



Impact Report

2020 - 2022



Black
Immigrants
Bail
Fund

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Our Story, Their Voyage

Mission

The Black Immigrants Bail Fund is a vital initiative of the Haitian Bridge Alliance (HBA) and the African Bureau for Immigration and Social Affairs (ABISA). It aims to offer free aid and support to Black immigrants who seek Liberation and Justice. We are dedicated to ending the unjust mass incarceration of Black immigrants and promoting fairness in due process, **transforming one life at a time.**

"We are not stopping until EVERY Black Immigrant in ICE detention is FREE. We will not let any Black immigrant's freedom hinge on their wealth because we believe Black Lives Matter no matter where they were born."



Goals

1

Inform

This report informs YOU about the financial difficulties, repercussions, and struggles experienced by black migrant communities who are frequently subjected to anti-black discrimination. These communities often face exorbitant bail amounts beyond their means to pay, significantly damaging their families.

2

Highlight inequities

Many people have firsthand experience with the harsh reality of the inequitable bail judiciary system, especially for black migrants. It's alarming that they spend three times as long in jail or custody, with bonds as high as \$100,000 and an average of \$6,000 to \$10,000.

3

Raise awareness

We firmly believe in collective responsibility and a shared mission as an alliance. We support the freedom of all black immigrants in detention centers. To achieve this, we utilize various strategies such as fundraising, conference panel discussions, phone banking, social media, listservs, and communications with partner organizations and stakeholders. These efforts have played a crucial role in raising awareness and generating a CALL TO ACTION, which continues to receive widespread support.

Genesis: Shall we begin our work?

BIBF, established on June 18, 2020, started its official mission on June 19, 2020, to address the issues of racism and harsh penalties that black migrants face while in detention.

This initiative offers no-cost support and aid to black immigrants striving for liberation and justice.

The United States has seen a rise in the number of migrants seeking refuge, accompanied by an alarming increase in discriminatory punishment. This issue cannot be ignored.

The federal government often leans towards implementing policies that promote deterrence, punishment, exclusion, and ban laws. However, it is concerning that the perspectives and opinions of black immigrants are rarely considered during the proposal and voting processes. Unfortunately, when these exclusionary policies are put into action, it is the black im/migrant communities that are most adversely affected.

What we know...

According to data from Freedom for Immigrants, although black migrants make up only **6%** of those in ICE custody, they account for a shocking **28%** of reported cases of abuse, with **17,000** reported incidents in the last six years. Furthermore, statistics show that black nonbinary individuals in detention have a **3.5%** higher risk of experiencing abuse, and **48%** of black immigrants have reported being placed in solitary confinement. Additionally, black immigrants face the highest bond amounts and are the most likely to be incarcerated or deported.

What we do

We at the BIBF assist black immigrants across the United States. We understand that these individuals have unique needs, regardless of their location, and we have been able to provide legal representation, bond payments, flight arrangements, transportation after release, and support services for sponsoring families of detainees nationwide.

