

### Indivisible Charlotte Newsletter April 2, 2025 Volume 37

If you are having trouble with the hyperlinks in this document click on this URL or manually type into your browser: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ICLTApr2025">https://tinyurl.com/ICLTApr2025</a>

## Indivisible CLT added 1245 NEW members in the first 3

months of 2025! 📀

Currently: 2,349 members!

In just three months, our grassroots family has exploded in size. People from all across the Charlotte region are joining us to strengthen democracy through strategic, peaceful, and impactful electoral action.

This is our movement—let's keep building it together!

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#### **ACTION**

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NCGA Update with Woodson Bradley (virtual) Apr. 9th!

Senator Tillis Charlotte Town Hall -Apr. 24th!

#### **NEW Mutual Aid Project to Support Vulnerable Communities**

**Every Call Counts! Local and National issues- Call TODAY!** 

Inhale, Together, Exhale -Breathing Workshop (virtual) May4th!

#### **SOCIAL**

ICLT Social - Workman's Friend (Plaza Midwood) Apr. 2nd!

#### **EVENT RECAP**

ICLT Social - SupperClub (Southend) Mar. 5th!

ICLT Tesla Protests - Independence, Charlotte Mar. 7. 13, 22 & 29th

Protesting 101: Best Practices for Planning and Attending Protests (virtual) Mar. 12th!

"Building the Blue Wave: What 2024 Tells Us About Our Roadmap to Victory" with FLIPNC (virtual)

Mar. 25th!

"From the New Deal to the Field": A Conversational Training w/Lexi Coburn & Kristen Grimm (Charlotte) Mar. 29th!

#### **GROUP NEWS**

**Eva Chu Steps Up to be Our ICLT Internal Communications Coordinator!** 

**Sharon Harmon joins ICLT as our PR Coordinator!** 

Support ICLT - Your donations fuel our activism!

## Hands Off Mass Mobilization Rally (Charlotte) Apr. 5th!



## HANDS OFF Rally & March – Saturday, April 5th 11-1

Indivisible and partners nationwide are calling on communities to turn their anger into action. Join us in demanding that the Trump/Musk administration keep their HANDS OFF the services and institutions we rely on to survive and thrive.

### Why We March

Hear powerful stories from people already impacted by devastating cuts—and from those bracing for what's next. Then, march with us to show that we won't stand by in silence.

#### **9** Where & When

• Start: In front of the Health Department & Social Services (301 Billingsley Rd.)

 Route: March down Randolph Rd., passing a county park, a public elementary school, the Mint Museum and returning —all facing budget, programming, and personnel cuts.

### **What to Know**

- Parking: Ample on-site and across the street. Please carpool or bus if you can.
- Accessibility: Site and parking are handicap accessible. An ASL interpreter will be present.
- Weather: Hot and possibly rainy. Bring sunscreen and a poncho (umbrellas not ideal).
- Water: Free refills available—bring your own bottle.
- **Signs:** Encouraged! Just no sticks or poles.
- Family-Friendly: Keep sign language and chants appropriate for all ages.
- Marshals available to help direct both parking and marching to help keep everyone safe.
  - We still need more volunteers to help with this. If you are willing to be a marshal, email jackiegoldberger@hotmail.com.
- Registration is not required, but helpful. Sign up here.

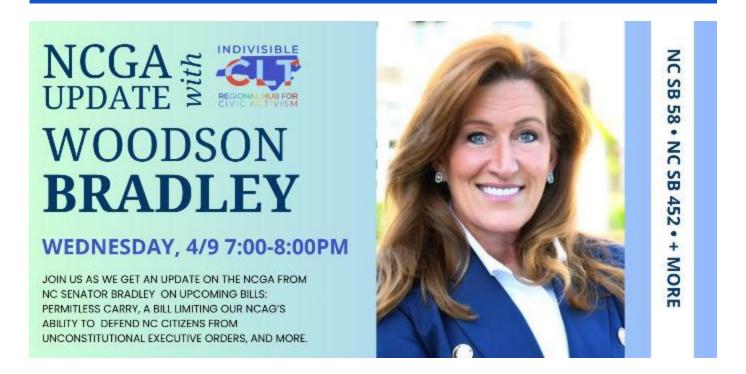
ICLT is committed to nonviolent action, and we expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with us. Signs and chants must not incite violence. Of course, there's always an inherent risk to protesting.

#### **ALSO**

### We're collecting food for Nourish Up!

- Check the wish list on the flyer above
- Drop-off right at the parking lot entrance
- Demand is high, supplies are low—please be generous!

