Rev. Karim Camara Abundant Love Church Brooklyn

Rev. Craig Williams Greater St. Stephen's Church Brooklyn

Bishop Orlando Finlayder New Hope Christian Fellowship Brooklyn

Senator Kevin Parker

Assemblywoman Inez Dickens

Lloyd Williams, Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce

**Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **NAN Responds to McCarthy's Ouster**

For the first time in history, the Speaker of the House was voted out this week. As Kevin McCarthy was forced out following internal Republican fighting and a push by far-right conservatives, **National Action Network** highlighted the danger of the House being in such disarray.

**NAN's** Washington, D.C. office is working closely with the Congressional Black Caucus on how to handle whoever is picked as the next Speaker and where things go from here. **Rev. Sharpton** emphasized the fact that Republican chaos cannot and should not disrupt governance, and that the needs of the American people must be front and center.

### **Trump's Civil Trial**

**National Action Network** has been closely monitoring Donald Trump's recent civil trial and all of the developments surrounding it. This week, **Rev. Sharpton** discussed the implications at length on both *Morning Joe* and *The Beat with Ari Melber* on **MSNBC**. He pointed out the fact that Trump has constructed this whole myth that he's somehow a great businessman and now feels the need to try and defend it.

"Part of the reason he showed up is because he doesn't think anyone can fight and defend him like he can," said **Rev. Sharpton** on *Morning Joe*.

**Rev. Sharpton** stated that he's known and fought with Trump for 30 years, and that the proverbial leader of the Republican Party is a supreme narcissist who had to be present in that courtroom. Both Trump and Rudy Giuliani (who owes more than a half-million dollars in unpaid taxes according to a court filing), have been political adversaries of **NAN** and **Rev. Sharpton** for years. The former Trump attorney and the former President himself find themselves in a real quagmire.

### **NAN Vows to Continue Fighting Ed Blum**

After standing in solidarity with the Fearless Fund, a Black-owned organization which financially supports Black and Brown female entrepreneurs, **NAN** vowed to continue fighting for them and others who are targets of conservative activist Edward Blum. He and his Texas-based group sued the Fearless Fund in an effort to disrupt their work and stifle any notion of progress. He has been behind the movement to end affirmative action, as well as gutting the Voting Rights Act in 2013.

**Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** renewed their commitment to fight back against Blum and the conservative activists seeking to dismantle affirmative action, diversity, equity and inclusion. When racial disparities still exist across the board, folks like Blum are trying to halt even a tiny semblance of movement in the right direction.

The Fearless Fund are among this year's honorees at the **Triumph Awards**, which will take place on Monday October 16th at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City. Other recipients include Tony Award-winning actor Leslie Odom Jr., cast and producers of Ossie Davis' Broadway revival play Purlie Victorious, the Anti-Defamation League's Jonathan Greenblatt, U.S. Track & Field's Max Siegel and Martha's Vineyard Film Festival's Stephanie and Floyd Rance.

## Alabama's Congressional Maps

**Rev. Sharpton** this week applauded a federal court's selection of new Congressional maps in Alabama, which creates a second majority Black district in the state. The three-judge panel's decision is the result of the Supreme Court's surprise ruling in June that the Alabama legislature drew district lines in violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"This is a good day – one we have been fighting for since John Lewis and hundreds of marchers were beaten on the Edmund Pettus Bridge," said **Rev. Sharpton**. "But let's not forget that states are in this mess because the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act a decade ago. We must use this moment to galvanize the push for Congress to finally pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. The march must go on."

1. **National Action Network's Triumph Awards 2023** event will take place on Monday October 16th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City honoring cultural influencers for their ongoing work within their communities to promote social, racial and economic justice in America, and who have positively impacted our society above and beyond their performance by bridging their celebrity with their community.

This year's honorees include:

*Tony Award-Winning actor Leslie Odom Jr., and the cast and producers of Purlie victories on Broadway, the Fearless Fund Co-Founders Arian Simone and Ayaya Parsons, Jonathan Greenblatt of the Anti-Defamation League, Max Seigel The CEO of USA track & Field, and Stephanie and Floyd Rance the directors of the prestigious Martha's Vineyard Film Festival to be recognized.*

The incomparable roster of attendees will be honored for their cultural, social, and SOMETHING impact at this year's Triumph Awards on October 16th at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

We hope that you can join us as we highlight and honor countless contributions to impact communities and empower change. Tickets to attend this event is free but you must register to attend. To register, please visit [www.Nationalactionnetwork.net](http://www.Nationalactionnetwork.net) or call 877-626-4651.

## Celebrating Rev. Sharpton

On Tuesday, **Rev. Sharpton** turned 69 years young! **Vice President Kamala Harris** called him to give well wishes for his birthday, and the **Empress of Soul Gladys Knight** stopped by **NAN's** office and serenaded him in person. Birthday greetings poured in from all over the country, and the world.

TODAY, **NAN** will honor **Rev. Sharpton** and celebrate his birthday at their weekly rally at the House of Justice. Many will come by today to greet the civil rights leader and commemorate his decades of work and activism.

### October 14th-

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**- NAN OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

**Minister Tyrone Richardson**-Musical Director, NAN Change choir

**Guests**

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Shane Hilliard**, Senior Pastor St. Luke Baptist Church, Harlem NY

**Keynote: Rev. Al Sharpton**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **NAN Denounces Attack in Israel**

**National Action Network** immediately condemned the terrorist attacks in Israel last weekend, and reaffirmed its commitment to stand in solidarity with organizations like the Anti-Defamation League. **Rev. Sharpton**, along with a coalition of civil rights leaders including **Martin Luther King III**, **Arndrea Waters King**, Marc Morial of the **National Urban League**, Derrick Johnson of the **NAACP** and others, released a statement of support.

**NAN** also urges Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to weaponize water, food and electricity. While explicitly against Hamas' actions, **NAN** also believes that basic human needs must be protected, civilian casualties avoided and a peaceful two-state solution with recognized boundaries must be achieved.

### **NAN Urges the Supreme Court To Uphold Voting Rights**

**National Action Network** calls on the Supreme Court to uphold a lower court's ruling regarding a South Carolina voting map as unconstitutionally racially gerrymandered. The Supreme Court this week heard oral arguments in the case which could have implications for other cases, as well as 2024 elections.