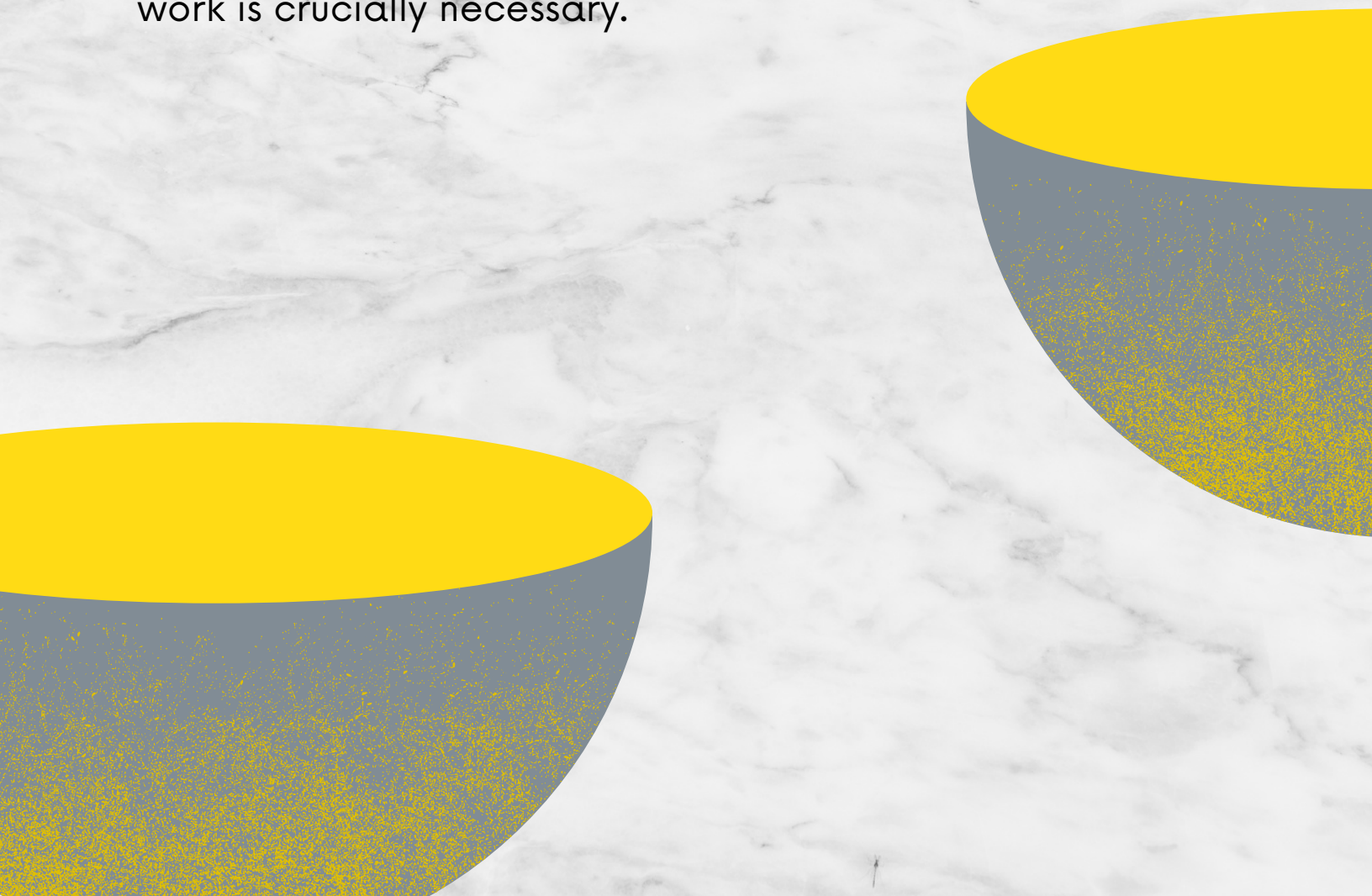


In recent years, the Black Immigrant Bail Fund has been a reliable source of assistance for imprisoned black immigrants by covering their bond payments and providing some wrap-around support.

The fund has received over **\$5 million in bond requests**, paid **\$1,011,574.20 in bonds**, secured **\$1,018,500 bond payments from MFF**, and **successfully freed over 232 individuals from detention centers nationwide**, with more to come.

We have spent two years in the field, and our report reveals a sad reality.

However, this report also showcases the purpose and significance of the Black Immigrants Bail Fund and why our work is crucially necessary.



The Price of Freedom

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

IMMIGRATION BOND

OMB No. 1653-0022
Expires 8/31/2022

Power of Attorney Number _____
A-File No. or Visa No. A 5223 J 5 U
Bond Receipt No. DET200159

Part A. Obligor Information
Name of Obligor: Social Affairs, African Bureau Imm
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN): 474386750
Street Address of Obligor: 111 EAST KIRBY ST
City, State and Zip Code: DETROIT, MI 48201, UNITED STATES Telephone: 9475177451
Name of Agent/Co-Obligor (if any-Surety Bonds only): _____
Address (if different from that of Obligor): _____
Telephone: _____
If this is executed by a surety company the rate of premium is: _____ % and the amount of premium is: _____
The name and address of the person who executed a written instrument with the surety company requesting it to post bond is: _____

B. Information about alien for whom bond is furnished:
Name: Mbaye, Niasse
Alien Registration Number or Visa Number: A 5223 J 5 U
Current Location: SOUTH TEXAS ICE PROCESSING CENTER (IHSC)
Date and country of birth: 02/04/2022 / SENEGAL Nationality: SENEGAL
Date, port and means of arrival in the United States: 02/04/2022 / DEL RIO, TX, INTL BRIDGE
Alien to reside at: 242 West 116th St Apt 7, New York, NEW YORK 10026, UNITED STATES
Telephone number at alien's residence: Thank You 255

C. In consideration of the facts recited in paragraph or paragraphs herein numbered G1 and captioned **BOND CONDITIONED UPON THE DELIVERY OF AN ALIEN, (and in any rider or riders lettered _____ and captioned _____), the above named obligor and the agent acting on its behalf (if any), upon execution of this bond, agree that they are immediately liable to the United States in the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$ 7500.00) which sum is to be forfeited and paid to the United States upon an administratively final breach determination. The obligor and any co-obligor acknowledge receipt of a copy of the executed bond and any attached rider or riders specified above. The obligor certifies, subject to penalties provided by 18 U.S.C. § 1001, that any cash equivalent deposited is not the proceeds of illicit activity.**

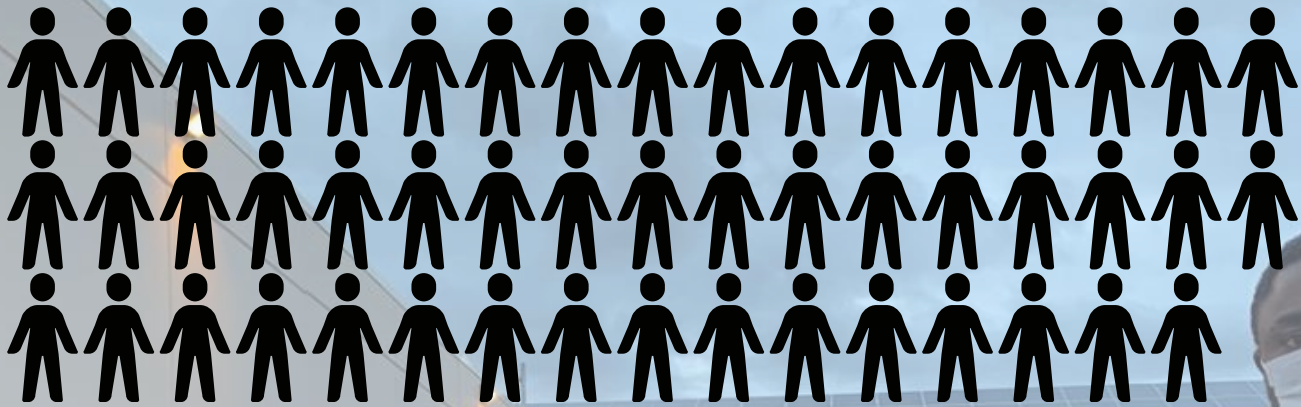
D. Signed this 25 day of April/2022 (Month/Year)

