

## HEALING TRAUMA IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

**FOR** over ten years, EJUSA has advocated to increase support for crime survivors to rebuild their lives. This year, we continued to focus in communities of color, where survivors are least likely to have help in the aftermath of violence. We worked with over a dozen local organizations to strengthen their programs, provide hands-on training, and expand their reach. **So far, EJUSA has helped drive more than \$1.6 million in federal funds to eight community groups** serving underserved and marginalized survivors. Most of these groups had never received federal funding before, and all will be able to reach more survivors as a result.

DETROIT LIFE IS VALUABLE EVERYDAY (DLIVE), the first hospital-based violence intervention program in Michigan, is one of the groups that received significant support from EJUSA. We helped them secure a \$270,000 federal grant to increase the number of Violence Intervention Specialists working with survivors of violent crime - both in the hospital and after they are sent home.



## EJUSA LAUNCHES EVANGELICAL NETWORK

We have worked with Evangelical leaders to speak out against the death penalty since 2011. Our new network will unite Evangelicals under a bold vision of justice transformation. The Network's statement reads:

*"Our current justice system, and our responses to violence in particular, ... have delivered further pain and harm to communities. We need new responses to violence that address trauma, advance racial equity, and fulfill the promise of healing, safety, and restoration for all."*

VISIT:  
[EVANGELICAL.EJUSA.ORG](http://EVANGELICAL.EJUSA.ORG)

## FIGHTING MASS EXECUTIONS IN ARKANSAS

**ARKANSAS** announced in April that it would rush to execute eight men in ten days - before the state's supply of lethal injection drugs expired. EJUSA mobilized on the ground, working alongside the Arkansas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, to stop the killing spree. EJUSA's round-the-clock work included coordinating a coalition to generate 250,000 petition signatures, organizing a rally in Little Rock with 400 people, and serving as the main media liaison. We also recruited national Evangelical and civil rights leaders to speak out. **In the end, half the executions were stopped.** But four men were executed in little more than a week, including the nation's first double execution in almost two decades.



# BRIDGING POLICE AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

**EJUSA'S** pilot in Newark, NJ kicked off its second year bringing together police officers and community members to learn about trauma and heal racial divides. The media and decision-makers are starting to take notice, and EJUSA is filling critical gaps around trauma in national discussions about police reform. This year, we hired a Newark organizer, Bryan Epps, who has connected with hundreds of Newark community members in person and online, building a strong grassroots base to advocate for change in the coming year. Since the pilot launched in 2016, we have trained 263 Newark police and community members - 120 this year. We are preparing to expand this groundbreaking project to a second city in 2018. Stay tuned!



## BUILDING GRASSROOTS PRESSURE IN THE SOUTH

**FLORIDA** has the second largest death row and more wrongful capital convictions than any other state. This year, Florida's first African American State Attorney announced she would not seek the death penalty in any case, and the Governor fought her all the way to the courts, wresting almost 30 cases from her office. EJUSA organized and mobilized thousands of Floridians to support the anti-death penalty decision and demand statewide change. We held rallies and press conferences, launched a Florida branch of Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty, supported impacted community members to tell their stories to the media, and more. Almost 200 death penalty cases are currently in limbo. We will keep up the pressure into 2018.

## SMASHING MYTHS ABOUT DEATH PENALTY SUPPORT

**REPUBLICAN** support for ending the death penalty has surged in the last decade. In October EJUSA's Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty released a report documenting this change. Republican lawmakers joined us at the National Press Club in Washington, DC to share the new data. Dozens of media outlets covered the event. **The next day, a new poll found death penalty support had dropped to its lowest level since 1972, and Republican support fell by 10 points in one year.** Check out our report at [www.conservativesconcerned.org](http://www.conservativesconcerned.org).



## MORE EJUSA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**EXECUTION STOPPED:** Ivan Teleguz had strong claims of innocence. As his execution loomed, Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty (CCATDP) recruited 25 notable Virginia conservatives to oppose the execution. The Governor commuted Teleguz's sentence shortly after receiving their letter.

**MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS:** CCATDP was profiled in *Harpers Magazine* this year. EJUSA Executive Director Shari Silberstein had opinion pieces published in *The Marshall Project* and *U.S. News & World Report*.

**TRIBUTE:** EJUSA celebrated the 10th anniversary of New Jersey's death penalty repeal this year. We launched the Gibbons Fund for Justice, honoring Judge John J. Gibbons's five decades as a judge, lawyer, and advocate, and his critical role in the 2007 repeal.

**AND MUCH MORE...**