



# **Annual Report to the 2025 Local Convention**

**From the  
Metro DC Democratic Socialists of America  
Steering Committee**

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## Introduction

Metro DC DSA (MDC DSA) is holding its annual convention on December 6 and 7, continuing its democratic process to debate and discuss our political orientation, the rules that govern our organizing, and elect a new Steering Committee. And as part of this work, the 17th Steering Committee is providing its annual report to the membership to summarize the 2025 term. That annual report is contained herein.

This report comes in a political conjuncture relevant not only to our region but to the entire country and world. The return of far right control of the federal government has had tremendous repercussions across the DMV, from tens of thousands of workers being laid off or working for no pay during the longest government shutdown in history to the hostile takeover and state terror meted out by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), and the National Guard. However, DSA as a leading force amid a broad and rising antifascist Left is also part of this political conjuncture.

More working class people than ever are seeking an answer to politics beyond the hateful reaction of the right and the failed neoliberalism of the center. The victory in New York City of openly pro-Palestine Muslim socialist and longtime DSA member Zohran Mamdani - who received over a million votes in the highest turnout Mayoral election the city has seen in decades - has galvanized millions. Nationally, DSA's Fall Membership Drive has been a huge success, so far recruiting or renewing over 10,000 members and getting us closer than ever to breaking 100,000 members for the first time in our organization's history. In October 2024 before Trump was elected to a second term, the chapter had remained quite strong relative to the organization, losing fewer members and bringing in more new ones than most others. Today, our chapter has *more than 3100 members...* and counting!

Despite the challenges presented by an increasingly repressive federal government and some bruising fights for socialists, tenants, and workers locally, we have continued to build our organization and our power. That strength has begun to translate into regional political power for our class, be it in the form of winning elections, supporting tenants and workers fighting for unions, or standing in solidarity with Palestinians during the ongoing, US-backed genocide in Gaza. This year our chapter continued to build that power in many ways:

- DSA members across DC, MD, and VA took a stand to win and enforce tenant rights and protect people from landlords interested in turning housing into a tool for wealth extraction. The chapter fought *against* Mayor Bowser's RENTAL Act and *for* rent stabilization and social housing in Montgomery County. The former owners of the Ward 8 Marbury Plaza Complex were ordered to pay \$29.8 million to tenants who had organized with Stomp Out Slumlords against slum conditions for years. Community defense against ICE has been led by DSA and DSA-adjacent tenant unions.
- Our chapter's electoral work resulted in the election of Shayla Adams-Stafford in the special election for Prince George's County Council District 5 and the election of



longtime member and chapter leader Frankie Fritz to Greenbelt City Council, marking the chapter's first and second electoral wins in the county.

- Labor organizing continued its high activity from 2024. The chapter hosted trainings attended by hundreds of federal workers and potential salts who want to pursue jobs with the goal of organizing their workplace, turned out hundreds of community members to picket in solidarity with workers seeking to unionize at Starr restaurants, fought the repeal or freezing of I-82, and played a leading role in organizing a huge May Day rally endorsed by a wide range of unions.
- Like many chapters across the country, our chapter played a critical role in ensuring that our communities and elected officials to protect some of our most vulnerable comrades and neighbors:
  - Our members led a huge letter writing campaign and rally to preserve gender-affirming care for as many people and for as long as possible, a second successful push for a trans sanctuary resolution – this time in Artington – and turned people out for school board meetings to hold the line against anti-trans attacks by the far right and the federal government.
  - Likewise, members in the Northern Virginia Branch were involved in the campaign that resulted in the Arlington County Board voting in May 2025 to suspend its 287(g) agreement, significantly limiting the Arlington Police Department's cooperation with ICE. Elsewhere, members are participating in local community defense to protect their neighbors from ICE.
- Chapter members stood against the continuing, US-backed genocide of Palestinians through multiple BDS campaigns, including protests, political education events, and canvasses across the DMV.
- The fight for a Green New Deal continued. WePower launched canvasses and started wheatpasting to grow the base for public power and published a white paper on *how to municipalize Pepco*, and members likewise organized around expanding and improving public transit and social housing.
- The chapter has expanded its reach, bringing DSA's politics to people throughout the DMV with an active Street Team tabling at events in the region. *Washington Socialist* and the weekly newsletter grew their readership, and introduced video through the MDC Dispatch; and many reading groups, socialist night schools, and walking tours were organized throughout the year to provide political education for our members and bring new workers into the movement for socialism.

By organizing across state lines, our chapter has proven the political power of the organized working class. Together, we can mobilize the many to force working class perspectives into the conversation in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

Membership growth and development remains a priority in the chapter – our class has the people, the ruling class has the money. Our chapter has grown rapidly, seeing an over 40 percent bump in membership since October 2024. Moving members from dues-paying and inactive into leading organizers will be key in the coming months and years as workers across the region look to fight back against fascism. Our organizational strength moving forward will



come from being the political home for workers disenchanted with decades of neoliberal policies that have allowed fascism to fester. But member engagement work in 2025 has set us up to do this: new member onboarding is more popular than ever, and many friendly, low-stakes public events and easily accessible actions give people many potential spaces to start engaging with the chapter.

As 2025 comes to an end and we start our local chapter convention, we ask our comrades to read this report. Understanding our past successes and failures will be key to building on what we have done and creating new opportunities for democratic socialism – both here in the DMV and nationally. We have shown that winning political power through organizing is possible. Let's continue to do so.

## Recap of 2025 Chapter Activities

### Steering Committee

As stated in our chapter's bylaws, "The Steering Committee is the highest elected body of MDC DSA and is the political leadership of the chapter when the membership is not assembled." But the Steering Committee is not just the chapter's political leadership: it is also the body that implements the chapter's will, in the form of resolutions, priority campaigns, and duties written into the bylaws. The committee must ensure that the general body's will is seen through.

To that end, each Steering Committee must assign itself a set of tasks in the form of portfolios, per the bylaws. Some of these portfolios are related to row offices, like Treasurer, where members campaign for a specific role on the committee and must see it through; others are decided collectively at the beginning of the term by the entire committee, and at-large members must make sure the work happens.

The sections following this one provide summaries of the permanent committees mentioned above. Immediately below is a summary of activities (not included in the permanent committee summaries) for the 2025 Metro DC DSA Steering Committee:

- Assigned [individual portfolios](#) to all Steering Committee members and instituted regular reportbacks on portfolios, to increase both general body and Steering Committee oversight on work
- Organized an Inauguration Day Weekend of Action, including the People's March, We Fight Back, and a well-attended campaigns fair.
- Hosted 6 general body meetings: Our chapter's ability to host well-attended, well-run hybrid meetings remains a point of pride, and will continue to be as we continuously improve safety and security practices and endeavor to consistently offer childcare.
- Held 26 biweekly meetings of the Steering Committee that were open to attendance by chapter members and non-members alike, with space for input ranging from internal chapter discussions to questions of strategy and endorsement of outside events.



- Onboarded three chapter Harassment & Grievance Officers and set the expectation that all future Steering Committee members must undergo training on the process.
- Supported chapter members in organizing across chapter formations and with external allied organizations.
- Represented the chapter at regular regional DSA meetings, in coalition spaces, and at actions across the region.
- Planned, organized, and facilitated a local convention in December 2025, for the second time democratizing the agenda by having the general body set the order and importance of debate.