(Signature of Obligor) _____
(Signature of Agent/Co-Obligor (if any))

E. Bond approved and accepted at Detroit, MICHIGAN on 04/25/2022 (City and State) (Date)
JOHN KANAKRY _____ JOHN J KANAKRY _____
(Field Office Director Printed Name) (Field Office Director Signature)
Digitally signed by JOHN J KANAKRY
Date: 2022.04.25 11:37:40-0500

F.
Surety Company _____ EIN _____
Agent-Bonding Company _____ EIN _____
Obligors-Cash Equivalents Social Affairs, African Bureau Im Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) 474386750
31 U.S.C.A. § 7701(c)(1). The head of each Federal agency requires each person doing business with that agency to furnish to that agency such person's taxpayer identifying number. It is ICE's intent to use such numbers for purposes of collecting and reporting information on any delinquent accounts arising out of such person's relationship with the Government. The obligor, surety, or agent must furnish its Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to ICE. Failure to furnish the TIN may result in a refusal of the bond.

Our Inaugural Year 2020



\$566,574.20

Sum of bonds paid by BIBF

50

Detainees released on bond from detention centers.

2021



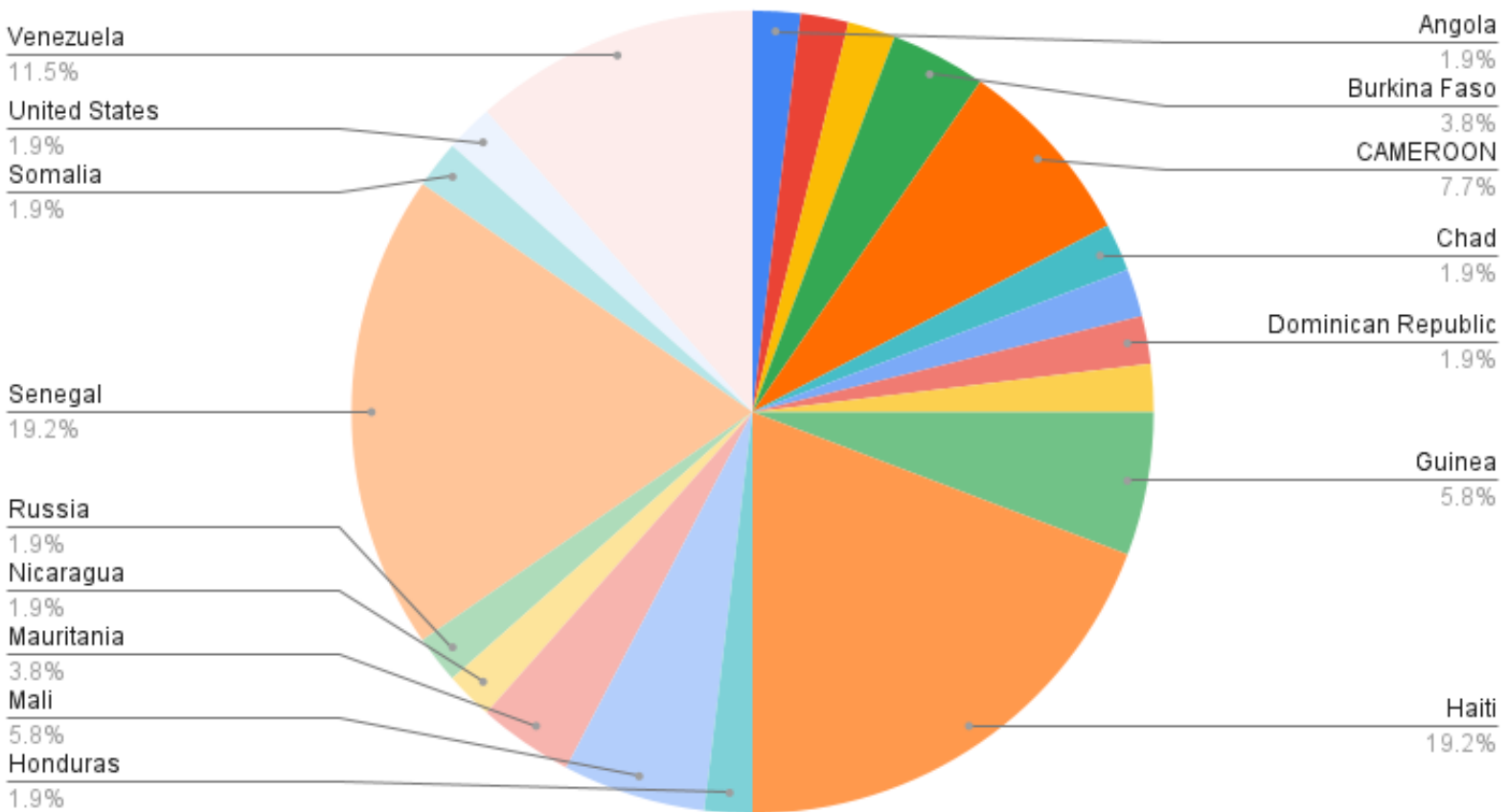
\$402,500.00
Sum of bonds paid by BIBF

47 Detainees released on bond from detention centers

Where were they from?

A look at bail bond requests received in 2021, according to the detainee's country of origin.