# NC General Assembly Update with Woodson Bradley (virtual) Apr. 9th!



#### **RSVP** here

Join ICLT as we get an update on the **NC General Assembly from NC Senator Woodson Bradley!**Upcoming bills:

- NC SB 58 -Permitless Carry,
- NC 452 A bill limiting our NC Attorney General's ability to defend NC citizens from unconstitutional executive orders,
- And more!

When: Wednesday, April 9th 7:00-8:00pm

Where: (virtual) RSVP here

## Senator Tillis Charlotte Town Hall -Apr. 24th!

# SEN. TILLIS TOWN HALL

CHARLOTTE
THURSDAY, 4/24 6:30-8:00PM
REGISTER FOR ADDRESS

SEN. TILLIS HAS BEEN INVITED TO THIS PEACEFUL AND CIVIL ASSEMBLY TO HEAR FROM HIS CONSTITUENTS DURING HIS SENATE RECESS.









DUE TO HIGH INTEREST, SEATING MAY BE LIMITED: FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!



HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED BY CUTS TO GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS? DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS TO
SHARE WITH YOUR US SENATOR? JOIN OTHER CONSTITUENTS'
VOICES FOR A COMMUNITY TOWN HALL HOSTED BY A
COALITION OF NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS.

#### Register here!

Register for this impacted constituent Senate Town Hall. A nonpartisan coalition of organizations has invited Senator Tillis to this peaceful and civil assembly to hear from his constituents during his senate recess.

Where: Charlotte - register for address

When: Thursday, April 24th 6:30-8:00pm

**Why:** We are inviting members of the public to use their brief speaking opportunity to ask pressing questions and share their views on important policies. Town halls are crucial to strengthening civic participation and your constituents' trust in their Senators.

Have you been impacted by cuts to government agencies and programs? Do you have concerns to share with your US Senator? Join other constituents' voices for a community town hall hosted by a coalition of nonpartisan organizations. Sign up to speak here.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Due to high interest and limited space, registration does not guarantee entry.
- Seating may be limited. First come first seated with some reserved for this with mobility concerns.
- ICLT, Common Cause, RWB NC and The New Rural Project are committed to nonviolent action, and we expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with

those who disagree with us. Signs and chants must not incite violence. Of course, there's always an inherent risk to gathering.

Register here!

## **NEW Mutual Aid Project to Support Vulnerable Communities!**



#### **MUTUAL AID PROJECT**

Mutual Aid is a new addition to the many "Good Works" of ICLT. Mutual Aid's focus will be assisting the LGBTQ+, Black and Brown and Immigrant Communities, in Charlotte. We will provide information, guidance, and opportunities to be involved with these communities going forward. Here are two organizations that I'd like to introduce and hope that you will assist ICLT in providing support.

**TWIRL to the WORLD** has a mission to bring relief, stability, and joy to the world through advocacy, community and hardship assistance for vulnerable or at-risk members of the Charlotte area's LGBTQ+ community. Twirl Assistance Program (TAP) provides emergency financial aid to LGBTQ+ adults in the Charlotte metropolitan area for groceries, medical needs, transportation and mental health needs.

#### Needs:

- Financial Donations can be made through their website: <u>www.twirltotheworld.org</u>
- Offer time and talents to support event production, projects, initiatives or administrative tasks.
- A yard sale event is being planned for the near future and volunteers will be needed for that event. More info to come.

**QC Family Tree** is a neighborhood based community organization based in the Enderly Park neighborhood in West Charlotte. Since Enderly Park is in the heart of a food desert, the organization has set up the Freedom Fridge which allows neighbors to access fresh fruits/vegetables and canned goods, pasta, breakfast items, etc.

Our goal is to provide food for the Fridge on a bimonthly basis from April through July. We will reassess the needs at the end of that time period. To find out more about this organization check their website at qcfamilytree.org

#### Needs:

- Fresh fruits/vegetables
- Canned goods, pasta, breakfast items, etc.

#### **DROP OFF DATES:**

- 1. April 5-8, Debbie takes the goods to Freedom Fridge -APRIL 9th
- 2. April 19-22, Debbie take the goods to Freedom Fridge APRIL 23th

**Drop off locations:** (Email Debbie for drop-off addresses: baynarddebbie@gmail.com)

Matthews Area Jackie Goldberger
 South Blvd. Area Beverly Padgett
 Ballantyne Area Debbie Baynard

A plastic bin will be outside either on the porch or at the garage. If you have fresh fruit and vegetables, please delay drop off until Tuesday night or Wednesday morning. If something needs to be refrigerated immediately, please contact the person at the drop off location in advance. If you would like to offer your house as a designated drop off point or assist with delivery, please let me know.