The next Steering Committee will set its own plan of work, determine its own priorities within the context of the 2026 priority campaigns and resolutions passed at the 2025 local convention, and decide democratically how to split up responsibilities. The 2025 chair recommends continuing with portfolio reportbacks and deepening support for social activities that serve as onramps into the organizing work of the chapter.

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## **Finance Committee**

### **Overview**

The Finance Committee oversaw a year of substantial organizational growth and financial strengthening, marked by rising dues-share income, disciplined spending, and improved internal controls. Despite increased chapter activity and expanding operational needs, the organization ends 2025 in one of its strongest fiscal positions in recent memory.

The year also included a mid-August transition in the Treasurer position, which the committee managed smoothly. The outgoing Treasurer provided a complete handoff of financial records, reimbursement systems, and account access. The incoming Treasurer implemented updated tracking practices, reconciled outstanding reimbursements, and accelerated reporting to the Steering Committee. The continuity achieved during this transition reflects the maturity of the chapter's internal systems and the collective stewardship of the Finance Committee.

### **Cash on Hand and Summary**

As of the time of this writing (on 12/06/25), the chapter's liquid holdings total \$112,210.11, including:

- \$112,155.75 in the Amalgamated Bank account
- \$54.36 in the chapter's PayPal account



Combined with the Budget Tracker's previously recorded balances, the chapter ends the year significantly above last year's ~\$81,000 cash-on-hand figure. This increase was driven primarily by higher dues-share income and conservative operational spending through Q2 and Q3.

Additionally, since our last convention, the chapter has fundraised \$15,850.00 (\$15,007.00 after fees).

## **Dues-Share Income**

Dues share continues to be the chapter's most substantial and reliable source of income. From Q4 2024 through Q3 2025, the chapter received:

- 2024 Q4: \$9,661.00 (disbursed 2/20/25)
- 2025 Q1: \$10,983.25 (disbursed 4/24/25)
- 2025 Q2: \$11,994.05 (disbursed 7/24/25)
- 2025 Q3: \$13,194.55 (disbursed 10/23/25)

Total dues-share income: \$45,832.85.

This represents a 39% increase over the \$32,961 reported last year. Rising national membership after the 2024 election, alongside MDC DSA's strong base of monthly dues payers, contributed to this record-setting year.

## **General Funds**

General Funds total \$69,559.31, according to the 2025 Budget Tracker. This is an increase from the \$66,795.00 carried into the beginning of the year.

The growth reflects a combination of increased dues-share payments, steady small-donor contributions, and moderated operational spending.

## **Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds—money raised and held for specific formations—total \$12,550.21. Major balances include:

- Migrant Justice: \$2,644.81
- Stomp Out Slumlords: \$4,104.90
- We Power DC: \$1,421.00
- Abolition: \$853.25
- MoCo fundraising (multiple funds combined): \$2,000.00+

Restricted Funds increased compared to last year's \$10,279.00 total. As in previous years, formations with large balances, especially Migrant Justice and Abolition, are encouraged to continue developing spending plans that strategically deploy their resources.



## Branch Funds

Branches again received \$1,000 in “use-it-or-lose-it” budget allocations for 2025. Spending levels were substantially higher than in 2024. Remaining balances are:

- Montgomery County: \$91.31/\$1,000.00 (90.9%)
- Northern Virginia: \$726.10/\$1,000.00 (72.4%)
- Prince George’s County: \$68.00/\$1,000.00 (93.2%)

This marks a positive trend, especially for the Prince George’s Branch, which spent from its branch budget for the first time.

## Priority Spending

Priority Campaign Funds were actively used across all campaigns. Current balances include:

- Stomp Out Slumlords: \$1,754.17/\$4,000.00 (56.15%)
- We Power DC: \$881.56/\$3,600.00 (75.5%)
- Labor: \$340.50/\$3,250.00 (89.5%)
- Internationalism: \$1,289.98/\$3,250.00 (60.3%)
- Bodily Autonomy: \$812.58/\$3,900.00 (79.2%)

Spending was higher and more varied than in the previous year, reflecting increased organizing activity in anticipation of the 2026 cycle.

## Operational Spending

The chapter budgeted \$19,638 for operations in 2025. Year-to-date figures show:

- \$9,079.15 spent
- \$10,558.85 remaining

These trends align with the 2026 Budget Proposal, which increases the operating budget to \$22,307.00 to accommodate higher costs for meeting space and digital tools.

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## Key Changes in the Proposed 2026 Budget

The proposed 2026 budget includes several significant structural improvements and realignments intended to strengthen chapter operations, support organizing infrastructure, and address lessons from the past year’s spending patterns.

### Increase in Funding for Meeting and Event Space



The 2026 proposal includes a substantial increase in funding for physical meeting and social space, reflecting the chapter's desire to expand in-person chapter meetings, hybrid large events, and public-facing programming. This change directly responds to increased attendance at general body meetings and the strategic need for more consistent, high-quality hybrid meeting capacity.

### **Cheaper and Larger Storage Unit**

The proposed budget reflects a shift to a larger yet more affordable storage unit, reducing long-term operating costs while providing more space for campaign materials, outreach equipment, and political education supplies. This change is visible in the lower projected cost for storage in the 2026 operating budget.

### **Creation of a Budget Line for the Membership Engagement Department**

For the first time, the 2026 budget includes a dedicated Membership Engagement Department line item of \$2,400.00. This responds to the department's growth and its central role in onboarding, mobilization, retention, and community-building initiatives. Embedding MED funding in the formal budget reflects the chapter's commitment to internal development and long-term member integration.

### **Creation of a Printing Budget Line**

The proposed budget adds a standalone \$2,000.00 printing line item, recognizing that printing needs—across Political Education, member engagement, Street Team outreach, and working group campaigns—have grown beyond what individual formations can reliably cover. Centralizing printing costs will allow for better coordination, quality control, and cost efficiency.

### **Reduction in Priority Campaign Budget**

The Priority Campaign Fund is reduced from \$18,000.00 to \$13,000.00, reflecting the fact that priority campaigns did not fully expend last year's allotment. The reduction brings the fund back in line with spending patterns, while still maintaining substantial support for priority work.

This adjustment also lowers the overall share of the budget consumed by priority spending—from 35.55% of the 2025 budget to 25.54% in the 2026 proposal—allowing the chapter to invest more in infrastructure, training, operations, and branch support.

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### **Looking Ahead**

The proposed 2026 budget increases pre-priority spending to \$37,907.00 and maintains a \$13,000.00 Priority Campaign Fund, representing 25.54% of the total budget. These changes—alongside the structural additions and reallocations outlined above—position the



chapter to support its most ambitious electoral cycle to date, expand administrative and outreach capacity, and continue strengthening branch and working group infrastructure.

## Conclusion

Metro DC DSA concludes 2025 with strong reserves, rising revenue, and greater financial stability than at any point in recent years. The chapter's total liquid assets grew to exceed \$112,000.00, dues-share income reached an all-time high, and branch-level and working group spending increased across the board. The Finance Committee's work this year—combined with a smooth Treasurer transition—has positioned the chapter to meet the challenges of 2026 with confidence and capacity.