2021 percentage of requests by country of origin



2021 Highest Requests

19.2%

11.5%

Senegalese

\$186,000
in requests



Venezuelan

\$90,000
in requests



Haitian

\$87,900
in requests



Venezuelans held the third largest number of requests submitted. However, their sum of bonds reached second place in comparison to Haiti and Senegal

2022



Sum of bonds paid by BIBF

\$42,500.00

BIBF referral bonds paid by MFF

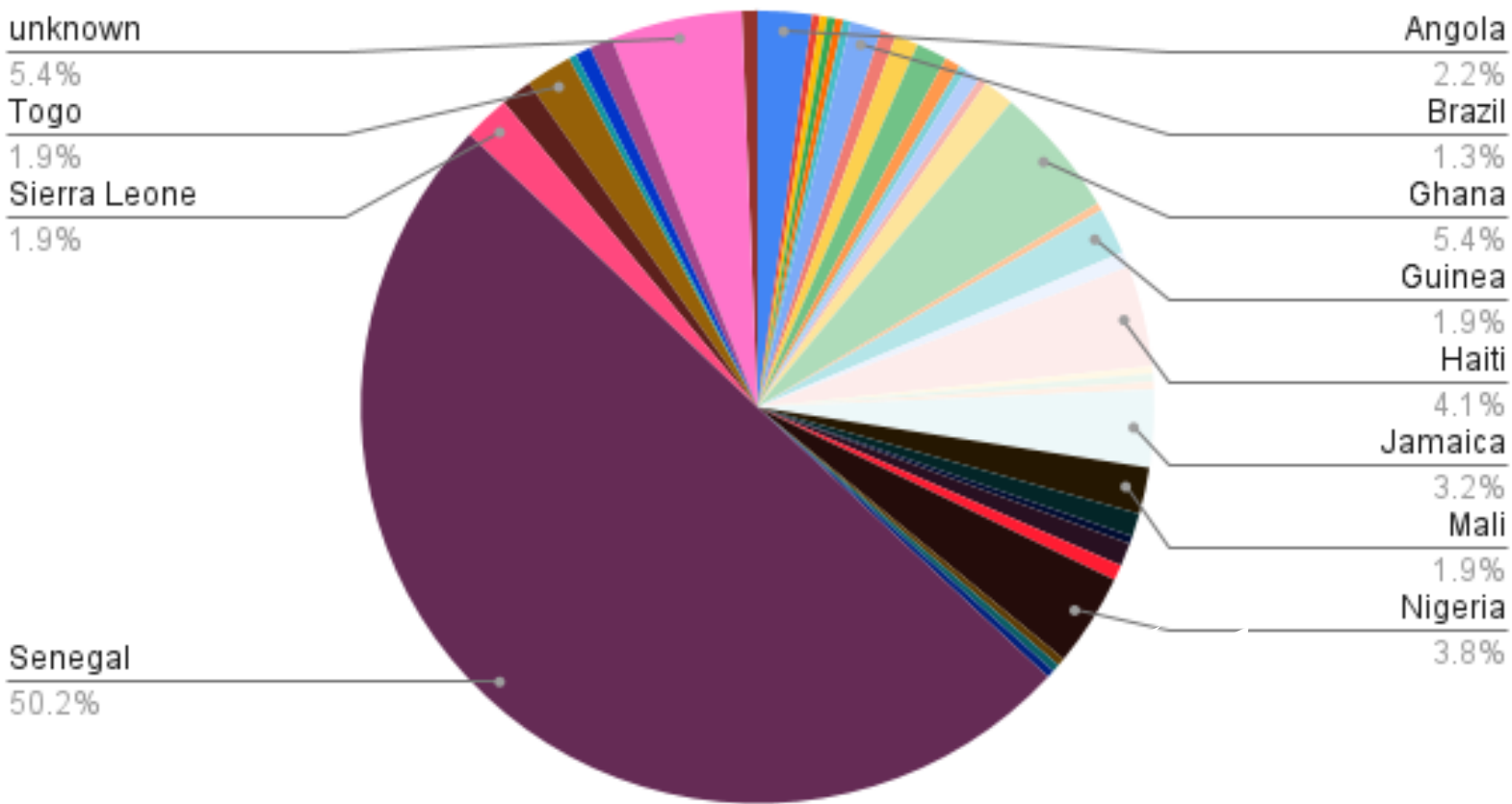
\$1,018,500.00

135 Detainees released
on bond from
detention centers

Where were they from?

A look at bail bond requests received in 2022, according to the detainee's country of origin.