Look forward to working with all of you in making Charlotte a kind and loving place.

Debbie Baynard Mutual Aid Coordinator

By establishing this network, ICLT aims to create a grassroots support system that can respond quickly and effectively to the needs of these communities, which may be at increased risk due to current political policies and rhetoric. The project reflects ICLT's commitment to defending democracy and protecting the rights of marginalized groups in the face of potential threats to civil liberties and social programs.



Here is the **Mobilize Link** to get you started.

(a) Indivisible Charlotte's **Every Call Counts (ECC)** program is still growing strong! (b)

Are you ready to take immediate action to protect your rights and the rights of others?

**Let's DEFEND OUR RIGHTS** with simple and very effective action: CALL your representative to voice your opinion. Phone calls are the most effective form of communication. EVERY single call is tallied so long as you provide your zip code (and street address if leaving a voicemail).

#### **EVERY SINGLE CALL COUNTS!!**

**SO MANY DEDICATED CALLER ACTIVISTS!** Our current total of Call Crusaders is a whopping 850! Many of you continue to sign up each and every week- THANK YOU – WE SEE YOU - plus we see new volunteers daily!

**SO MANY ISSUES!** The issues are numerous and coming in fast. ECC is dividing them into 2 parts: 1) North Carolina specific issues, and 2) National issues that affect all states. We will be starting to prioritize the issues to help navigate through them. Top priority will be given to issues up for vote sooner and also voter suppression issues.

**SO MANY STATES INVOLVED!** Approximately 250 of our ECC volunteers are from other States around the country calling on national issues. And 600 are from here in North Carolina. Word is spreading. We are many drops of water making a wave together!

**ECC TEAM GROWTH** – Abby N is joining the ECC team to help with the prioritization of issues before we publish each week's Call to Action. We are now a team of 5 Indivisible Volunteers.

Share this link with fellow/sister activists: Sign-Up here

**Questions?** Contact Siobhan



#### INHALE, TOGETHER, EXHALE

Sign Up Here

This Breathing Techniques workshop will be provided on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> virtually from 4:00-4:30 PM

It's a very stressful time for all of us, but we have the tools to control how our minds and bodies respond through breathing.

Join in this 30 minute zoom session to learn breathing techniques that can regulate the nervous system, calm the mind, and relax the body.

We will use more of our time for the practice and less on background information. Please join and feel free to share with friends who can benefit from stress management.

Siobhan is looking forward to sharing these tools with new folks and return participants as well.

**HOW WAS IT?** The FIRST **workshop on Breathing Techniques held March 16<sup>th</sup>** was a success, measured by that certain kind of calm that comes when we are relaxed and present, and by the feedback from the participants.

Learning how to use the breath enables us to 'self-medicate' naturally when we need it. Do you have to be in a crisis to need a 30-minute session on breathing? Nope! We don't need our stress to reach critical levels before our bodies need to regulate and our minds to be at peace.

Let's help you find some peace in chaos. We are all connected.

## INHALE, TOGETHER, EXHALE Sign Up Here

ICLT Social - Workman's Friend (Plaza Midwood) Apr. 2nd!



\*\*\*\*\*REGISTRATION CLOSED - CURRENTLY AT CAPACITY OF 110!\*\*\*\*\*

Unwind and unite at **Indivisible Charlotte's** monthly social, the first Wednesday of each month. It is a chance for members to mingle, rejuvenate and connect. While there is no program for our socials, there will be an opportunity to hear about upcoming events. Look forward to an evening of laughter, good company, food, and drinks.

We're excited to see you there—ready to recharge and connect!

Date: Apr. 2nd, 2025 Time: 6:30-8:30p Location: Charlotte

Join us NEXT month for our May 7th social at Edge City.

## ICLT Tesla Protests - Independence, Charlotte Mar. 7. 13, 22 & 29th











Since Feb. 28, ICLT has hosted 5 weekly anti-Musk protests in front of the Tesla dealership on Independence Blvd. under the leadership of organizers Dave, Mike and Linda.

These protesters have numbered 100-115 enthusiastic folks, including a diversity of ages, genders, races, and sign messages — with numerous first-time protesters each time. It's a fun way to spend some time with fellow Americans who are upset that an unelected, unvetted, unconfirmed billionaire has taken control of governmental agencies, our data, and our money.