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## Administrative Committee

The Administrative Committee (AdCom) is a permanent chapter committee sanctioned by the Steering Committee responsible for overseeing and executing the general administrative functions of the chapter, among other duties as outlined in the bylaws. AdCom is organized into five departments: Communications, Operations, TechOps, Member Engagement and Security, each of which contains specialized committees, such as the Events committee (within the Operations Department) and the Social Media committee (within the Communications Department). Stewards head each Department and Committee, while AdCom as a whole is chaired by the chapter Secretary, with support from the AdCom steward who manages Department Steward meetings and RedDesk support.

AdCom's internal structure evolves depending on the organizing circumstances and demand for administrative assistance from different chapter formations. In 2025, several departments undertook significant projects that strengthened the chapter's operational infrastructure. For example, the Security Department collaborated with the Steering Committee to formalize and implement in-person security measures and apply them at our General Body Meetings and other chapter-wide events to ensure comrades and community members experience our spaces as safe and welcoming. The Operations Department created a HelpDesk team to streamline and standardize the processing of HelpDesk tickets, the primary method whereby the General Body submits requests to AdCom. Operations also created and rolled out new types of tickets to request chapter-owned gear and equipment to standardize a formally opaque and informal system. Meanwhile, our Communications Department has embarked on an ongoing audit and modernization of the chapter website, tightening the chapter's public-facing messaging and improving accessibility.

This year, AdCom also made significant structural improvements to strengthen the organization's administrative capacities. In 2024, the two largest challenges facing the committee going into the new year were retention of Department and Committee stewards and



integrating internal and external campaign work. Steward positions are often demanding leadership roles that require substantial time, labor, and consistency. The responsibilities, including checking in on department projects, monitoring RedDesk ticket progress, and answering questions from the general body, can make the roles liable to burnout and turnover. In 2024, many months went by without a Communications Steward after a vacancy early in the year. In 2025, with the help of the development of new leadership pipelines, the Member Engagement Department steward vacancy was immediately filled (with two stewards nonetheless), and the search to fill a Communications Department Steward vacancy lasted no more than three weeks. This impressive feat demonstrates a growing awareness of AdCom's role in the chapter's organizing, and allowed these critical functions to continue without any lapse in operations. This improvement reflects deliberate planning to build stronger leadership pipelines and represents a growing recognition by the General Body of AdCom's central role in enabling every major chapter function.

This progress is tied to multiple continued efforts to bridge the gap between internal administrative work and external organizing. Chapter leaders and rank-and-file members attended AdCom socials and happy hours this year, taking advantage of opportunities to build relationships, reduce isolation, and highlight the important work our administrative comrades do. The introduction of the public `#adcom` Slack channel further opened avenues for transparent communication, questions, and participation. However, the most impactful development was the rollout of the AdCom apprenticeship program.

The apprenticeship program invited rank-and-file members to gain a comprehensive understanding of AdCom's work across all departments. This multi-week program allowed apprentices to participate in intensive instruction from Department stewards on the tools and operations of each department and gain hands-on experience with trial runs of specific tasks and requests that these Departments handle. After the program commenced, graduates went on to increase the capacity of every AdCom department and, in several cases, move up into formal leadership positions. This approach to education, encouragement, and mobilization is a critical method of both breaking down the barrier between external community organizing and chapter administrative work, and encouraging the development of new leaders within the organization.

Despite these successes, the work is not done. AdCom should continue to host more socials throughout the year, and they should be better publicized. More cross-department communication can be encouraged, and more creativity should be solicited to encourage closing the gap between administration and organizing.

Behind each RedDesk ticket, mass texting campaign, hybrid A/V setup, website update, and graphic design request is a team of dedicated volunteers willing to spend their time and effort to keep the chapter thriving. This work would be impossible without the work of these talented and dedicated comrades. AdCom has grown considerably over the past several years and will continue to evolve as our chapter becomes more organized, more capable, and more powerful.



## Membership Engagement Department

In its second year as a department within the Administrative Committee, Member Engagement continued to strengthen the chapter's systems for recruiting new members, helping members get involved in campaigns and working groups, and retaining members over time. This year's work focused on making onboarding more consistent, more proactive, and easier for new members to navigate across our large chapter footprint.

A major focus this year was expanding and improving New Member Orientations as a reliable entry point into Metro DC DSA. Member Engagement maintained a steady cadence of orientations in both virtual and in-person formats, recorded attendance, and ensured participants received follow-up communication after each session. These orientations also stayed connected to the chapter's active work by incorporating campaign and working group updates and highlighting concrete opportunities for new members to plug in.

Member Engagement also continued building out the department's "front door" and follow-up infrastructure. This included maintaining the Member Engagement email process and New Member Interest Form follow-up, supporting one-on-one connections through Chat with a Comrade, and launching more proactive outreach through the Welcome Committee. Over the course of the year, the Welcome Committee texted new members who had recently joined, began expanding phone follow-up, and used these conversations to connect members to specific next steps in chapter life.

### **Key Member Engagement work in 2025 included:**

- **New Member Orientations:** held orientations on an ongoing basis in both virtual and in-person formats, with structured attendance tracking and automated follow-up.
- **Welcome Committee outreach:** conducted regular text outreach to new members and expanded phone follow-up to strengthen retention and improve handoffs into chapter work.
- **New Member Cohorts:** continued developing small group onboarding through cohort programming, with strong participation and a growing applicant pipeline.
- **Member intake and routing:** maintained the Member Engagement email and interest form response process to ensure new members receive timely, personalized pathways into campaigns, working groups, and other chapter formations.
- **One-on-one connection:** sustained Chat with a Comrade as an additional pathway for new members to ask questions, get oriented, and identify ways to get involved.



## Community Builders

Member Engagement's Community Builders Team continued developing low-barrier social programming that helps members build relationships and stay connected between organizing cycles, while also providing additional entry points for new and less engaged members. In 2025, Community Builders hosted recurring Final Friday happy hours in accessible locations, with notable new member attendance, and continued exploring how to rotate these events across the chapter footprint.

Community Builders also advanced "Socialist Movement" as an umbrella for active, recreational social outings. The team launched Walking Club as a new chapter-wide event format, drawing strong interest and building a coordinator model so events remain welcoming and manageable as participation grows. Community Builders additionally supported new social event ideas, including planning for a Latin dance social with an introductory lesson and chapter-level promotion.

We are enthusiastic about continuing to deepen these systems so that more new members are welcomed, supported, and effectively connected to meaningful organizing, while also strengthening long-term retention and sustainable chapter growth.

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## Political Engagement Committee

Although 2025 was an off-year election cycle, the Political Engagement Committee and Electoral Working Group nevertheless campaigned actively throughout the year.

To start the year, Metro DC DSA had already voted to endorse Shayla Adams-Stafford in the special election in Prince George's County District 5. Building on the capacity built through the campaigns for Uncommitted MD and the MD Reproductive Freedom Amendment — deliberately targeting District 5 in anticipation of the special election — the chapter mobilized 57 volunteers to knock on more than 7,400 doors. With 5,126 votes (49.56%), Councilmember Adams-Stafford secured a decisive victory and marked the chapter's first electoral win in Prince George's County. Come summer, the PEC administered the endorsement process for and provided support for the campaigns to elect longtime member and chapter leader Frankie Fritz to Greenbelt City Council (17k+ doors - *win*) and Omodamola Williams to Gaithersburg City Council (12k+ doors - *loss*) in the general election.