2022 Percentage of bond requests by country of origin



2022 Highest Requests

50.2%

5.4%

Senegalese

\$894,400
in requests

Ghanaian

\$140,000
in requests

4.1%

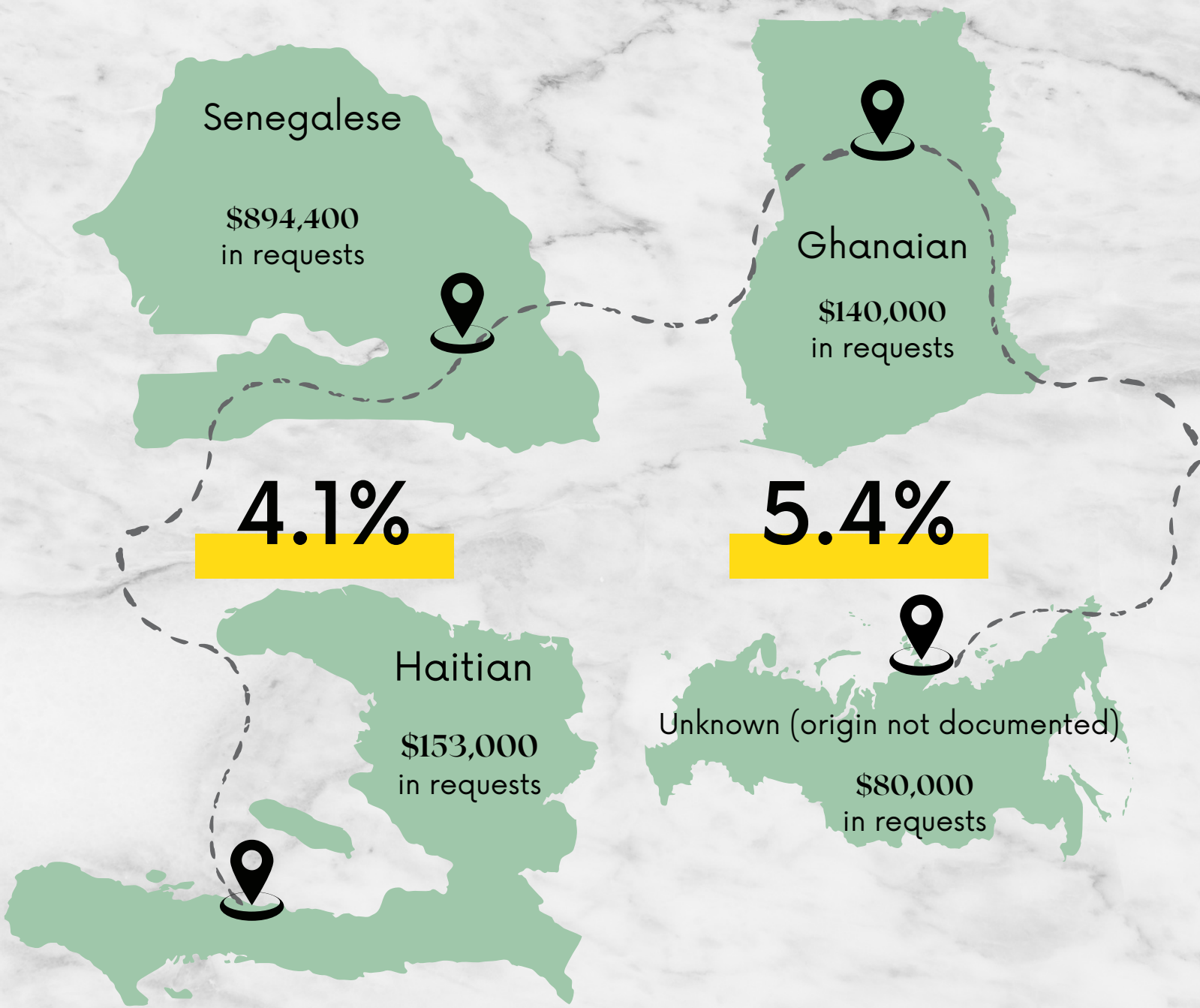
5.4%

Haitian

\$153,000
in requests

Unknown (origin not documented)

\$80,000
in requests



2021 vs 2022

After analyzing the number of bond amounts and requests received from different countries, we have identified the top three comparables between 2021 and 2022:

1

Highest request increase

There has been a concerning rise in bail bond requests from Senegalese siblings between 2021 and 2022.

- 2021 —→ 10
- 2022 —→ 159

2

Rise in requests

We have received bond requests from more than 42 nationalities, and some of these countries have seen a rise in the number of requests submitted in 2022 compared to 2021.

Unfortunately, this increase highlights the harsh truth that the amount of bond required can often determine one's freedom, which is a devastating reality for many.

3

Stagnant requests

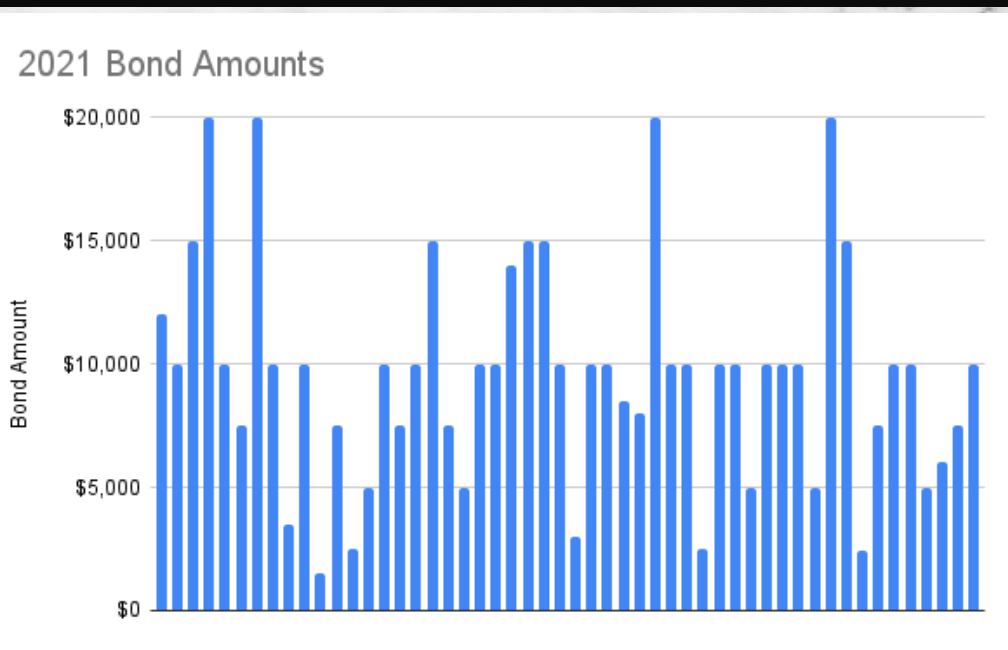
According to records, more than 75% of the 42+ nationalities saw a rise in bond requests. However, it is noteworthy that the following countries- Dominica Republic, Honduras, and Russia- only submitted one bond request in both 2021 and 2022.

