



Corporate Accountability's values, mission, and campaigns are inextricably linked to the liberation of Black folks and the end to anti-Black systemic racism. Picture credit: Eden, Janine, and Jim (Flickr).

## Uplifting the Movement for Black Lives

### How you showed up for racial justice

**“Due to the tremendous organizing of groups like the M4BL, we have an enormous opportunity to dismantle systemic racism in this country and beyond.”**

SHAYDA NAFICY | SENIOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

#### Take action!

Sustain the Movement for Black Lives with a monthly gift and learn more about their work at [M4BL.org](https://www.m4bl.org).

It has been a historic year for the United States, where each day we continue to see more and more opportunities emerge to advance racial justice than many thought were possible.

To be an effective part of this movement, Corporate Accountability and our members are following the lead of Black-led organizations that have catalyzed moments of public awareness into a powerful movement. In particular, we are proud to endorse the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) and their three demands: to defund the police; to invest in Black communities; and to call for the resignation of Donald Trump as the president of United States.

And from taking action over Juneteenth weekend to becoming monthly donors to the Movement for Black Lives, you stepped

up and showed your wholehearted solidarity, following the lead of M4BL's anti-racist organizing.

Systemic racism and corporate power are inextricably linked. It's what allows transnational corporations to reap profits by exploiting workers, polluting the air, and poisoning the water of Black, Indigenous, and Latinx communities. And without dismantling anti-Black racism, we cannot achieve the transformations we need to create the just and liberated world we envision.

The opportunity to press forward and achieve groundbreaking progress on racial equity comes once every few generations. Together, we can dismantle the structures that police, exploit, and oppress Black people to build communities that can truly thrive.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# The heartbeat of a new world grows louder

**Dear friend,**

In 2002, writer and activist Arundhati Roy declared that another world is not only possible, but “on a quiet day...I can hear her breathing.” Almost two decades later, she described the COVID-19 pandemic as a “portal” to another world.

And just a month after that, following the brutal police murder of George Floyd, another portal opened. And with Black people in the lead, people across the country and around the world stepped through it.

This moment arose from the pain, outrage, vision, hope, and determination of Black folks, many of whom have been organizing for decades to end systemic racism. They did the hard work of laying the foundation for the extraordinary political and social shifts we are already seeing.

This is a moment for all of us who believe in that other world to commit to doing the work to realize it. To follow the lead of Black organizers and to play our role in dismantling white supremacy.

For Corporate Accountability that means, among other things, that as we wage global corporate campaigns, we must explicitly challenge and stop the ways corporations—and the brutal economic system they drive—exploit and endanger Black and Indigenous people and other people of color in the U.S. and around the world. Ending anti-Blackness and systemic racism is integral to building systems where all people can thrive.

We are committed to this work because we understand that it is essential to creating the world we’ve long envisioned. I believe this world is closer than it has ever been in my lifetime. I can not only hear her breathing, I can hear her heartbeat. I’m grateful to be doing this work in partnership with allies and members like you.



Onward,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patti Lynn".

**Patti Lynn**  
Executive Director

## Demanding a just and equitable response to the pandemic

**How your support is upholding the human right to water during this health crisis**

At this critical time, people everywhere are being told to vigilantly wash their hands. But it’s impossible to ignore that some people cannot protect themselves because inhumane shutoff policies penalize those who are struggling or unable to pay their bills. And even as the pandemic worsened, the private water industry has called on Congress to reject federal level action to prevent water shutoffs.

**“No one should lose their access to clean water and electricity, especially during a pandemic.”**

ALISSA WEINMAN | ASSOCIATE CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

That’s why we organized closely with a coalition of allies to advance policies that would protect people’s access to water during and following the pandemic. And we were backed by members like you, who played a critical role in moving mayors across the country to take action and adopt citywide moratoria on water and electric utility shutoffs.

With many cities and municipalities in the U.S. implementing moratoria on shutoffs, you are making it possible to help ensure that people have access to electricity, clean water, and other vital utilities during this pandemic and beyond.



# Q&A

## Member spotlight: Carla Hinojosa

Carla is a mother, educator, artist, and activist committed to the liberation of all people. She lives in Oakland, CA.

### What motivates you to support Corporate Accountability?

Ever since I became a mother, I've felt strongly that I have to try and do everything I can to make sure that the world is in good shape for my son. We are currently in a time of so many crises where people and the planet are being abused, exploited, and disrespected every minute. In particular, people of color and working-class people are disproportionately impacted by climate change, which is an unfair setup and a cruel injustice. Furthermore, we're being told that this is the way it has to be, which is just not true. Corporate Accountability is exposing and standing up to corporate



abuse in strategic ways. I believe that by interrupting this behavior and prioritizing people over profits, we can achieve systemic change for the future.