The PEC and members active in the Electoral Working Group also organized several trainings this year. In the spring, approximately 40 members attended a two-day electoral training facilitated by an electoral organizer from National DSA. Learning from that experience, dedicated members created their own two-day Electoral Intensive training in July, designed to not only how the chapter's electoral program has changed over time but also to train nearly 70 participants on how to do the work of specific campaign roles and get those present to commit



to filling them for the then-upcoming campaigns of Frankie Fritz and Omodamola Williams. These were supplemented by two additional canvassing and phonebanking 101 trainings in September and October during campaign season.

The materials for these trainings and the capacity built through these three campaigns have developed many new leaders who will continue growing the “Big Red Machine,” as one DC-area conservative enemy once called us. Dozens of members now know not only how to knock voters’ and constituents’ doors, but how to plan and launch canvasses, manage lists of volunteers, use VAN to make lists of voters, print literature, recruit people to DSA through the campaign and on the doors, and all the other tasks necessary to run a sophisticated canvassing operations.

On the legislative side, the PEC held two strategy meetings with Councilmember Janeese Lewis George in the early spring to prepare for a difficult budget season and to fight Mayor Bowser’s RENTAL Act and attacks on I-82. With help from Councilmember Lewis George to power map the rest of the Council, the PEC determined it would be crucial to keep debate on the RENTAL Act in the Committee on Housing rather than the Committee on the Whole. The PEC targeted the former, coordinating with SOS organizers and tenants to get facetime with every Councilmember on the Committee on Housing or their staff. This included, for example, working with members in a Ward 3 tenant association to gather signatures in their building to secure a meeting and put pressure on Councilmember Frumin. In Montgomery County, members continued organizing around rent stabilization in cities such as Gaithersburg and Rockville, developing relationships with elected officials, prospective candidates, and allied progressive organizations and unions. Finally, in Prince George’s County, the PEC engaged in early discussions with Councilmember Adams-Stafford about proposing social housing legislation and helped facilitate a meeting with branch and working group leaders.

The primary challenge facing the PEC is leading the work of the chapter’s electoral program (from administering the endorsement process and candidate engagement to running and training others to run campaigns), while also being tasked with managing relationships with a growing number of electeds spread across the DMV and inside-outside legislative strategizing. Moreover, this work becomes more complex and onerous as an increasing number of candidates seek our endorsement. One sign that our electoral program is becoming a party-building project is the growing number of cadre member-leaders — such as Greenbelt City Councilmember Frankie Fritz — who are running for office themselves and seeking the chapter’s endorsement. These and other factors have revealed a need for a more efficient and flexible process. To prepare for the future and attempt to address some recurring challenges, members of the PEC have proposed updates to the endorsement process and the structure of the PEC, as well as a possible structure for a permanent Socialists in Office based on months of information gathering from other chapters.

Ultimately, the goals of the Political Engagement Committee are to knock ever-larger numbers of doors, elect more DSA members, and pose a credible threat to non-socialist incumbent elected officials; to exert more legislative pressure, wage strategic campaigns, and build



socialist state power long term through effective inside-outside organizing with our electeds and working groups; pass more legislation that not only improves material conditions but empowers and facilitates working class organization, and brings workers into the democratic socialist movement. In 2025, we moved the chapter a bit closer to achieving them despite losing some hard battles.

There will be much more to come in 2026. In an exciting development for the chapter's electoral program, 13 candidates submitted valid endorsement questionnaires, 10 of whom had at least five members sponsor and introduce an endorsement resolution for consideration by the chapter. The 2026 PEC and Electoral Working Group will almost certainly oversee the chapter's most ambitious electoral cycle to date.

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## Priority Campaigns

### Stomp Out Slumlords

Stomp Out Slumlords is a working group of Metro DC DSA that fights evictions and supports tenant organizing throughout the Washington metro area. The working group organizes across the District of Columbia and in neighboring counties of Maryland and Virginia. Over its seven-year existence, the group has organized rent strikes and actions in dozens of buildings and won improved conditions, back rent, collectively bargained agreements, rent abatements, rent freezes, and in one case, tenant ownership of a 34-unit building. SOS is also a member of the Autonomous Tenants Union Network (ATUN).

SOS has run consistent anti-eviction canvasses, as well as building outreach canvasses over the past year as a means for building up its network of involved and engaged tenants. These activities act as one of the core components of SOS' base and tenant network expansion, and have continued even as SOS has spent some part of the year incubating its long-term ambitions of establishing a region-wide tenant organization and expanding TOPA rights in DC.

A summary of SOS's activities over the last year is below:

- Marbury Plaza tenants won a \$41 million judgement against their former landlord over housing conditions, the biggest win for tenants in DC history! Marbury Plaza is a building SOS has organized with to help build tenant power long term.
- Contributed to a strong, organized presence at several Rockville City Council and Mayor meetings and Rockville rent stabilization community forum, garnering strong media coverage. While the work to pass rent stabilization in Rockville continues, we did successfully defeat a measure to limit free speech at Rockville City Hall under the guise of 'decorum'. We were also a strong presence at the first MoCo tenant summit in May 2025.



- Held Canvasses to get people to email and put pressure on the City Council to fight the RENTAL Act. We worked with PEC to organize tenants into meetings with DC City Council, recruited tenants to speak before Council at hearings, held a rally at the Wilson Building, and supported a TOPA Townhall. While the RENTAL Act did unfortunately pass, our concerted effort did help make it much less harmful.
- SOS organizers helped form and still lead the Community Defense Patrols, coming out of the efforts at Tivoli Gardens to defend their neighbors.

## **Labor**

The Labor Working Group organizes with workers across the region to fight bad bosses, build new unions, and campaign for pro-worker policies. Inspired by a rich history of socialist thought and practice, the Labor Working Group believes that workplace organizing—whether through traditional union models or other forms—is central to building power and making tangible changes to fight exploitation and oppression.

Below is some of the Labor Working Group's organizing in 2025:

- Alongside Labor Union Allies, we were able to organize a successful MDC DSA Labor Day rally which drew 2,000 people to be educated about the history of the labor movement and moved on to a picket of the Occidental.
- We created and developed "Know Your Rights" trainings in partnership with the Peoples Parity Projects and local unions. It has drawn hundreds of people over half a dozen workshops.
- Supported the picketing of UNITE HERE Local 25 that has been going on for 8 months consistently.
- Several workplaces, local and otherwise, have been organized by DC EWOC local volunteers to the point where they have been handed off to unions to get over the finish line.

## **Green New Deal**

### **We Power DC**

We Power DC is a grassroots campaign fighting for public power in the District. The long objective is to win a publicly-owned municipal utility, directly accountable to the people it serves, by municipalizing Pepco. By bringing DC's utilities system under democratic control, DC's working class could save thousands in yearly utility bills and greater focus could be mandated on ensuring carbon-neutral energy production.

We Power DC is in the base and power building phase of its campaign - building up a base of popular support and dedicated activists, connections and trust across environmental justice organizations, and support among elected officials.