In January, a three-judge panel in the Federal District Court in Columbia, S.C. ruled that the state's First Congressional District violated the Constitution by making race the predominant factor. **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** urge the Supreme Court to uphold this ruling, thereby remaining consistent with their own ruling on a similar case from Alabama in which they determined that state lawmakers there had diluted the power of Black voters.

An unconstitutionally racially gerrymandered voting map cannot and must not be accepted under any circumstances. The voices of Black voters and their voting power must be preserved.

### **Keeping the Heat on Ed Blum**

**National Action Network** is gearing up to take on Edward Blum, the conservative activist who has targeted affirmative action and voting rights both in the courts and in society. He was the person behind the case that the Supreme Court used to gut the Voting Rights Act in 2013, and he was behind the case that the Court used to overturn affirmative action earlier this year.

Following the Supreme Court's devastating decision regarding affirmative action in higher education, **Rev. Sharpton** warned that the ramifications would be far and wide including in the corporate sector. That is precisely what Blum and other right-wing strategists are methodically doing now. One of their first targets was the **Fearless Fund**, an organization founded by Black women which financially empowers other Black female entrepreneurs.

**National Action Network** rallied with the Fearless Fund in Atlanta a few weeks back, and joined the founders as they went to court in a show of solidarity. The Fearless Fund co-founders, Arian Simone and Ayana Parsons, will be honored Monday at **NAN's Triumph Awards at Jazz at Lincoln Center**. Other honorees include Tony award-winning actor Leslie Odom Jr., the cast and producers of Ossie Davis'

Broadway revival play Purlie Victorious, the Anti-Defamation League's Jonathan Greenblatt, U.S. Track & Field's Max Siegel and the Martha's Vineyard Film Festival's Stephanie and Floyd Rance.

### **October 21<sup>st</sup>**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Jae Hilliard Spencer**- Member, NYC chapter, NAN

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**- Director of NY Operations, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Chairperson of health & wellness committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Dr. Brandon AAJ Davis**, Pastor, Ebenezer AME Church, Aliquippa, PA.

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Adolphus Lacey-Senior Pastor, Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY.**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **TRIUMPH AWARDS**

National Action Network held its annual **Triumph Awards at Jazz at Lincoln Center** in New York City on Monday, honoring cultural influencers who use their platforms to drive social change. This year's recipients included **Fearless Fund** co-founders, **Arian Simone and Ayana Parsons**, Tony award-winning actor **Leslie Odom Jr.**, the cast and producers of Ossie Davis' Broadway revival play Purlie Victorious, the Anti-Defamation League's **Jonathan Greenblatt**, U.S. Track & Field's **Max Siegel** and the Martha's Vineyard Film Festival's **Stephanie and Floyd Rance**.

**Mayor Eric Adams** joined on stage to present an award to Jonathan Greenblatt and stand unified against hate. Other notable attendees included **Attorney Ben Crump**, Damario Simmons, Rev. Travis Boyd, Terrence Floyd, Eric Garner Jr. Stevante Clarke amongst others. America's Got Talent's SAMMULOUS performed along with Pastor David Wright and New Life Fellowship Mass Choir!

"As we keep the momentum from the **March on Washington** building and take a stand against those who seek to undo our civil rights, it has never been more important to celebrate those who use their celebrity to get people off the sideline," said **Rev. Sharpton**.

### **NAN's 21-Day Prayer Call for Peace**

As war in the Middle East continues and civilians suffer on both sides, **National Action Network** has begun a **21-day prayer call for peace**. During difficult times as these, **NAN** firmly believes that the power of prayer can heal and hopefully bring about peace. **Rev. Sharpton** kicked off day 1 on Wednesday, along with **NAN's** Director of Religious Affairs, Rev. Nelson Rivers.

"We ask for a miracle," said **Rev. Sharpton**. "Let us be the carriers of peace and brotherhood. Even in the midst of our disagreements, let us be the ones that represent stability and peace ... We pray these 21 days, we ask for a breakthrough, for you to intervene, for a miracle."

The idea for a **21-day prayer call for peace** emerged from **NAN's** Youth Huddle led by **Ashley Sharpton**. The daily prayer will air live on **NAN's** Facebook and Youtube pages, and via Zoom so that everyone can collectively pray for peace.

### Social Justice Icon Award

TODAY, **Rev. Sharpton** will be receiving the **Social Justice Icon Award** from **The Grio** at their awards ceremony. The prestigious **Social Justice Icon Award** recognizes **Rev. Sharpton's** decades of activism, advocacy and dedication to social justice and civil rights.

**The Grio Awards** celebrate excellence in film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social justice, environmental justice, education and the cultural icons whose many contributions positively impact America. The Awards will air on CBS on Sunday, Thanksgiving weekend.

### Paul Bogle Celebration

On Tuesday, **Rev. Sharpton** will travel to Kingston, Jamaica for a commemoration for **Paul Bogle**, a Baptist deacon and activist. He was a leader of the 1865 Morant Bay protesters who marched for justice, and after leading the Morant Bay rebellion he was captured, tried and convicted by the colonial government. Bogle was hanged on October 24, 1865. He is regarded as a national hero of Jamaica. The commemoration will honor his fight for the poor, the social and economic betterment of all, and much more.

### October 28<sup>th</sup>

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Arnold Pinnix**- Arts & Culture committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble**- Under the direction of **Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Natasha Fagans**, Associate Minister New Life Tabernacle, Brooklyn NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton**- President & Founder, NAN

The following was included in the weekly message:

### Social Justice Icon Award

On Saturday, **Rev. Sharpton** was at the **Byron Allen Presents The Grio Awards** in Beverley Hills, California where he was honored with the prestigious **Social Justice Icon Award**. He was recognized for his decades of activism, advocacy and dedication to social justice, civil rights and equality.

Other honorees at The Grio Awards included such notable names as Oscar-winning actor **Denzel Washington**, **Eddie Murphy**, **Kevin Hart**, **Mariah Carey**, **Patti LaBelle**, **Smokey Robinson**, **Steve Harvey** and others. **The Grio Awards** celebrate excellence in film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social justice, environmental justice, education and the cultural icons whose many contributions positively impact America. The awards will air on CBS Sunday Thanksgiving weekend.