### What kind of world do you want to see for your children in the future?

My ideal answer would be a world where oppression doesn't exist. It's very clear to me that the exploitation of people under capitalism is not something I want my son to witness or be a part of. I'd like for him to be in a world where women are truly leading, particularly women of color, and a world that revolves around community and connection to each other and to our Earth. I have moments where I am uncertain about whether or not this is a world we have access to, but the least I can do is to try to raise my son with the message that I am doing everything I can to fight for a better world for him.

## Keeping the pressure on Big Food

You expose the shadowy industry group peddling junk science to sell junk food

**"We're going toe-to-toe with the executives responsible for placing profits above public health."**

JOHN STEWART | DEPUTY CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR

"Amid a pandemic made worse by diet-related disease that's hitting Black and Indigenous communities hardest, junk food corporations should be paying for their abuses, not stacking scientific panels and official drafting committees," says Research Director Ashka Naik, in a New York Times article on the role industry groups like the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) play in shaping nutrition and public health policies here in the U.S. and across the world.

From Coca-Cola and PepsiCo to McDonald's, ILSI relies on the support of its corporate benefactors to influence food and beverage policies across the world. And our recent report details just how insidiously close ILSI operates with government bodies worldwide.

Our report and its ensuing media coverage inspired more than 70,000 people and nearly 40 organizations to call on Big Soda and Big Food to cut ties with ILSI. And thanks to your support, we delivered these signatures to the executives of these corporations at their annual shareholders' meetings in April and May.

Momentum is building: It's time for corporations to stop funding junk science and peddling it as public health information.



From Coca-Cola to McDonald's, the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) relies on the support of its corporate Big Food benefactors to shape harmful food and beverage policies globally.

# Charting a new course

You are part of a global movement for climate justice



Communities from all around the world have steadily called for liability against Big Polluters like the fossil fuel industry, demanding that they pay for the harm they cause by fueling the climate crisis.

**“To create lasting change, we need to disrupt our broken systems and hold Big Polluters responsible for fueling the climate crisis.”**

SRIRAM MADHUSOODANAN | U.S. CLIMATE CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

The coronavirus pandemic has exposed deeply broken systems serving unchecked corporate interests rather than people. And nothing has illustrated the menace of rampant corporate power more strongly than the climate crisis.

For decades, the fossil fuel industry has knowingly fueled the climate crisis, funded climate denial, and blocked just climate solutions—all while profiting at the expense of communities of color and frontline communities who are least responsible for the climate crisis.

Right now, we are at a critical juncture. But the great news is that momentum is on our side! This past June, state attorneys general in Minnesota and Washington D.C. launched individual lawsuits against Big Polluters like Exxon Mobil, BP, Shell, and Koch for their decades of deception.

Building on this momentum, we are launching the second phase of our

Make Big Polluters Pay campaign alongside our international climate justice allies. We were supported by members like you, who attended our action briefing and committed to moving their mayors to advance Big Polluter liability.

Demanding the liability of Big Polluters will clear the way for addressing climate impacts and the implementation of the real, effective, and people-centered solutions we need to justly address the climate crisis. That’s why we are both determined and thrilled to build global power behind the demand to make Big Polluters pay—and we couldn’t do it without you.

In working with frontline communities who are most impacted by the climate crisis, we are one step closer to justice. Together, we can advance real climate solutions through our demand for liability against Big Polluters.

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## Make a legacy gift

Sustain our campaigns to protect human rights, people’s lives, and the planet.

**Contact** Marcia Whitehead, Managing Director at 617.695.2525.

**Visit** our website at [CorporateAccountability.org/LegacyGiving](http://CorporateAccountability.org/LegacyGiving)

**Send** in the enclosed envelope.

## Why legacy giving?

You direct your estate to something you care deeply about.

You have a personal way to meet your estate planning goals.

You guarantee deep and long-lasting change to build a more just and equitable world.

**Thank you for your partnership!**



**“From calling out corporate abuse at annual shareholders’ meetings to serving on the board of directors, I am a lifelong supporter of Corporate Accountability. And I’m proud to continue this support because I’ve seen what we can achieve when we work closely together.”**

JOHN HARRINGTON | PRESIDENT OF HARRINGTON INVESTMENTS, INC, FORMER BOARD MEMBER



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