Below are We Power DC's activities from 2025:



- We published our white paper on the failures of PEPCO and the pathway to public power in DC! This was a monumental effort, involving about a dozen organizers and hundreds of hours of research and writing. We are thrilled that we now have a robust, deeply researched political educational tool to inform legislators and coalition partners about pepco's evils and our goals as a campaign
- We have held five successful political education events: we power dc 101 in january, a panel discussion on public power with Sandeep Vaheesan in March, a GND-focused event with Femi Taiwo in April, an internal white paper poli ed event in June, and a white paper launch in October

As a working group, We Power DC is joined with the Social Housing and Transit working groups as a part of the overarching Green New Deal working group with the intention of merging operations between the campaigns to expand capacity and to better coordinate strategy and tactics. Although the campaigns will continue to manage separately, this new working group is intended to slowly evolve the campaigns into a broader plan.

## **Transit**

The Transit section of the working group has engaged this activity in 2025:

- We've had 42 individuals submitting comments for the public pressure campaign around DMV Moves.
- Managing the chapter's relationship with the local Green New Deal coalition, a network of grassroots activists connected to federal, state and municipal policy-makers with ambition of realizing the Green New Deal.

## **Bodily Autonomy**

The Bodily Autonomy Working Group formed through the merger of the Reproductive Justice Working Group and the Trans Rights and Bodily Autonomy campaign. The working group has advocated for trans sanctuary bills, held a name change clinic, protested across the DMV, organized to protect abortion rights in Maryland, and provided care kits for reproductive justice.

In September, BAWG successfully organized to get the Alexandria City Council to pass a sanctuary bill protecting LGBTQIA+ people who live there. This is the first LGBTQIA+ sanctuary resolution in the state of Virginia, where LGBTQIA+ have been under attack from the Governor's mansion into local school boards, and represents a step in the right direction to protect the bodily autonomy of everyone. After Alexandria BAWG launched a sanctuary campaign in Arlington and recruited Equality Arlington to drive it to passage. Ideally it will be passed by the end of 2024, but at worst before inauguration in 2024. In the face of the election results and with additional capacity from new members, BAWG also accelerated and launched a Fairfax Sanctuary campaign in mid-November.

BAWG also held its first name change clinic this year, helping multiple individuals prepare paperwork, explain the legal context, and the steps for successfully changing their names in line with how they identify.



Public facing actions were also a common activity for BAWG and its predecessors this year, from protests to tabling at events. Rallies at school boards demanding they protect queer and trans kids and a presence at this year's Trans Day of Visibility event were part of the work. Just the week of convention, BAWG helped organize a rapid response protest at the Supreme Court during the hearing of *U.S. v Skrmetti*, a case that could threaten gender-affirming care for children. This action ended up in the national news and forced one prominent Republican congressperson to abandon her hateful speech.

For reproductive justice, BAWG packed over 500 care kits - including plan B, condoms, pregnancy tests, and zines about reproductive justice - while raising money for the DC Abortion Fund, helping those in need across the country as abortion rights are under attack.

In Maryland, BAWG helped lead on passing Question 1, which enshrined abortion rights in the state constitution. Over 25 volunteers knocked thousands of doors, and Question 1 passed overwhelmingly - with more than 76% of the vote statewide.

## Internationalism

The Internationalism working group aims to support and force-multiply the efforts of anti-imperialist struggles around the globe from the heart of the US empire with the resources, people power, and the socialist/internationalist ethos of the DSA. We are especially focused on supporting Palestinian-led resistance to Zionist occupation, apartheid, genocide, and ethnic cleansing. We believe that the struggle for Palestinian liberation is the moral, political and strategic compass for the interconnected struggles against US imperialism and racial capitalism.

In 2025, IWG built up our chapter's capacity to mobilize for protests and participate in the broader movement against the US-backed Israeli genocide and occupation of Palestine. The working group mobilized contingents to a number of mass protests and strengthened relationships with multiple Palestine solidarity organizations and coalitions.

Recognizing the importance of strategic BDS campaigns, IWG kicked off local efforts in support of DSA's Stop Fueling Genocide campaign against Chevron with activities including a BDS teach-in, a rally outside the Chevron Government Affairs office, and a Palestine Solidarity walking tour visiting various BDS targets in downtown DC including Chevron. IWG is now working on an initiative to get organizations to drop Chevron sponsorships in DC.

In partnership with DC for Palestine, IWG is helping build the Apartheid Free DC campaign to ask businesses and organizations to sign a BDS pledge. IWG has embedded in DC4P ward groups and kicked off monthly group canvasses in different wards, recruiting several new sign-ups for the campaign in recent months.

IWG is also supporting other regional BDS campaigns, including campaigns to stop state support for the Maryland Israel Development Corporation, divest Maryland state funds from Israeli government bonds, and divest Virginia Retirement System (VRS) funds from weapons manufacturers and logistics companies like Maersk enabling the genocide. For the VRS



campaign, NoVA DSA currently has two IWG members serving in steering positions for the campaign, highlighting the success of IWG's strengthening of partnerships with Palestine solidarity groups in the area.

In addition to Palestine solidarity, IWG also has active organizing in solidarity with Cuba and the Philippines.

IWG members have strengthened ties with the Cuban embassy and helped organize several events to build solidarity including a national DSA event at the Cuban embassy to raise funds for DSA's delegation to Cuba; two political education events on the history of the Cuban Revolution and the effects of the US blockade, and a solidarity softball game with the Cuban embassy.

IWG members organized a study of *Philippine Society and Revolution* that got more DSA members involved in our Philippines solidarity efforts. This subgroup organized for our chapter to join the regional chapter of the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines (ICHRP) and has worked with ICHRSP on actions, educational events, and solidarity with Filipino seafarers being targeted by ICE. IWG also sent two representatives to international solidarity trips to the Philippines in 2025.

As actions and asks have arisen, Internationalism also got involved in other coalition work, such as commemorating the Armenian genocide, standing with the people of Sudan against genocide enabled by US weapons and UAE funding, and opposition to US military aggression towards Venezuela and other countries in the Americas.

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## Working Groups

### Abolition

MDC DSA's Abolition Working Group began during the Floyd Uprisings in 2020, and has consistently been organizing in coalition with Black-led and racial justice organizations to move toward prison abolition in DC, Montgomery County, and Northern Virginia. As part of the Abolition working group's vision for racial and economic justice, the group organizes to demand that funding be removed from police and prisons and reinvested in real public safety: affordable housing, quality education, stable jobs, accessible healthcare (including mental health services), community-based support programs, violence interruption programs, and other essential public goods and services. This aspiration is a core part of our vision of socialism. The working group organizes to make this chapter-wide political position a reality.

Prior to 2024, this working-group was referred to as the Defund MPD working group. The working group meets bi-weekly, and organizes itself in three regional subformations: DC, PG and Northern Virginia..



In 2024, the working group played a major role in organizing the fight against Secure DC (the “Crimnibus”) proposed by the DC Council. The bill rolled back several initiatives won in the aftermath of the Floyd uprisings. While the bill was ultimately passed 12-0, the city-wide coalition was able to shake out several small, but important, wins in abating the worst of the legislation, such as maintaining felony theft thresholds, maintaining several police transparency thresholds, watering down the mask ban implemented by the legislation, sunsetting pretrial detention, and limiting the range of DNA collection afforded by the legislation.