### Paul Bogle Celebration

On Monday, a **National Action Network** delegation; **Dominique Sharpton**, **Ashley Sharpton**, **April Facey**, and **JT Trollinger** traveled to Jamaica for a commemoration for **Paul Bogle**, a Baptist deacon/activist, and the **1865 Morant Bay rebellion**. **Rev. Sharpton** addressed the event via video and delivered a powerful message of unity.

“We are at a level now that we can reach across the diaspora and work together and put our strengths together,” said **Sharpton**. “We must realize that we are as strong as we are together. It is time for us to lock arms.”

**Paul Bogle** is regarded as a national hero of Jamaica and the commemoration honored his fight for the poor, and for the social and economic betterment of all. After leading the Morant Bay rebellion, he was captured, tried and convicted by the colonial government. Bogle was hanged on October 24, 1865.

### **21-Day Prayer Call for Peace**

While war, death and destruction rages on in the Middle East, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** are leading a 21-day prayer call for peace. As civilians suffer on both sides of the conflict, **NAN** firmly believes that the power of prayer can heal and hopefully bring about peace.

Each day at noon ET, a live prayer takes place via zoom, led BY varying Pastors from across the country. **Rev. Sharpton** kicked off the first day of prayer last week, along with **NAN’s** Director of Religious Affairs, Rev. Nelson Rivers. He prayed for a miracle to end the current crisis.

The idea for a 21-day prayer call for peace emerged from **NAN’s Youth Huddle** led by **Ashley Sharpton**. The prayer will air live daily on **NAN’s** Facebook and Youtube pages, and via Zoom and everyone who can collectively pray for peace is welcome to JOIN US.

### **Rally in Florida**

On Sunday, **Rev. Sharpton** will travel to Tallahassee, Florida to first preach at Bethel Baptist Church, followed by a **National Action Network** chapter rally with students from **FAMU** (Florida A&M University). **Attorney Benjamin Crump** will join **Rev. Sharpton**, **NAN** and students for this urgently needed rally and press conference.

As Black history continues to be erased in places like Florida, and Black students face renewed threats against equal access to higher education especially on the heels of the Supreme Court’s devastating decision to dismantle affirmative action, **NAN** will stand in solidarity with students in Tallahassee as they let their voices, their concerns and their message be heard around the world.

### **IT'S TIME TO MAKE YOUR VOTING PLAN SO YOU ARE READY TO VOTE!**

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- **Did you request your absentee ballot?**
- **Do you know what's on the ballot?**
- Check the League's [Vote 411](#)
- **Do you know your poll site location?**
- **Have you told five friends to make a voting plan?**

Please keep these important upcoming dates in mind in preparation to VOTE!

#### **October 28**

**I Register To Vote**

Last day to register to vote for general election. Register online at [e-register.vote.nyc](http://e-register.vote.nyc)

#### **October 28 - November 5**

**Early Voting STARTS!**

Vote in person before Election Day. Find your poll site location at [findmypollsite.nyc](http://findmypollsite.nyc)

## **November 6**

If In Person Absentee Ballot Request

Request at your local Board of Elections Office. Check [vote.nyc](http://vote.nyc) for locations.

## **November 7**

I Election Day

Polls will be open from 6am-9pm. Find your poll site location at [findmypollsite.nyc](http://findmypollsite.nyc)

GET OUT AND VOTE

NAN's Political action committee of the NYC chapter will host a forum today at the house of justice immediately following the Saturday action rally. Special thanks to sister Dawn Jones, Jewel Gittens, and the entire committee for their hard work in making sure our community has the information we need and be encouraged to be actively engaged in the political process to impact and improve our neighborhoods that we greatly need and deserve.

## **November 4th**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Rev. Dr Malcolm Byrd** (NY Director of operations, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Sanayi beckles-canton** - The new chair of the education committee, NYC chapter.

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman**, Senior Pastor The Historic Antioch Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **21-Day Prayer Call for Peace**

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Each day at noon ET, a live prayer takes place via zoom, led BY varying Pastors from across the country. The idea for a 21-day prayer call for peace emerged from **NAN's Youth Huddle** led by **Ashley Sharpton**. The prayer will air live daily on **NAN's** Facebook and Youtube pages, and via Zoom and everyone who can collectively pray for peace is welcome to JOIN US.

## **Florida is Ground Zero**

On Sunday, **Rev. Sharpton** was in Tallahassee, Florida preaching first at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church alongside **National Action Network** Board Member and head of **NAN's** Tallahassee chapter, Rev. Dr. R.B. Holmes Jr. He then led a press conference and rally with students from **FAMU** (Florida A&M University), a historically Black college.



He denounced DeSantis' ongoing efforts to erase Black history and create some sort of revisionist history by implementing a curriculum that states Black people somehow benefitted from slavery. **Rev. Sharpton** highlighted the Governor's clear political pandering, and the dangers of rewriting history.

### Support for Civilian Lives Everywhere

Over the course of the last few weeks, **Rev. Sharpton** has made many appearances on "**Morning Joe**", as well as hosted his own program, "**Politics Nation**", both on **MSNBC**, where he firmly condemned the attack against Israeli civilians on October 7th and supported those who stand against hate. He and **National Action Network** are also equally concerned about civilians in Gaza and the high death toll and devastation reported on the ground.

**Rev. Sharpton** reminded everyone that we cannot have sliding moralities, we cannot value one peoples' lives over another. He called for more humanitarian aid, and once again pushed for peace. This weekend on "**Politics Nation**" he will have representatives of both the Jewish community, as well as the Arab/Muslim community on the broadcast.

### Continued Fight for Tyre Nichols

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** welcomed the news this week that former Memphis police officer Desmond Mills Jr. pleaded guilty in the fatal beating of **Tyre Nichols**. He admitted to one count of deprivation of rights under color of law after using excessive force and failing to intervene, and one count of witness tampering. He is the first of five officers charged in the case to admit guilt.

Following Tyre's brutal death, **Rev. Sharpton** delivered a moving eulogy in Memphis, where **Vice President Kamala Harris** also spoke and urged Congress to pass the **George Floyd Justice in Policing Act**. NAN renews calls for its passage once again so that true reform can take place.