We've received press coverage from local TV, The Observer, and Axios.

**Why protest?** As American political strategist Anat Shenker-Osorio says "What people are doing out in public is what actually sways public opinion. So, if you're walking around in America and seeing nobody doing anything, you think "well, I guess it's not that bad." To see everyday Americans showing, not telling that they are against something ... that is what alters someone's perception of what is OK or not.

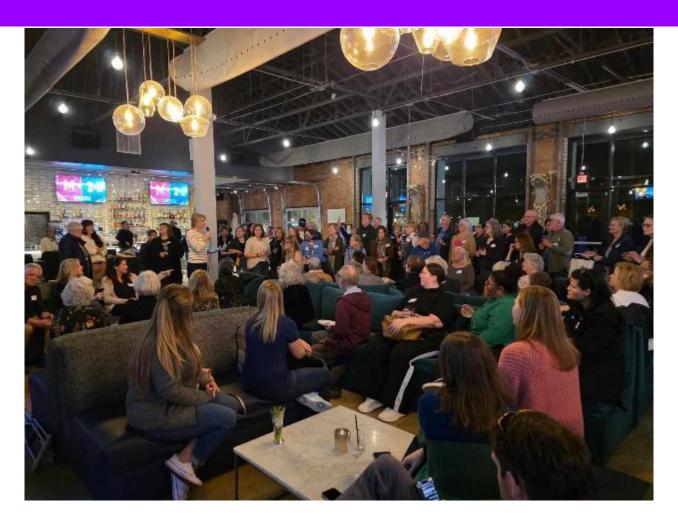
- Tell me what Democracy looks like.
- THIS is what Democracy looks like.

#### How can I find out about ICLT protests?

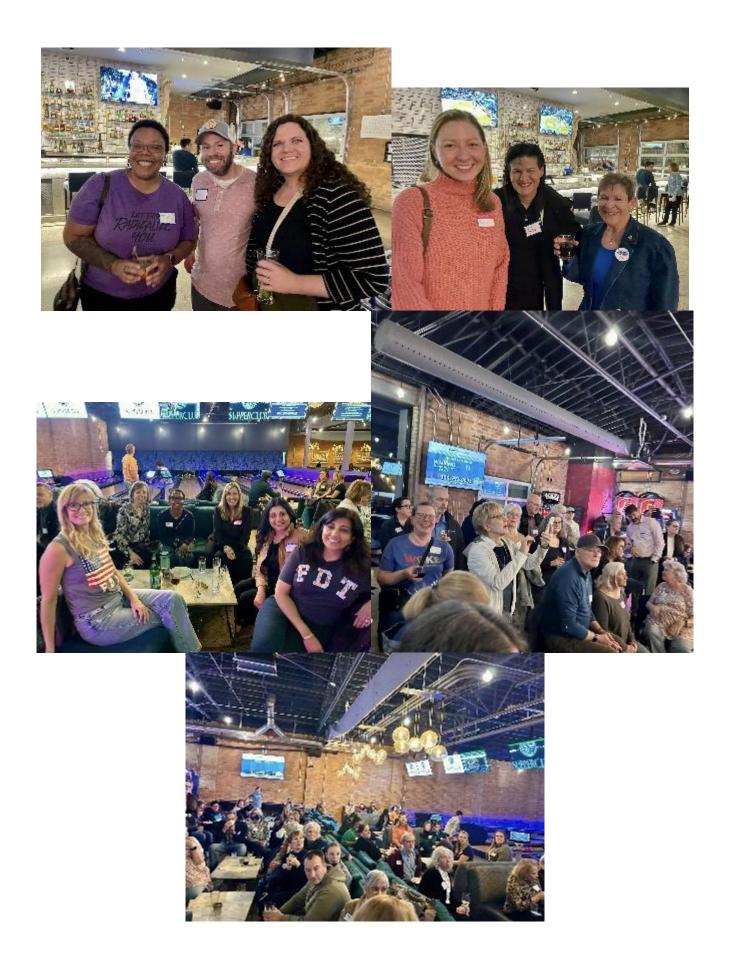
If you have indicated interest in protesting with us when you filled out your membership form, we will email you before every protest. (Usually only a few days lead time) If you are not sure if you included protests as an action you were interested in when you filled out our membership form, please fill out this form and you'll be included. Or access it here: https://tinyurl.com/ICLTProtests

ICLT is committed to nonviolent action, and we expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with us. Signs and chants must not incite violence. Of course, there's always an inherent risk to protesting.