In addition, the Abolition working group organized a range of events designed to incubate and develop anti-carceral counterpublics in DC and continue organizing against the police state. These efforts included:

- In Coalitions we organized and delivered testimony about the Sanctuary Values Act, Families Not Feds, about the DC budget, against pretrial detention and about the PEACE DC bill in the DC Council. WG members offered testimony on behalf of the chapter.
- Organized a heavily attended back-to-school backpack drive, which included direct outreach to Spanish-speaking populations in the neighborhood. 300+ backpacks were given out to those in need and spread the message that we need to fund resources for youth education and not police officers in schools.
- Organized a winter coat drive, which included direct outreach to populations in the neighborhood. 200+ coats were given out to those in need and spread the message that we need to make life more affordable for working people.
- Prince George’s Branch alongside the Abolition WG was able to get a region specific Abolition group started to address the ongoing needs of the people of PG.
- Organized jail support efforts to develop and grow DSA’s connections with DC-based carceral support organizers.
- Organized support for local groups organizing against the Farmville Detention Center in Northern Virginia.
- Held a DC Occupation Teach in as a core part of the Anti-Criminalization Coalition.
- Organized a Know Your Rights training to teach people about Family and Domestic Violence Court, to help arm people with the knowledge to best proceed in these settings without relying on Police and Carceral strategies.
- Helped Virginia based Migrant Justice Coalitions to hold fundraiser film screenings to both educate on the ongoing crises, and help those who are detained.
- Have been continuing a jail outreach program to establish connections and outreach to incarcerated people in Virginia and DC.
- Initiated mass wheat-pasting campaigns for events and actions, which allowed for significant coordination with the labor and political education working groups.
- Organized a successful Brake Light Clinic, where members changed brakelights for free while educating participants about socialism and having conversations about abolition.

## **Political Education**



The Political Education Working Group's mission is to help the chapter and the community it is based in better understand our own world and how to fight for a better one. Political Education does this by coordinating Reading Groups, Walking Tours, Socialist Night School, Book Exchanges, and working with Chapter campaigns and formations to create and empower communities to understand the economic and social forces that shape the environment chapter members are operating in.

Below is a list of significant Political Education Working Group activities in 2025:

- The Reading Group program developed in the chapter is one of the best mass political education formats developed across the entirety of DSA. This year, the chapter initiated a Spring, Summer, and Fall series which attracted mass appeal. Many of the sessions offered in each series connected directly to active WG campaigns, and were engaged directly by members of those formations to bring in non and less-engaged members into the chapter. The Fall reading groups hosted 12 reading groups, which had 380 sign ups and were sponsored by 7 different formations. Groups included Capital Vol. 1 Reading Group, Postmodernism and Capitalism Reading Group, The 1% and American Decline: Political Economy Reading Group, Labor and the Working Class Reading Group, Internationalism Reading Group: Revolution in the Philippines, Abolition Reading Group: Unbuild Walls, Mutual Aid Reading Group: A Paradise Built in Hell, Green New Deal Reading Group, Palestinian Poetry Reading Group: Selections from Heaven Looks Like Us, New Magazine Essays: Metro DC DSA Discussion Club, Introduction to the Black Radical Tradition Reading Group, and “The Education of Socialists” Reading Group
- The Socialist Night School program develops hybrid, in-person, and virtual formats that attract mass attendance from both the chapter and wider community. The long-standing events have been vital in developing a mass base for socialism. Many such events were held in 2025, such as Road to Public Power (with We Power), Why We Organize, Legal Plunder, Socialism 101.
- Political Education has also pioneered a new approach to mass political education through its walking tour program, which navigates large crowds to engage in contemporary political education in the spaces we live now. This year Political Education continues to help formations put these on, each of which attracted well over 150 attendees.
- The Book Exchange program has also been pioneered by the chapter and has enabled a new mode for engaging and enrapturing public audiences. In addition to popping up several iterations of the Book Exchange across NOVA and DC this year, the Book Exchange has also connected with other chapter formations (Publications and Street Team) to augment public tabling events and operations.
- Led mass wheatpasting activities to promote events and reading groups, which allowed for coordination with other chapter formations and expanded DSA's reach to a wider audience.

## **Publications**



The Publications working group, also known as the Publications Editorial Cooperative, has been operating within Metro DC DSA for over seven years. Publications' primary objectives encumber production and distribution of the weekly newsletter, and curation of the *Washington Socialist*, a digital publication associated with Metro DC DSA. Publications often mobilizes support for other propaganda projects, and works closely with the Design Committee, the Administrative Committee, Member Engagement, the Campaigns Council, and the Street Team in order to smooth the transfer of information across chapter members and to external audiences.

Since April 2023, Publications has had an elected editorial board responsible for overseeing Publications-wide processes. Five members of the board are elected by Publications working group participants, one is an elected member of the Steering Committee, and another is appointed by the Administrative committee. The Publications board continues to be a vital anchor of consistency for the working group, anchoring group operations and establishing a clearer editorial line for publications productions.

Significant insights from Publications operations over 2025:

- Weekly opens of the weekly update, which is sent to all members of Metro DC DSA as well as a broader list, increased by ~2,000/week over the course of 2024. Compared to 2023, the average open rate increased by 1% (~59%) along with the verified human open rate which increased by nearly 5% (~37%). These stats suggest an expansion in general circulation. They also suggest that engagement among consistent readers has also increased.
- Publications onboarded several new editors, writers, and producers in 2024, which expanded the range of members engaged in Publications and reduced workload among consistent Publications members.
- The *Washington Socialist* more than doubled its readership in 2024, pulling in over 42k views by December 2024 (in 2023, page views capped at ~21k). Several breakout articles (on the UMD Grad Union Campaign, The Capitalist War on Telework, and Wydown Workers Coverage) created consistent streams of readership throughout the year. Several articles in the backlog, as well, attracted significant readership, demonstrating the “long-tail” value of the *Washington Socialist*’s catalogue. The *Washington Socialist* switched over to a quarterly publishing model in 2024 in order to create a more sustainable publishing schedule, and also to provide more time to writers and editors for the production of articles.
- The *REDBUG*, a secret propaganda weapon in the form of a voter guide in long development by Publications, initiated its second phase, launching a dedicated website and new long-form election coverage. Although design and rollout of the *REDBUG* occurred, a lack of writers and consistent research prevented the program from complete realization, and the team failed to load out its *REDBUG* Applet program for the DC Primary or General elections (rollout was also delayed due to a lack of competition in both elections). *REDBUG* applet was, however, rolled out for general and primary



elections in Northern Virginia in 2024. Throughout the year, REDBUG attracted over 7.8k views.

- Publications collaborated with the Street Team to initiate tabling at two major events in DC: the Mt. Pleasant Art All Night Festival and the DC Punk Holiday Market. A high level of engagement with event attendees, both long-term members and newcomers to DSA, allowed the chapter to develop its list, promote chapter publications, and engage in direct facetime with the public.
- Publications also initiated a series of left-wing writing workshops with an affiliate publication, *After the Storm*, to engage a new audience and develop the bench of writers and editors connected to the chapter. Each of the workshops sold out and reached capacity, affording the chapter new opportunities to familiarize the wider left in DC with the DSA and chapter publications.