### Justice for Dexter Wade

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** call on the Department of Justice to investigate the Jackson, Mississippi police department over the murder and apparent coverup of **Dexter Wade**. His family spent months searching for him, only to find out that he had been fatally struck by a Jackson Police Department car and buried in a pauper's grave without their knowledge and despite the fact that the family had filed a missing person's report in mid-March.

### The Griot Awards

On Sunday, November 25th, CBS will air the **Byron Allen Presents: The Griot Awards**. A celebration of excellence in film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social justice, environmental justice, education and culture, the program recognizes those making an indelible mark. Paying homage to his decades of activism and commitment towards advancing civil rights, **The Griot Awards** will honor **Rev. Sharpton** with the **Social Justice Icon Award**.

Other honorees at The Griot Awards include such notable names as Oscar-winning actor **Denzel Washington**, **Eddie Murphy**, **Kevin Hart**, **Mariah Carey**, **Patti LaBelle**, **Smokey Robinson**, **Steve Harvey** and many more. The star-studded event will air Sunday Thanksgiving weekend.

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- **Do you know what's on the ballot?**
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- **Do you know your poll site location?**
- **Have you told five friends to make a voting plan?**

Please keep these important upcoming dates in mind in preparation to VOTE!

**Through November 5** you can VOTE Early!!!Vote in person before Election Day. Find your poll site location at [findmypollsite.nyc](http://findmypollsite.nyc)

### **November 6**

If In Person Absentee Ballot Request

Request at your local Board of Elections Office. Check [vote.nyc](http://vote.nyc) for locations.

### **November 7**

! Election Day

Polls will be open from 6am-9pm. Find your poll site location at [findmypollsite.nyc](http://findmypollsite.nyc)

GET OUT AND VOTE

Special thanks to NAN's NYC chapter's political action committee's sister Dawn Jones, Jewel Gittens, and the entire committee for their hard work in making sure our community has the information we need and be encouraged to be actively engaged in the political process to impact and improve our neighborhoods that we greatly need and deserve.

### **November 11th**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

What's On your Mind" Audience Segment-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Megn Buckley**-Member, Membership committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Atoya Green**, Associate Minister Bethany Baptist Church, Queens NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **White House Meetings**

**Rev. Sharpton** went to the **White House** this week for a meeting with **Neera Tanden**, Domestic Policy Advisor to **President Biden**, and a subsequent one with White House **Chief of Staff Jeff Zients**. The focus of the discussions was on funding of public hospitals, and the impact of certain policies on low-income Americans, as well as the safety net itself.

**Rev. Sharpton** expressed his concern about actions that reversed President Obama's directed payment program, thereby reducing Medicaid spending in low-income areas and communities of color. These proposals erode the value of policy initiatives started by the Obama Administration and instead implement a highly criticized Trump proposal. He discussed these issues and more with **Neera Tanden**, who seemed sympathetic to **National Action Network's** concerns, and had a similar conversation with **Jeff Zients**.

### Tracy K. Smith

On Monday, **Rev. Sharpton** went on *Morning Joe* on **MSNBC** where he joined the panel as they interviewed Pulitzer-prize winner **Tracy K. Smith**, poet and educator who served as the **22nd Poet Laureate** of the United States from 2017-2019. She has a new memoir, "**To Free the Captives: A Plea for the American Soul**" which she discussed on the broadcast.

**Tracy K. Smith** talked at length about free vs. freed, how those who were freed look at the world differently, Black civil war soldiers, racism in America, connecting your life to a bigger picture and so much more. She ended the conversation on a note of hope, that we can learn from the painful lessons of the past and present in order to sustain a brighter future.

### Conclusion of 21-Days of Prayer for Peace

**National Action Network** concluded its 21-day prayer for peace this week. **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** would like to thank everyone who participated in the daily prayer for peace as war rages in the Middle East.

On his weekend broadcasts of *Politics Nation* on **MSNBC**, **Rev. Sharpton** had a representative from CAIR (the Council on American Islamic Relations), as well as Jonathan Greenblatt of ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) on to discuss the current crisis.

Both **NAN** and **Rev. Sharpton** continue to call for the protection of all civilians. On Oct. 7th they were outraged at the deaths of Israeli civilians, and today they call for a ceasefire to allow humanitarian aid to reach civilians in Gaza. Though the 21-day prayer for peace has concluded, their prayers will continue until true peace can be achieved.

### RIP Rev. Magora Kennedy

**National Action Network** and **Rev. Sharpton** mourn the loss of **Rev. Magora Kennedy**, aka Rev. Crone Goddess. A fearless warrior in the fight for civil rights, **Rev. Kennedy** was not just an early member of **NAN** in 1991, but she was the heartbeat of our collective struggle for a fair and just world. A lifetime member of **NAN**, she embodied the true spirit of activism in both word and consistent action.

**Rev. Kennedy** stood at the forefront of the Stonewall uprising and steadfastly championed the rights of the LGBTQIA community, alongside her unyielding advocacy for Black rights. Her passing leaves a void in the fabric of our network and the heart of our community. However, we are comforted by the knowledge that her legacy will endure in the continued fight for equality and justice. Rest in peace and power **Rev. Kennedy**.

## **November 18th**

Committee reports and announcements-**Attorney Michael Hardy**-Executive Vice President & General Counsel, NAN.

**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Nancy Darlene Crawford**, Member, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Sandra Mitchell**-Chairperson, Housing committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

Remarks- **Yusef Salaam** w/ **Jordan Wright**- NYC council member ELECT, Harlem

Inspirational Word-

**Rev. James Perry**- Mount Olivet Baptist Church, Peekskill NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **Holiday Turkey Giveaway**

On Thursday, **National Action Network** held its annual **NYC Holiday Turkey Giveaway** at the **House of Justice** in Harlem. **Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg** joined **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** as they handed out free turkeys to the community. They gave out over 350 turkeys to anyone who needed or wanted one. It's a yearly tradition that **National Action Network** enthusiastically hosts.

And on This THURSDAY, Thanksgiving Day, **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** will hold their annual **Thanksgiving Dinner**, also at the **House of Justice** headquarters from 11am-3pm. All are welcome to attend and participate and everything is ABSOLUTELY FREE! For more information and to reserve your seat, please call us at 877-626-4651. **National Action Network** welcomes everyone as they serve food, warmth and good vibes during this season of giving thanks.