2021 vs 2022

Average Bond Amount

Based on the data collected, the average bond amounts per sum of requests received can be seen.

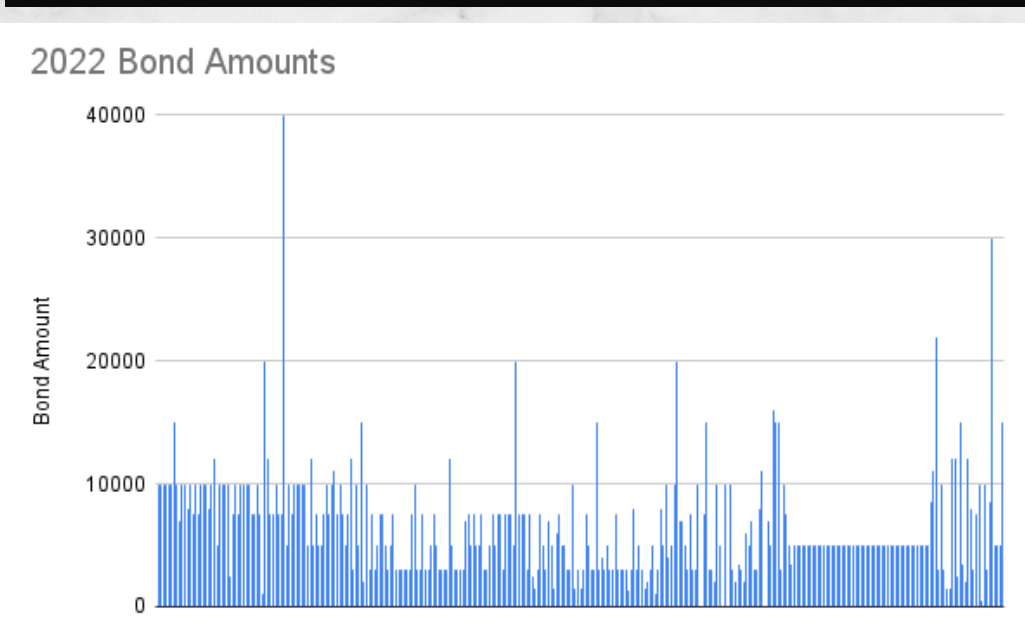
2021



\$9,594

2021 average bond amount

2022



\$6,493.46

2022 average bond amount

2021 vs 2022

Total bonds requests

2021

214

\$3,026,417.50

2022

346

\$2,291,477.50



Powering our mission;
Transforming one life
at a time!

814

CONTRIBUTORS

\$29,139.26

2022 sum of digital donations received

During the fiscal year of 2022, we received contributions from various denominations on our digital fundraising platforms. As we continue our work, we want to express our gratitude for the commitment of all our donors.

However, we would like to recognize and honor our \$1 donations.

Although some donors may not consider their contributions significant, it is essential to recognize the impact of small donations.

- According to the data from one of our fundraising platforms, 84 accounts had been established with recurring payments of \$1.00 to continue for 5-10 months.
- Together, the seeds' worth and dedication to overcoming obstacles resulted in contributions ranging from \$420.00 to \$840.00.

Each dollar we receive represents support towards our mission of transforming one life at a time.

On behalf of the BIBF/HBA/ABISA community,
please accept our sincerest gratitude

BONDS
PAID BY
MFF

130

\$1,018,500

2022 sum of bonds paid by
Minnesota Freedom Fund

The **Fihankra** symbolizes fraternity, safety, security, completion, and solidarity and is representative of our partnership with the **Minnesota Freedom Fund**.

We recognize that it takes a collective effort to make a difference. MFF has demonstrated its commitment to our mission by being the first organization to pledge its support and focus on bonding out as many black migrants as possible through its Solidarity Fund.

We express our heartfelt appreciation by presenting them with their flowers



Messages from our donors

"I don't have much to give, but I give what I can."

-Deborah O

"Thank you for your work!
#NIIC2022"

-Laura B

"Sending love, prayers, and grace in support of Black immigrants seeking freedom through the Black Immigrants Bail Fund. Thank you for your fine work for freedom, HBA & all partner organizations!"

-Sharon S-R

"Social justice now!"

-Maria S T

"Keep on the good work. My wish is that we won't need to bail black migrants. Until it happens, let me support this effort."

-Daniel T

"In honor of Black Immigrant Advocacy Day"

-Mary M

"Thanks for the work you do."