## Street Team

The Street Team, founded in January of 2024, makes sure DSA has a community presence across the region. The formation organizes tabling operations in public space in the region: farmers' markets, community events, protests, and anywhere possibly interested but unorganized people are likely to be. The working group has formalized, meeting monthly with a mission statement, and has successfully initiated rollout at multiple events every month of the year.

Through tabling, the Street Team has been able to pull in new subscribers to our newsletter, sign up new people to the chapter, and increase engagement with members. It has also grown successfully and has integrated the chapter's organizing into its pitch to interested workers by advertising campaigns, working groups, actions, and other ways to get involved. In the months of May-October, our efforts have resulted in 400 sign-ups! The Street Team works with the Member Engagement Department to get interested people into a pipeline to membership and active organizing with the chapter.

In addition to fine-tuning its operations and developing a new base of organized members, the Street Team has also accomplished the following in 2025:

- Developing a replicable and efficient system for setting up street team operations and keeping track of infrastructure/assets used by the group for public interfacing.
- More than doubled number of tabling events over last year (18 total in 2024) through first ten months of 2025 (37 through 10/31; probably ~ 42 by 12/31)
- Held our biggest tabling event yet at the H St. Fest which was the most well attended yet and also helped us interface with other working groups to build better coordination with the various campaigns.
- We've also been able to table in a wider geographic context, with a better distribution amongst our different geographies from the DC wards, MoCO, PG, and NoVA.
- Built a "propaganda index" of chapter literature, providing a consistent method for propagating the work and message of chapter working groups.
- Created an efficient method for mass producing chapter buttons for circulation.



## Branches

### Montgomery County Branch

The Montgomery County, MD branch of Metro DC DSA organizes to build local democracy, fight for tax justice and against austerity, demand rent control and sustainable housing, fight fascism, and build solidarity here and abroad. The branch is the hub of activity for chapter members who live, work, and organize in Montgomery County Maryland. Over the course of the year, the branch increased the number of active campaigns and working groups we were able to run: housing justice/Rockville rent stabilization, upcounty organizing/Omodamola for Gaithersburg, Palestine Solidarity, and anti-ICE/community safety. A big goal for the branch steering committee this year was to do more member engagement and leadership development work this year, bringing in new leaders to run campaigns and the branch.

#### **Housing Justice & Rockville Rent Stabilization**

The branch continued last year's campaign to pass rent stabilization in the city of Rockville, which was exempted from the county rent stabilization law that the branch helped to pass in 2023. Between January and May, our working group focused on organizing tenant canvasses, wheatpasting, and organizing a Rockville Rent Stabilization community forum that members of the council attended, as well as distributing "Rent Stabilization Now!" yard signs to show public community support. During the summer, branch activity shifted to focusing on turnout for Rockville Mayor and City Council hearings where rent stabilization and housing issues were being discussed. The coalition helped to hold a press conference and generated several video and print pieces covering the rent stabilization fight. In July, the mayor and council voted down a rent stabilization proposal brought forward by Councilmember Izola Shaw. Since July, the work of the campaign has shifted to continuing a steady but less frequent presence at Rockville City Council meetings as well as supporting Omodamola Williams' campaign for Gaithersburg City Council through "adopting canvasses" and organizing fundraisers since he campaigned on bringing rent stabilization to Gaithersburg. In addition, members developed a fact sheet on rent stabilization to be distributed at county executive campaign forums and county budget forums as a tactic to defend rent stabilization and advocate for pro-rent stabilization candidates.

#### **Palestine Solidarity**

The branch's Palestine Solidarity working group has been an active participant in the statewide coalition to drop the MIDC. The MIDC a public-private partnership between the state of Maryland and Israeli businesses, where both county and state grants are given to Israeli businesses located in the county, several of which are weapons manufacturing and surveillance/spyware companies complicit in the genocide in Gaza. Our involvement has been as follows: sending a representative to attend coalition meetings, mobilizing written and oral testimony against funding for the MIDC in Annapolis during the state legislative session, mobilizing attendance at county budget forums, designing flyers, co-hosting teach ins, and hosting a political education driving tour event, The People's Tour of MoCo. The branch working



group got off to a slower start in the beginning of the year, struggling to find times to meet regularly and identify consistent leaders, but over the summer got into more of a regular biweekly meeting rhythm and developed new members and leaders through the planning of the People's Tour. The coalition has been holding regular meetings with council members to garner support for dropping funding for the MIDC which several branch working group members have attended and helped to organize. The working group intends to continue to organize presences at county budget forum events, budget hearings, and testimony opportunities, as well as continue holding teach-ins and political education events to build more public awareness and support for dropping the MIDC.

### **Community Safety**

In 2025, organizing to protect neighbors from ICE quickly emerged as a priority for many members in MoCo. The branch invited Alex Vasquez, national organizing director at CASA to deliver a bystander Know Your Rights training at a February branch meeting, and MoCo DSA leaders and members were invited to participate in the MoCo Immigrant Rights Coalition, which has been the anchoring group for Know Your Rights trainings, canvasses, and rapid response efforts in the county throughout 2025. Through this, the branch was able to identify a new working group leader to serve as the main point of contact between MoCo IRC and MoCo DSA, organize a small number of MoCo DSA community safety meetings, and organize fundraising events to donate money to MoCo IRC to help pay for printing costs.

### **Upcounty Basebuilding/Omodamola for Gaithersburg**

A group of DSA members who live upcounty (Germantown, Gaithersburg, Montgomery Village, Olney, Damascus, etc.) have continued to meet regularly to discuss upcounty-specific organizing. The context for this working group is that historically the majority of the branch members have lived “downcounty” (Silver Spring, Takoma Park, Wheaton, Bethesda) and there is a general dynamic in county politics where voices from residents who live upcounty are often less represented. Around May, the focus of the upcounty group quickly turned to focus on the Gaithersburg elections, and many members of the upcounty group were then directly engaged in the Omodamola for Gaithersburg campaign. A priority throughout the Omodamola campaign was to develop the leadership and skills of Gaithersburg and upcounty residents.

### **Areas to Continue Improving in the MoCo branch:**

- Welcoming and onboarding experience for new members
- Consistency in social planning and community building activities
- Consistency in branch communications to members
- For any working group or campaign, cohering a solid group and campaign focus that is both connected to any coalitions we are a part of while also having its own group identity and offering something unique to MoCo DSA as a way to engage members, build their connection with DSA, build their leadership abilities, and build their relationships with each other



## **Prince George's County Branch**

The Prince George's Branch of MDC DSA was chartered in 2020. Branch members organize in Prince George's County, MD to build a base for socialism and support the working class of the county. Prince George's County is one of the most demographically diverse counties in Maryland, the county is 59% Non-Hispanic Black and 21% Hispanic. Over the course of the year, activity has increased due the various electoral activity in the county- alongside being a site for struggles against Data Centers, ICE and other political struggles.

### **The election of Shayla Adams Stafford**

Jolene Ivey, the previous occupant of District 5 abdicated her seat to run for Prince George's County Executive leaving a vacancy for a special election. The Prince George's County Council, divided between progressives and centrist Democrats, was in need of a voice that stood up for unabashed democratic socialist politics in the county. Shayla Adams-Stafford, an ex-board of education member with a history of fighting conservative politics in the county and ties to racial justice orgs, quickly obtained our endorsement and we won.