### **Eulogy for Dexter Wade**

**Rev. Sharpton** will deliver the eulogy for **Dexter Wade**, a 37-year-old father whose death was kept secret from his family for months after he was buried in an unmarked grave. The service will take place on Monday in Jackson, Mississippi. **Attorney Ben Crump** will also deliver a national call to action during the ceremony at New Horizon Church International.

The family asked **Rev. Sharpton** to deliver the eulogy following **Wade's** horrific death and the outrageous circumstances surrounding the case. According to reports, **Wade** was fatally struck by an off-duty police officer back in March, and authorities told the coroner's office that no one had called to claim the body despite the fact that his mother filed a missing person's report and was actively searching for him. **Wade** was buried several months later in a field and his mother didn't find out his tragic fate until this fall.

**Rev. Sharpton** and **Attorney Crump** have called on the **Department of Justice** to investigate the Jackson Police Department.

Monday's service will take place at 11 AM CST and will be livestreamed at <https://www.nhcms.org/live/>

## RIP Rev. Magora Kennedy

**National Action Network** and **Rev. Sharpton** mourn the loss of **Rev. Magora Kennedy**, aka Rev. Crone Goddess. A fearless warrior in the fight for civil rights, **Rev. Kennedy** was not just an early member of **NAN** in 1991, but she was the heartbeat of our collective struggle for a fair and just world. A lifetime member of **NAN**, she embodied the true spirit of activism in both word and consistent action.

**Rev. Kennedy** stood at the forefront of the Stonewall uprising and steadfastly championed the rights of the LGBTQIA community, alongside her unyielding advocacy for Black rights. Her passing leaves a void in the fabric of our network and the heart of our community. However, we are comforted by the knowledge that her legacy will endure in the continued fight for equality and justice. Rev. Kennedy will be laid to rest today at Mother AME ZION church in Harlem, NY at 1:00pm where our very own Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd is the senior pastor. Rev. Sharpton will deliver the eulogy. Rest In peace to a faithful soldier in the movement whom will forever be missed.

## November 25<sup>th</sup>

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Inola Tucker**-Chairperson, The Welcome committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. James Kilgore**, Pastor Friendship Baptist Church, Harlem, NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

## Funeral for Dexter Wade

On Monday, **Rev. Sharpton** delivered a powerful eulogy for **Dexter Wade**, a 37-year-old father whose death was kept secret from his family for months after he was buried in an unmarked grave. He was fatally struck by an off-duty police officer back in March, and nobody notified the family even though his mother filed a missing person's report and was actively searching for him.

"His life mattered to his mama, to his daughters," said **Rev. Sharpton**. "And we're going to make it matter all over this country."

**Rev. Sharpton** reminded everyone that justice and accountability is not yet a reality for all. Both he and **Attorney Benjamin Crump** have called on the **Department of Justice** to investigate the Jackson Police Department. **Rev. Sharpton** said he came to Jackson, Mississippi to give words of comfort to the grieving family, but also to make Jackson feel our discomfort around this injustice.

**Bettersten Wade** (Dexter's mother) spoke at the service about the months she spent desperately searching for her son, not knowing that he had been run over by an off-duty cop and buried in a penal farm. "Dexter, you made it home," she said through tears, as Wade's daughters stood next to her.

## Thanksgiving at the House of Justice

**National Action Network** held its annual community **Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday** at the **House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem. **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** celebrate the holiday every year by opening their doors to anyone who needs or wants a free hot meal and a place to gather. Hundreds of underserved New Yorkers joined them once again for this special Thanksgiving tradition.

New York City **Mayor Eric Adams** and several City and State elected officials joined **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** to help serve dinner. Other civil rights leaders and community advocates also helped distribute food to all those who gathered for the yearly event.

The **Thanksgiving Dinner** follows last week's annual **NYC Holiday Turkey Giveaway**, also held at the **House of Justice**. Manhattan **District Attorney Alvin Bragg** joined **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** staff as they distributed more than 300 turkeys to members of the local community during this holiday season.

## Thanksgiving Giveaway in Atlanta

On Monday and Tuesday, **National Action Network's** Atlanta chapter held a Thanksgiving food giveaway at two separate locations for those in need. **Ashley Sharpton, JT Trollinger, Rev. Ron Sailor** (**NAN's** Southeast Regional Director), **NAN's Deyman Byam, Rev. Lee C. Franklin** (Senior Pastor of Mt. Ephraim and **NAN** West ATL President), **Pastor Emory Berry** (The Favor of Atlanta Church Senior Pastor and **NAN** East ATL President) and others organized and distributed hundreds of loaded Thanksgiving food boxes.

**Rev. Sharpton** thanked them all for their hard work, dedication and passion to serve. **National Action Network** remains committed to serving our communities year-round, including during the season of giving.

## NAN Will Welcome Mandela's Daughter

On December 9th, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** will welcome and recognize **Dr. Phumla Makaziwe Mandela**, daughter of the great **Nelson Mandela** to the **House of Justice** in Harlem. She will be the guest of honor at **NAN's** Saturday action rally, and will unveil her new book on her beloved father.

***Mandela: In Honor of an Extraordinary Life*** is the title of her upcoming book which provides an intimate view of the anti-apartheid activist, leader and humanitarian through the eyes of those closest to him. **Dr. Makaziwe Mandela** is the youngest and last surviving child of **Nelson Mandela** and his first wife.

The book features a tribute from **Rev. Sharpton**, as well as intimate images of **Mandela's** private life with his children.

## ICON Award

On Saturday, November 25th, CBS will air the **Byron Allen Presents: The Griot Awards** where **Rev. Sharpton** will receive the prestigious **Social Justice Icon Award**. Paying homage to his decades of activism and commitment towards advancing civil rights, the **Icon Award** is a fitting symbol for **National Action Network's** fearless leader.

Other honorees at **The Griot Awards** include such notable names as Oscar-winning actor **Denzel Washington**, **Eddie Murphy**, **Kevin Hart**, **Mariah Carey**, **Patti LaBelle**, **Smokey Robinson**, **Steve Harvey** and many more. The star-studded event is a celebration of excellence in film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social justice, environmental justice, education, culture and those making an indelible mark.

