**Black Lives Matter**

Black Lives Matter, also known as BLM or #BLM, is a global network of liberators who aim to localize Black power and intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities. With Black lives systemically and deliberately targeted, Black Lives Matter provides an empowering rallying cry and a decentralized political support system. Catalyzed by the murders of Trayvon Martin in 2013 and Mike Brown in 2014, Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Alicia Garza, and Opal Tometi founded BLM and its adaptive guiding principles. Acknowledged as influential media voices, Cullors, Graza, and Tometi have received numerous recognitions. Black Lives Matter recognizes disparities among straight, cisgender Black men, Black women, queer and transgender individuals, disabled people, the undocumented, and those with records. It seeks to protect and affirm *all* Black lives. The platform continues to drive important conversations regarding state-sanctioned violence towards Black America, as experienced by Tamir Rice, Tanisha Anderson, Mya Hall, Walter Scott, Sandra Bland, and many others.