Victor M

"Bless you and your work"

-Cece W



102

BONDS PAID
BY BIBF

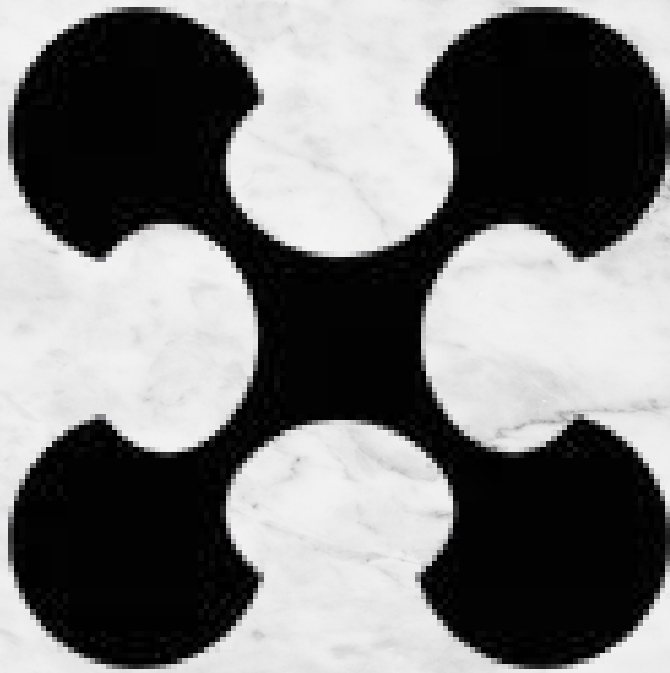
\$1,011,574.20

2020-2022 sum of bonds paid by BIBF

The concept of **Ujima** signifies working collectively and taking responsibility to develop and sustain our community while addressing its issues together.

This principle reflects the efforts of BIBF, which would not be possible without the support of HBA, ABISA, community members, and impacted folxs.

Our joint efforts prioritize paying the bonds of those held in detention centers to ensure the timely release of our brothers and sisters.



RAISE FUNDS → FREE A PERSON → TRANSFORM ONE LIFE AT A TIME

The resources available to the community were collective, including "susu's," grants, and crowdfunding platforms like PayPal, ActBlue, Facebook, Instagram, and phone banking. BIBF provided case support and utilized these resources to assist those in need.

Through perseverance and faith, we were able to facilitate the raising of funds for **232 stories** that would have otherwise gone untold. Our efforts successfully changed the narrative and brought these stories to light.

Beyond Black Immigrants

2021 - 2022

4

Brazilians

1

Pakistani

2

Hondurans

1

Cuban
Guatemalan
Mexican

8

Venezuelans

4

Columbians

4

Nicaraguans

2

Russians

**Petition
paperwork**

**Work
permits**

1 of 4

family members of
released detainees are
requesting the support of
an immigration attorney

**Filing to
return
married
deportees**

Post-release Requests



Streets of Freedom

Gratitude for a life transformed

Senegalese/NYC

“

When we reached Aconia (?), it was difficult for us. We had much hardship because, at that moment, we were tired. We were out of money. We arrived in some challenging conditions, which was hard because wherever we stepped foot was tricky and hot. When we arrived at the border campsite, we were stressed, and also, when they picked us up to take us to jail, it was a lot of stress for us. After our interview, we thought that we were done and that everything would be just finished and free, but at that moment, we realized that we would just be bonded for like \$10,000 each. It was six of us.

I was distraught when I received that bond of \$10,000 because I didn't know exactly how it would be resolved for somebody who can't even provide for himself; when you receive a bond of \$10,000, you will become alarmed.

It's alarming when you also have family members that cannot provide that kind of money, and we didn't know how it would happen. We stayed up for five months without knowing exactly how somebody would pay this bond.

That's when, finally, we got the number for an association named ABISA, and when we reached them, not only they told us that they would pay the bond, but also, once CBP released us, ABISA would help find us shelter, or they would find us where to live.

After they said that they would pay the bond, not even a couple of days later, they paid the bond. When we received news that the association helped secure the bond, a heavy load was lifted from us. It was a burden, and it was a heavy, heavy load that was taken away.

It was a highly complex situation, and in our minds, we did not know that we would find the money to pay for the \$10,000 bond. ”



Streets of Freedom

Gratitude for a life transformed

Senegalese/NYC (suite)

“After the bond was paid, we didn't know where we were going to go, but not only ABISA paid our \$10,000 bond, but they bought us a flight ticket to take us because we needed a destination where we were going. So, they paid for the flight ticket and took us somewhere. And also, when we got to that location, they provided shelter for us...but did not stop there. Not only was the bond paid, but we also flew to a destination, and we got refuge where we could lay our head and relax for once in months, where we didn't rest. But also, they followed up with us and showed us what we needed to do; now that we have been released, what are the next steps?”

ABISA Association also guided us and showed us precisely the rules and the rules we needed to follow in this country and what paperwork we needed to file; that was big because you are in a new country where you don't know the rules. You don't know exactly where you're putting your foot on, and they showed us the way.

When we were hopeless, we received help from ABISA, not only when we were in detention but also when we were out. They were the ones that we could count on. We only had somebody once we found ABISA.

So, it wasn't very easy on our side. We were worried and stressed, but all of that was resolved after we met ABISA, and everything we could follow, the right path, was due to them.

That's why we are thanking ABISA a lot because not only have they helped us, but they continue to help us up to now. Any information we need, anything we need to follow up on, they are still guiding us. Any update that we need to know? They are still teaching us. So, they have continued showing us on the right path, and we thank them for all that.”



Streets of Freedom

Gratitude for a life transformed

Sierra Leonean/Ohio

“

Thanks for everything. I thank God Almighty for everything. For the help of you guys, I appreciate whatever you guys have done for me.

I was in a state of loss, dilemma, and confusion. I did not even know what to do, but with the grace of God, you guys came to my rescue and paid my bond. I did not even know where I could get one dollar then. You mean a lot to me for coming in and paying my bond. I send my sincere thanks to you guys.

May God Almighty bless you guys.