### December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Naomi Jones**-Chairperson, The Disability committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of musical guest Brvon Neal**

**Rev. Vandalyn Kennedy**, Leader of the Youth and Young Adults of The Church of God In Christ Worldwide

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### NAN's GoFundMe & Giving Tuesday

On Tuesday morning, **Rev. Sharpton** helped ring the opening bell at **Nasdaq** with the leaders of **Giving Tuesday**, a movement that reimagines a world built upon shared humanity and generosity. This coincided with **National Action Network's** launch of its holiday drive with **GoFundMe** on the universally recognized day of giving. The fundraising drive, available at [nancares.net](https://nancares.net), is designed to assist **NAN** as it continues the fundamental work of supporting communities, advocating on behalf of the voiceless and vigorously pushing for justice.

With over 100 chapters across the country, **NAN** is on the ground holding gun buyback programs, standing with victims of police brutality, serving food to a neighborhood reeling in the aftermath of a hate crime, rallying against efforts to eliminate Black history in schools, fighting against voter suppression tactics, pushing for corporate responsibility and so much more.

During the Holiday season, **NAN** continues its commitment to the community by serving hot meals to thousands of people, handing out free turkeys to those in need in multiple cities, holding a Christmas toy drive and more. To assist us in our efforts and be a part of this joyous tradition, folks can continue to donate to the [GoFundMe campaign](#).

### Health Equity Coalition

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** teamed up with multi-platinum recording artist **Al B. Sure!** to launch a new health equity coalition aimed at providing Medicare coverage for blood tests that could detect early signs of organ rejection in transplant recipients. **The Health Equity in Transplantation Coalition** (HETC) was announced on Tuesday, and they demand an immediate reversal of Medicare cutbacks for these vital blood tests.

"Black, Latino and underserved communities were given a lifeline with these non-invasive tests," said **Rev. Sharpton**. "That was taken away in March 2023, when a private company decided Medicare would no longer cover this life-saving measure for transplant recipients, who overwhelmingly come from these

communities. It's time we reverse this decision and allow transplant recipients to have access to more and better tools – not less.”

**Al B. Sure!** received a life-saving liver transplant in the summer of 2022 and is an avid spokesperson for health equity and wellness.

**HETC** is supported by a bipartisan group of transplant patients, physicians and elected officials from across the country. **Rev. Sharpton** even welcomed the support of former Republican Speaker of the House **Newt Gingrich** for the restoration of Medicare coverage. “The fact that Newt and I are in lock-step agreement – along with a broad bipartisan group of transplant patients, physicians and members of Congress – demonstrates how extremely abhorrent these attempted rollbacks are,” said **Rev. Sharpton**.

### **Christmas at NAN**

**Rev. Al Sharpton** and **NAN** are busy preparing for their annual Christmas dinner and toy drive. Each year at the **House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem, **NAN** opens its doors to the greater community for a Holiday gathering comprised of free hot meals, toys for children and a sense of unity for anyone in need or anyone looking for a place to share the season.

Elected officials, dignitaries and celebrities have all joined **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** staff to serve food, distribute toys and interact with the community. **NAN** has served food to thousands who otherwise may not have anywhere to go on Christmas Day. This follows **NAN's** Thanksgiving tradition of hot meals, and turkey giveaways at both the **House of Justice** and multiple cities across the country.

In preparation of the annual Christmas dinner, **NAN** organizes toy drives and support from anyone who wants to be a part of this important work during this season of giving. To streamline those efforts, **NAN** launched a GoFundMe campaign this week, available at [nancares.net](https://www.gofundme.com/c/nan-cares)

### **NAN Will Welcome Mandela's Daughter**

On NEXT SATURDAY, December 9th, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** will welcome and recognize **Dr. Phumla Makaziwe Mandela**, daughter of the great **Nelson Mandela** to the **House of Justice** in Harlem. She will be the guest of honor at **NAN's** Saturday action rally, and will unveil her new book on her beloved father.

**Mandela: In Honor of an Extraordinary Life** is the title of her upcoming book which provides an intimate view of the anti-apartheid activist, leader and humanitarian through the eyes of those closest to him. **Dr. Makaziwe Mandela** is the youngest and last surviving child of **Nelson Mandela** and his first wife.

The book features a tribute from **Rev. Sharpton**, as well as intimate images of **Mandela's** private life with his children.

### **December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir



In preparation for Kwanzaa, Dawn Jones- Chairperson, Political Action committee, NYC chapter  
The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson

Rev. Tisha Dixon- Williams, Senior Pastor First Baptist Church, Bridgehampton NY

Special Guest- DR. MAKI MANDELA- DAUGHTER OF NELSON MANDELA AND AUTHOR OF *Mandela: In Honor of an Extraordinary Life*

Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN

The following was included in the weekly message:

### Pursuing Peace in the Middle East

On Monday, Rev. Sharpton, Martin Luther King III and Arndrea Waters King participated in a zoom call with Rachel and Jon Goldberg-Polin, parents of a hostage who is still held in Gaza. Their 23-year-old son Hersh was taken hostage by Hamas on October 7th, and they are desperately awaiting his release.

In the course of the conversation, Rev. Sharpton and the Kings learned that among the hostages/victims of Hamas' attack were three Africans: students Joshua Mollel and Clemence Mtenga from Tanzania, as well as an individual of South African nationality. Rev. Sharpton vowed to continue advocating for the release of all hostages and the protection of civilians. He has since asked to meet with the Qatari Ambassador to the UN for peace talks on getting more hostages released. This follows other measures National Action Network has taken, including its 21-day prayer for peace in the region.

### NY State Wealth Gap

This week, Rev. Sharpton and National Action Network called out NY State's deep racial wealth gap. A new report from the NYC Comptroller's office details how white households in New York State have a median net worth nearly 15 times more than Black households. The median income for a white family is \$276,900, while the median income for a Black family is only \$18,870. That disparity is astounding and unacceptable.

The report's findings show that New York State has a wider racial wealth gap than in the United States as a whole. Discrepancies in wealth also persist across educational levels where white New Yorkers with only a high school degree have a net worth over three times greater than Black New Yorkers with a bachelor's degree. Generational poverty, income inequality, institutional racism and unequal access to opportunities all contribute to this tremendous gap.

As we head into an election year, NAN and Rev. Sharpton will ensure that economic equity will be a major focus, along with other pertinent issues like voting rights, police reform and more.

