



**Our Community  
Is  
Our Campaign**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# 2016

# Freedom, Inc.



Our Community  
Is  
Our Campaign  
**MISSION**

We are Black, Hmong and Khmer women, queer folks, and young folks who are ending violence against us and our communities through providing services, advocacy, leadership and community organizing.



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# MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Dear Freedom Community,

This was a year of change. It was change brought on and lead by survivors to educate and inform our communities.

Freedom Inc. was the anchor group Wisconsin invited to testify at the UN Working Group of Experts of People of African Descent. Additionally, Freedom Inc. joined Black womyn and LGBTQ people all over the country to rally around the issue of black women who are assaulted and murdered by police forces. To honor survivors and tell their stories, we held our first Survivors Awards Dinner.

At the first annual Global Summit Hmong Women's Summit in Changmai, Thailand, our Hmong staff lead workshops on gender justice and international abusive marriages. Our Khmer staff continue to outreach to hundreds of Cambodian people throughout Wisconsin and is leading the way in providing direct services and counseling to this community. Finally, our youth led actions around No Cops in School and Community Control over Police.

As the face of Freedom Inc., we both have created change through our presence on national panels and publications. We are also proud this year to welcome Freedom Inc. to a new, much larger space.

Survivors leading change is what made Freedom Inc. successful this year. We look forward to 2017 as another year that we can develop capacity in our community to make changes that impact their lives.

Sincerely,

M Adams and Kabzuag Vaj

Co-Executive Directors



*M. Adams*

M. Adams  
Co-Executive Director



*Kabzuag Vaj*

Kabzuag Vaj  
Co-Executive Director

## DIRECT SERVICE

We served 378 clients in 2016.

This includes 242 children and youth.

74% of our clients were Limited English Proficient

## PROGRAMS

Amongst our ten programs for women and youth, we have made 9,284 contacts and held over 288 weekly group support sessions.

## CAMPAIGNS

Freedom Inc. promoted three successful campaigns in 2016 including Hands off Black Womyn, Community Control over Police and No Cops In School.

Freedom Inc. moved into a **new, larger building space** with offices for each staff and large studio for our cultural dance troupes and group support programs.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The first **Survivor's Dinner** was held to honor survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Attendees enjoyed dinner and entertainment from local youth.

## TRAININGS

Staff attended over ten trainings including Facing Race conference in Atlanta and Black Feminist Forum in Brazil.

## TALKS AND HONORS

M. Adams presented a talk called **Queering Social Justice** about the reactions to the Orlando nightclub massacre.

True Thao won 2016 **Queer Courage Award** at SOY New Year.

T. Banks spoke on a plenary on **Black Mental Health and Spirituality**.

Freedom Inc. played pivotal role in the Movement for Black Lives, helping to create policy document called, "A Vision for Black Lives: Policy Demands for Black Power, Freedom, and Justice."

The First **Global Hmong Women's Summit** was co-hosted by Freedom Inc. Over 100 Hmong women from all over the world convened in Thailand to discuss building safe and strong families.



**Health Day 2016** was held at Penn Park in Madison, WI on September 6, 2016 and drew over 200 people. The event started out with a 5K walk/run. Attendees participated in various sport tournaments throughout the day including basketball, volleyball and dance battle. All participants enjoyed a community meal.



# BLACK PROGRAMS

**Debra's Love:** Anti-violence program culturally-specific for Black women.

**Black Beauties:** Anti-violence program culturally specific for Black girls.

**Loud and Unchained:** Anti-violence art and dance program culturally specific for Black youth.



**Jessica Williams** was hired to run programs for Black Women. Her group, Debra's Love, meets weekly and provides group support for 8-10 women.

# KHMER PROGRAMS

**Khmer Healing Circle:** Anti-violence program culturally specific for Khmer elders.



Cambodian New Year 2016

Khmer women meet weekly for group support at the Cambodian Buddhist Temple in Oregon, WI.



# HMONG PROGRAMS

**Wisdom Project:** Anti-violence program culturally specific for Hmong elders.

**Nkauj Hmoob:** Anti-violence art program culturally specific for Southeast Asian girls.

**Freemen:** Anti-violence program culturally specific for Southeast Asian boys.

**Viv Ncaus:** Anti-violence art and dance program culturally specific for Hmong girls.



# YOUTH PROGRAMS

## **PLUS (People Like Us) and PLUS**

**Youth:** Anti-violence program culturally specific for Queer Black and Hmong people and youth.

**Breakin' 4 Justice:** Anti-violence art program, culturally specific for youth of color.



Breakin' 4 Justice held their first annual Dance Battle at Freedom Inc's Health Day

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

At the end of the year, Freedom, Inc.'s financial position reflected a total net assets of \$691,569 which is 6 times over its financial position in 2015, enabling Freedom, Inc. to be well-positioned to advance its mission to continue to serve and campaign for the communities they love: Hmong, Cambodian, and Black.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current Assets	\$ 212,320	\$ 69,661
Promise to give	434,255	27,866
Grants receivable	74,062	21,408
Equipment	6,000	
Other assets	6,475	500
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>733,112</b>	<b>119,435</b>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities	41,453	11,139
Net Assets	691,569	108,296
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 733,112</b>	<b>\$ 119,435</b>

To obtain a copy of the completed audited financial report please write to us at Freedom, Inc., 1810 S. Park Street, Madison, WI, 53713, or email us at [info@freedom-inc.org](mailto:info@freedom-inc.org).

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following summary of financial information is derived from the audited financial statements of Freedom, Inc., for the year ending December 31, 2016 and 2015.

**Operating Revenue:** In 2016, Freedom, Inc.'s operating revenue grew from \$425,771 to \$901,517, more than doubled its size. The increase to our revenue is largely due to increased foundation awards and grants and more donation campaigns.

**Expenses:** Freedom, Inc.'s expenses also increased in 2016 as strong revenue growth allowed us to broaden our programs and strengthen our workforce. We continue to hire more and provide better leadership development and training to our staff to better impact the clients and communities they serve. We also increased support to our programs to include more group activities and client support services.

## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

### (SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA)

	2016	2015
<b>INCOME</b>		
Public Support	\$ 898,761	\$ 419,271
Revenues	2,756	6,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>901,517</b>	<b>425,771</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries, wages and benefits	383,725	202,340
Program Services and professionals	303,694	89,545
Development and Training	142,426	37,938
Program Support	48,153	24,662
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>929,183</b>	<b>381,154</b>
<b>Changes in Net Assets</b>	<b>583,363</b>	<b>73,346</b>

# FREEDOM INC. BOARD MEMBERS

**Deborah Brown**

**Lori Lopez**

**Linda Marie**

**Mario Garcia Sierra**

**Nancy Vue**

**Alexia Ware**

# WE ARE GRATEFUL

FOR THE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES WHOSE  
GENEROSITY MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE.

WI Department of Children and Families

WI Department of Justice

City of Madison - Community Development Division

Borealis Philanthropy

The Wallace H. Coulter Foundation

Astraea Lesbian Foundation For Justice

New Venture Fund

NoVo Foundation

Madison Gas and Electric

American Girl's Fund for Children

Proteus Fund

D & R Krantz

For Youth By Youth

Mifflin Street Co-op

Community Shares of Wisconsin



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Our Campaign

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Copies of this report is also available on our website at: <http://freedom-inc.org/> or  
by writing us at: 1810 South Park Street; Madison, WI 53713