So, like I said, may God's blessings be with you guys. My kids have started schooling again. I have started getting some financial revenue to support them back to school. That makes me so glad. That makes me so happy. All along, I was so worried because of the future of my kids.”

Incoming call

Pearsall Detention
Center

SMART +1 866-348-6231

“Thank you. I'm really happy. I'm happy for the bond, and really appreciate. Thank you very much.”



Streets of Freedom

Gratitude for a life transformed

Senegalese/NYC

“Before I learned about ABISA & BIBF, I was apprehensive, and things were challenging. Once we connected with ABISA, they helped us when we were in detention and released from custody.

They found funds for our liberation and ensured that they found us a lawyer to represent us and ensure that we had representation in all our hearings. They didn't charge us for anything. They help us the migrants to came who did not know anything about this country and did not have families that had the mean to assist.

I believe that if I didn't meet them, it would have been hard for me because only somebody with a good heart, who understands precisely the struggle that a human being can go through, can have the reaction and action they had, to help.

We were stressed. We were hurt. We had difficulties. We had a difficult path. We had a difficult journey, but they released us from that struggle.”

Senegalese/MI

“Transcribing now

”



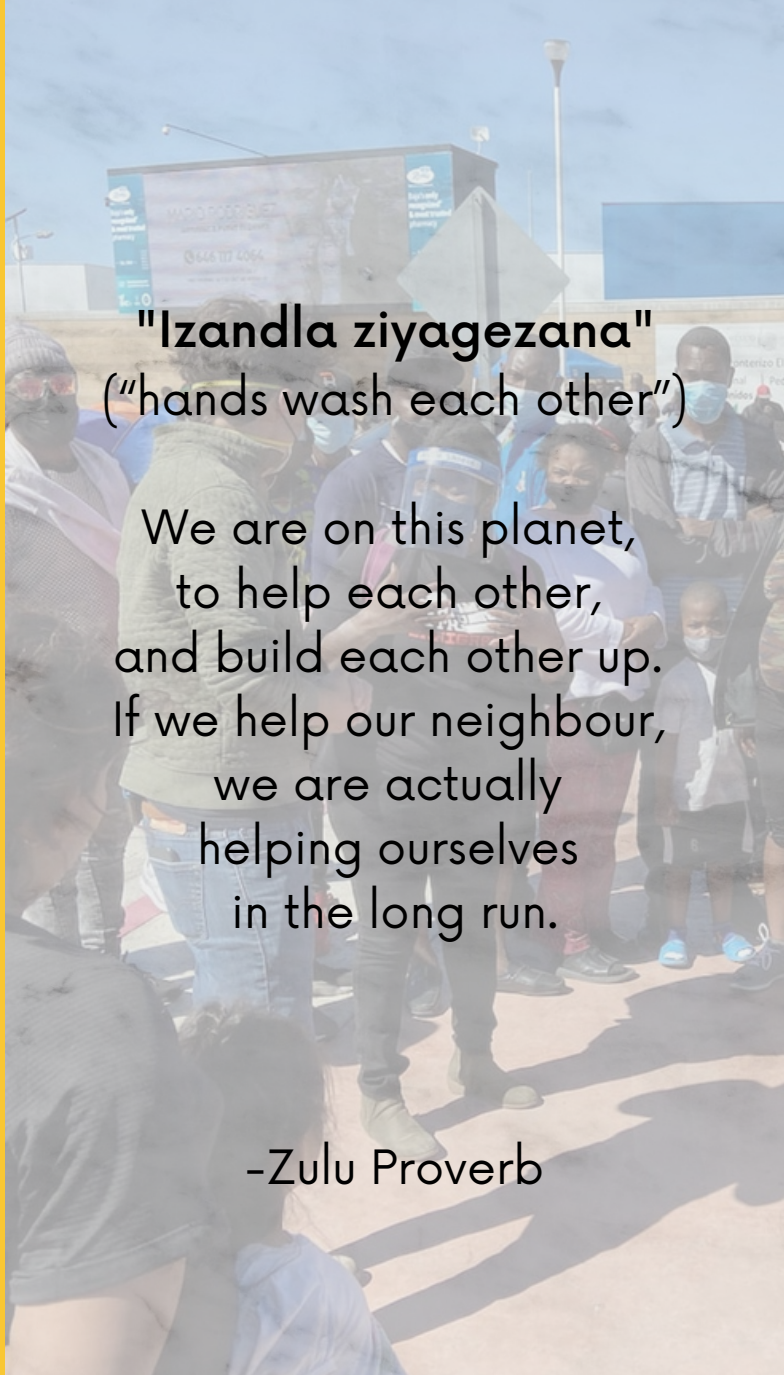
Acknowledgements

The final page of our report is positioned as the backbone of HOW we are co-powered for the capacities of this imperative work.

In addition to the faithful commitment of treneurs, board members, donors, community connectors, and champions of our mission, with deepest appreciation, we also honor:

- African Bureau of Immigration & Social Affairs Team
- Haitian Bridge Alliance Team
- BIBF Team
- Interns
- Volunteers
- Blumenau Law, PLLC
(Stephanie Blumenau)
- Minesota Freedom Fund
(Daniella Ponet)
- National Bail Fund Network
(Elizabeth Nguyen, Pilar Weiss)
- Les Brown
- Imam Omar Niass
- Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project

Abaraka
JonkaJal
Medasi
Jerejeuf
Asante
Salamat
Thank you



"Izandla ziyagezana"
("hands wash each other")

We are on this planet,
to help each other,
and build each other up.
If we help our neighbour,
we are actually
helping ourselves
in the long run.

-Zulu Proverb

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