### Christmas at NAN

Continuing with its annual Christmas Day tradition, National Action Network will open its doors at the House of Justice in Harlem for all who need sustenance, warmth and a place to gather and celebrate the joyous occasion. Beginning at 11 am, NAN's headquarters will welcome seniors, those in foster care, the hungry, the unhoused and anyone in need of a hot meal, toys for children and a sense of strong community.

Each year, elected officials, dignitaries, celebrities and volunteers join Rev. Sharpton and NAN's staff to serve food, distribute toys and interact with everyone at the House of Justice. NAN has distributed hot meals to thousands who otherwise may not have anywhere to go on Christmas Day.

In preparation of the yearly Christmas dinner, **NAN** organizes toy drives and support from anyone who wants to be a part of this important work during the season of giving. To streamline those efforts, **NAN** launched a GoFundMe campaign last week, still available at [nancares.net](https://www.nancares.net) for all who want to contribute to our vital work.

### **King Day with NAN**

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** have been hard at work organizing for their annual **King Day** activities. On January 15th, **NAN** will kick things off with the **King Day Breakfast** in Washington D.C. at the Mayflower Hotel at 8 AM. This past January, **President Biden** addressed the breakfast, and each year **NAN** welcomes **Martin Luther King III**, **Arndrea Waters King** and a host of elected officials.

Following the breakfast, **Rev. Sharpton** will be back in New York at **NAN's House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem for the **King Day** event at 1:30 PM. This packed gathering also features notable figures, political leaders, community advocates and more. And in the evening, **Rev. Sharpton** will be at **NAN's** third **King Day** event in New Jersey, beginning at 5:30 PM. **NAN NJ** will also welcome a slew of speakers and activities to commemorate the nation's greatest civil rights leader.

Information about **King Day** speakers and events will be updated at [NationalActionNetwork.net](https://www.NationalActionNetwork.net) as we get closer to the date.

### **NAN Welcome's Dr. Maki Mandela**

During today's Saturday action rally, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** will welcome and recognize **Dr. Maki Mandela**, daughter of the great **Nelson Mandela** to the **House of Justice**. She will be the guest of honor at today's Saturday action rally, and will unveil her new book on her beloved father.

***Mandela: In Honor of an Extraordinary Life*** is the title of her upcoming book which provides an intimate view of the anti-apartheid activist, leader and humanitarian through the eyes of those closest to him. **Dr. Maki Mandela** is the youngest and last surviving child of **Nelson Mandela** and his first wife.

The book features a tribute from **Rev. Sharpton**, as well as intimate images of **Mandela's** private life with his children.

### **December 16<sup>th</sup>**

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Chaplain Sandra Mitchell**, Chairperson, Housing committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble**- Under the direction of **Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Earl Jones**, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church Jamaica NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton**- President & Founder, NAN

The following was included in the weekly message:

**Politics Nation Is Number 1**

The latest ratings are out, and ***Politics Nation with Rev. Al Sharpton*** is once again leading the way. The broadcast, which airs Saturdays and Sundays at 5 PM ET on **MSNBC**, has the highest concentration of Black viewers (41%) of any program on cable news.

The strong performance is part of **MSNBC's** running streak as the #1 cable news channel among Black viewers. ***Politics Nation*** has been on air for over a decade, and **Rev. Sharpton** has featured a variety of guests throughout the years. Everyone from the President and Vice President to Congressional Representatives, to celebrities, activists and changemakers have appeared on the program.

**Rev. Sharpton** thanked his avid viewers and vowed to continue addressing the important issues of the day, as well as underreported stories that need a national platform. Whether it's police brutality, voting rights under attack, politics, criminal justice reform, elections, reproductive rights or anything in between, **Rev. Sharpton** and ***Politics Nation*** are on it.

### **National Black Church's Conference**

On Wednesday, **Rev. Sharpton** participated in the **Conference of National Black Church's (CNBC) Annual Consultation** in Orlando, Florida. At the conference he delivered the keynote address at the organization's **Leadership Recognition Dinner**, which focused on the importance of voter participation ahead of the 2024 general election.

CNBC represents the four largest historically Black Christian denominations, comprising over 80% of Black Christians, a total of 20 million Americans. The annual consultation conference is an opportunity for faith leaders and others to come together and address issues like health equity, voting rights and so much more. CNBC is chaired by **National Action Network's** Chairman, **Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson**.

### **NAN Condemns Bill Ackman**

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** condemned recent despicable comments by hedge fund billionaire Bill Ackman who claimed that Harvard President Claudine Gay was only hired because she met the university's diversity, equity and inclusion criteria.

**NAN** unequivocally denounces anyone who calls for the genocide of Jews, Palestinians, Blacks or any other group, but also recognizes that Ackman's statement is both insulting and outrageous on many levels. He falsely defames her character and extensive qualifications, while wrapping it up in a bigoted statement. It only fuels division at a time when we must focus on unity.

**NAN** has been pushing back against attempts to dismantle affirmative action and DEI programs both in academia and the workforce.

### **The Holidays with NAN**

It's that time of year, the season of giving, and **NAN** is busy organizing dinners for those in need, toy and coat drives, and supporting the community. This comes on the heels of **NAN's** Thanksgiving hot meal distribution and free turkey giveaways in multiple cities.

On Saturday, December 23rd, **NAN Newark Tech World** and affiliates will host a dinner and coat/toy drive and giveaway in Newark, NJ. **NAN's** event is supported by prominent local members of the community

including Councilman Patrick Council, Chairman of the People's Organization for Progress Larry Hamm and others.

And on Christmas Day, **NAN** will hold its annual dinner and toy giveaway at the **House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem, NY. From **11 AM – 3 PM**, **NAN** will open its doors for all who need sustenance, warmth and a place to gather and celebrate the joyous occasion. Each year, elected officials, dignitaries, celebrities and volunteers join **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN's** staff to serve food, distribute toys and interact with everyone at the **House of Justice**. **NAN** has distributed hot meals to thousands who otherwise may not have anywhere to go on Christmas Day.