The chapter mobilized 57 volunteers to knock on more than 7,400 doors, much more than any other endorsee. With 5,126 votes (49.56%), Councilmember Adams-Stafford secured a decisive victory and marked the chapter's first electoral win in Prince George's County. It also began the revitalization of the branch as an entity, with former Branch Chair Frankie Fritz preparing a run and a small core of abolitionist organizers attempting to do abolition work in Prince George's County. This led to much more member attendance at our General Body Meetings and also pulled us together for future political challenges.

Shayla's is in communication with the current Branch Steering and has pledged to partner with us to improve the conditions of PG County Jail, fight food insecurity in D5 with pop up free grocery stores and to work with us in evaluating sustainable development for District 5.

### **The election of Frankie Fritz**

In the Summer, Frankie Fritz, a long-term DSA organizer and Branch Chair, announced a run for Greenbelt City Council. With overwhelming chapter approval, Frankie won the chapter's endorsement and many people came out to campaign for him. With a lot of chapter buy-in and almost 130 volunteers and almost 17,000 doors knocked, Frankie was able to win a council seat, defeating 2 incumbents.

This campaign helped many members learn how to independently lead canvassing operations and deepened their understanding of Greenbelt. Meetings were held at the Greenbelt Community Center, and the New Deal Café became a regular spot for canvassers to rest and reconnect after long shifts. PGDSA members also gained knowledge of Greenbelt's differing political landscapes, such as the strong demand for rent stabilization in renter-heavy areas like Franklin Park, compared to the dynamics within GHI cooperative housing and the various single-family home neighborhoods in the more developed parts of the city.



Frankie ran on an affordability agenda for the people of Greenbelt and we hope that we can help him in the future in organizing people to exercise the rights Frankie will fight to implement on the council- the fight doesn't end with elections!

### **Data Centers**

Around the summer, it was announced that Prince George's County would be making a deal to build a data center in Landover. Community members in Prince George's County, including those in DSA, rallied to stop it through community engagement and sitting in the task force meetings. In September, Braveboy enacted an executive order stopping the Data Center from being built for 6 months; to give time to the Qualified Task Force to make recommendations.

As this likely will be our first action oriented campaign we undertake, we are working hard to create a proper coalition and power map the appropriate targets to oppose the Landover Data Center. We plan in the future to hopefully do a political education event in the future with We Power DC.

### **Abolition Working Group**

Our Abolition group is our most active working group, and was officially chartered at our October 2025 Branch General Body meeting. While new, the group has begun to hold a few events for the local community and hopes to make a lot of connections with community members to push for a much more radical view of public safety. In a county that is majority minority, it is important that we organize to make this view of society a reality.

### **Labor activities**

Our Branch has steadily promoted efforts to support organized labor in the county and it is a regularly growing topic at our Branch meetings. Currently there is a push from other chapters in Maryland for a Right to Strike campaign, to canvas for the right of Maryland public sector workers to strike at the workplace. UMD and PGCC faculty have also been negotiating their bargaining agreements and have encouraged PGDSA members that work at these institutions to join their unions. PGDSA currently plans to hold an event in December in two Starbucks locations in the county to encourage a consumer boycott to support Starbucks Workers United.

## **Northern Virginia Branch**

The NoVA Branch of MDC DSA has helped organize members, workgroups, and campaigns across Northern Virginia since 2017. The branch also supports coalition partners and connects members here to comrades across the Commonwealth. We have hosted regular socials and events for our members, as our branch is looking to increase engagement with members

### **Mutual Aid**



- In 2025, NoVA members formed the NoVA Mutual Aid Working Group and was met with high attendance. The WG does monthly food drops across the NoVA region and they are hoping to expand to more activities in 2026.

### **Trans/Queer Liberation**

- In 2025, NoVA members rapidly responded to the ongoing attacks on trans and queer community members by the Trump Administration. NoVA DSA was represented at Board of Education meetings and protests. Members are actively working on expanding their sanctuary city council resolution work into Fairfax, Prince William County (PWC), and Loudon.

### **International Solidarity**

- Palestine organizing played an important role for NoVA in 2025. NoVA DSA is represented on the steering committee for the No Pension in Genocide VRS campaign that is being coordinated by PYM. Currently, we are in the process of developing relations with NoVA public sectors workers, as we want to elevate the idea of collective worker action in response to the genocide in Palestine. Members are also active in Cuba and Philippines solidarity organizing, with more new members showing interest in the Internationalism working group.

### **Community Safety**

- In 2025, we saw our immigrant communities met with violence from ICE and the state. Many of our members showed up to rapid response in the Arlandria-Chirilagua area, as well as speaking out at city council meetings in support of our immigrant neighbors. With the ongoing and increased repression from the state, NoVA DSA wants to better support these efforts in the future, but have struggled with capacity.

### **Labor**

- In 2025, members have worked to revitalize our members' presence in the NoVA labor movement. The NoVA Labor Working Group has been revitalized by NoVA members, with a focus on developing relationships with workers across the NoVA region. The Emergency Workplace Organizing Committee (EWOC) has a substantial amount of NoVA DSA representation. EWOC members met with NoVA Labor Federation, AFL-CIO in October 2025 to gain more insights on how members can engage more with labor unions in the region.

### **Medicare for All**

- NoVA Medicare for All continues to remain active.

### **Electoral**



- In 2025, NoVA electoral held socials regularly, did research on campaigns and published electoral guides through the chapter's *REDBUG* digital publication for the 2025 election cycle.

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## Sections

### **Socialist Feminists**

The Socialist Feminist Section of Metro DC DSA is a chapter formation committed to furthering socialist feminism in our chapter and creating more spaces in which people with marginalized gender and sexual identities can meet and talk about organizing.

This year, the section re-emerged after a brief period of dormancy, with 2 successful happy hours and continued plans to hold more social events across the DMV. They are also planning to host a reading group this spring. They continue to have deep connections to the Bodily Autonomy working group and their section helps organize new members into that work as well. The socials help develop a base of support for other organizing happening in our chapter.

### **Queer Socialists**

The Queer Socialists Section of Metro DC DSA is a chapter formation committed to furthering queer socialism in our chapter and creating more spaces in which LGBTQIA+ people can socialize and learn how to organize.

This year, the section also re-emerged with 2 successful happy hours and plans to continue holding social events across the DMV. The socials help people of marginalized gender identities and sexualities from across the chapter connect. The Queer Section aims to create a low barrier to entry point that develops a base of support for other organizing happening in our chapter, especially through coordination with the Trans and Queer Liberation Campaign of the Bodily Autonomy Working Group.

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## **Closing**

The 17th Metro DC DSA Steering Committee hopes that the information in this report is useful. The large and various work highlighted here – all occurring in just one year, and not fully capturing the chapter's activities – indicates the strength of our chapter's organizing. Our work has changed things, in small ways and large, for our class. At times it may be thankless, hard, or simply not enjoyable, but it does have meaning.

And it happens because we, as workers, are organized collectively. Our class power is possible because hundreds of members locally take the time to build it. From the Steering Committee to



each and every chapter member – if you come to one event a year or everything – thank you. You are why we are a force in the DMV!