For 32 years, **NAN** has embraced the spirit of giving, and we invite everyone to be a part of this important tradition by volunteering or donating through our holiday drive with GoFundMe, available at [nancares.net](http://nancares.net)

### **December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Arnold Pinnix**, Chairperson, Arts & Culture committee, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Gabby Cudjoe Wilkes**, Double love experience Brooklyn NY

**The Change Choir**, Under the Direction of Minister Tyrone Richardson

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

**Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder**

### **Politics Nation Is Number 1**

The latest ratings are out, and **Politics Nation with Rev. Al Sharpton** is once again leading the way. The broadcast, which airs Saturdays and Sundays at 5 PM ET on **MSNBC**, has the highest concentration of Black viewers (41%) of any program on cable news.

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**Rev. Sharpton** thanked his avid viewers and vowed to continue addressing the important issues of the day, as well as underreported stories that need a national platform. Whether it's police brutality, voting rights under attack, politics, criminal justice reform, elections, reproductive rights or anything in between, **Rev. Sharpton** and **Politics Nation** are on it.

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### **NAN Condemns Bill Ackman**

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** condemned recent despicable comments by hedge fund billionaire Bill Ackman who claimed that Harvard President Claudine Gay was only hired because she met the university's diversity, equity and inclusion criteria.

**NAN** unequivocally denounces anyone who calls for the genocide of Jews, Palestinians, Blacks or any other group, but also recognizes that Ackman's statement is both insulting and outrageous on many levels. He falsely defames her character and extensive qualifications, while wrapping it up in a bigoted statement. It only fuels division at a time when we must focus on unity.

**NAN** has been pushing back against attempts to dismantle affirmative action and DEI programs both in academia and the workforce.

### **The Holidays with NAN**

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On Saturday, December 23rd, **NAN Newark Tech World** and affiliates will host a dinner and coat/toy drive and giveaway in Newark, NJ. **NAN's** event is supported by prominent local members of the community including Councilman Patrick Council, Chairman of the People's Organization for Progress Larry Hamm and others.

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For 32 years, **NAN** has embraced the spirit of giving, and we invite everyone to be a part of this important tradition by volunteering or donating through our holiday drive with GoFundMe, available at [nancares.net](https://www.gofundme.com/nan-cares)

### **December 30<sup>th</sup>**

Committee reports and announcements-**Katrina Jefferson**, special liaison to the President/ HOJ manager, NAN

**Dr. Alvin Ponder**- Vice President, NYC chapter, NAN

**Rev. Dr. Malcolm Byrd**, NY Director of Operations, NAN

**Tisha Hunter**, soloist, NAN change choir

**Thomas Carswell**, VP, **The Men's Auxiliary**, NYC chapter

**The Change ensemble- Under the direction of Min. Tyrone Richardson**

**Rev. Dr. Sedgwick Easley**, Senior Pastor, Union Baptist Church, Hempstead NY

**Keynote: Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton- President & Founder, NAN**

The following was included in the weekly message:

### **The Holidays with NAN**

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** opened the doors to the **House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem on Christmas day for their annual Holiday gathering for the community. Each year, elected officials, dignitaries, celebrities and volunteers join **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN's** staff to serve food, distribute toys and interact with anyone in need of a warm, welcoming place for the special occasion. **NAN** has distributed hot meals to thousands who otherwise may not have anywhere to go on Christmas Day.

Civil rights leaders including the National Urban League's Marc Morial, as well as City and State leaders joined **NAN's** annual Christmas dinner and toy distribution. The event has become a Harlem staple, offering a hot meal and the spirit of the holidays for the most vulnerable.

On Saturday, December 23rd, **NAN Newark Tech World** and affiliates also hosted a dinner and coat/toy drive and giveaway in Newark, NJ. **NAN's** event was supported by prominent local members of the community including Councilman Patrick Council, Chairman of the People's Organization for Progress Larry Hamm and others.

**NAN's** Christmas events followed a successful Thanksgiving dinner, also at the **House of Justice**, where **Mayor Eric Adams** and several other elected officials helped serve food to those in need. **NAN** also conducted a turkey giveaway prior to Thanksgiving in multiple cities, distributing hundreds of free turkeys.

For 32 years, **NAN** has embraced the spirit of giving, and we invite everyone to be a part of this important tradition by volunteering or donating through our holiday drive with GoFundMe, available at [nancares.net](https://www.gofundme.com/nancares)

### **King Day With NAN**

**Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** have been diligently preparing for their annual **King Day** activities next month. On January 15th, **NAN** will kick things off with the **King Day Breakfast** in Washington D.C. at the Mayflower Hotel at 8 AM. Each year, **NAN** welcomes **Martin Luther King III**, **Arndrea Waters King** and a host of elected officials to the breakfast as they tackle the most pressing civil rights issues of the day. At last year's **King Day Breakfast**, **President Biden** addressed the gathering as he discussed the importance of preserving voting rights and so much more.

Following the breakfast, **Rev. Sharpton** will be back in New York at **NAN's House of Justice** headquarters in Harlem for the **King Day** event at 1:30 PM. This packed gathering also features notable figures, political leaders, community advocates and more. And in the evening, **Rev. Sharpton** will be at **NAN's** third **King Day** event in New Jersey, beginning at 5:30 PM. **NAN NJ** will also welcome a slew of speakers and activities as they commemorate the nation's greatest civil rights leader.

Information about **King Day** speakers and events will be updated at [NationalActionNetwork.net](https://www.NationalActionNetwork.net).

## **NAN at a glance in 2024**

As we head into the new year, **Rev. Sharpton** and **National Action Network** are busy organizing for 2024, preparing for the challenges ahead and gearing up for more wins in sustaining civil rights for all. The **NAN** team is ready to continue the fight for reproductive rights, criminal/police reform, voting rights, health care equity, corporate accountability and so much more.

After King Day events in January, From April 10-13th we will hold our national convention at the Sheraton Times Square Hotel, where elected officials from the highest levels of government will join dozens of other speakers/guests from the civil rights community, the entertainment industry, icons, student groups, clergy and many more.

In August, **NAN** will convene its annual **March on Washington**, paying homage to **Dr. King** and demonstrating for justice. **Rev. Sharpton** and **NAN** will also hold other annual events including the **Triumph Awards** and holiday giveaways/dinners. They will continue standing with families of victims of police brutality, as well as those fighting for equality in higher education, the workforce and across the board.

During a pivotal election year, **NAN** will work to protect voting rights, conduct voter drives and work to encourage all Americans to participate in this fundamental process of democracy.