## ICLT Social - SupperClub (Southend) Mar. 5th







#### Big Crowd, Big Energy at Our March Social

We were blown away by the turnout for our March 5 social at SupperClub Southend—more than 100 people packed the space, and over half were new to ICLT. The energy in the room was undeniable. People came ready to meet each other, learn more about our work, and find ways to get involved.

The night was casual but focused. We shared some great food, gave a short update on what's ahead for ICLT, and even got a few friendly games going on the bowling lanes. A big thank-you to the SupperClub owner, who recently joined ICLT and was proud to open the doors for the event.

Protesting 101: Best Practices for Planning and Attending Protests

Mar. 12th



**Protesting 101: Best Practices for Planning and Attending Protests** 

**On Wed. Mar. 12th, Rachelle Salo**, our Mobilization Director and resident protest master, shared guidance to make the most from protests while organizing them safely and within legal guidelines with a virtual Protest 101 Zoom training.

Participants learned how to:

- Check permit requirements and application process
- Communicate with attendees
- Assess protest need for safety vs visibility
- Prepare for counter protestors and de-escalate charged situations if needed
- Alert press if desired
- And more!

A compilation of resources from the session: Recording, Slides

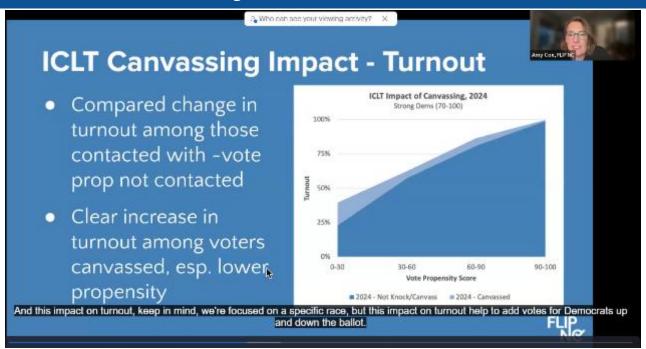
#### Protest Resources - Indivisible Resource, ACLU, Greenpeace, ect.

- Safety, Security and Digital preparedness guidelines https://indivisible.org/resource/safety-security-and-digital-preparedness-second-trump-administration
- Protesters Rights https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/protesters-rights
- Safety Tips https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/protest-safety-tips-from-greenpeace/
- Methods of Nonviolent Action <a href="https://www.aeinstein.org/198-methods-of-nonviolent-action">https://www.aeinstein.org/198-methods-of-nonviolent-action</a>
- Waging Nonviolence <a href="https://wagingnonviolence.org/2024/11/10-things-to-do-if-trump-wins/">https://wagingnonviolence.org/2024/11/10-things-to-do-if-trump-wins/</a>
- Nonviolence Tactics Database https://www.tactics.nonviolenceinternational.net/
- Activist Handbook https://activisthandbook.org
- NC Law: HB40 Penalties for Rioting https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/House/PDF/H40v4.pdf

#### **Tools for Hosting Events**

- Ready the Ground Training Team Notes for Safety Marshals
- Charlotte Protest and Demonstration planning https://www.charlottenc.gov/files/assets/police/v/1/documents/supportdocs/protest-democontacts.pdf
- Charlotte Intent to Picket form https://charlottenc.seamlessdocs.com/f/Intent2Picket
- Charlotte Sound Amplification Permit application https://charlottenc.seamlessdocs.com/f/Permit4SAE\_PUBLIC
- Mecklenburg County Polaris check those property lines <a href="https://polaris3g.mecklenburgcountync.gov/">https://polaris3g.mecklenburgcountync.gov/</a>

"Building the Blue Wave: What 2024 Tells Us About Our Roadmap to Victory" with FLIP NC Mar. 25th



"Building the Blue Wave: What 2024 Tells Us About Our Roadmap to Victory"

We were thrilled and grateful to hear from **FLIP NC** as they shared their analysis of the impact of our voter engagement efforts in NC HD105 in 2024. On **Tuesday, March 25**, over 100 of our members tuned in to hear from Amy Cox and Bri Brough. This analysis of our canvassing, lit dropping and

postcarding not only helps us understand the impact of our efforts in the 2024 election, but will guide our electoral efforts in 2025 and beyond.

#### Main takeaways:

- Canvassing was the most effective action, followed by lit drop. Postcarding had no measurable effect.
- The earlier the voter engagement with less-consistent voters, the better. (Canvass now!)
- Our engagement efforts helped increase turnout in the precincts that we focused on, particularly in low-propensity voters.
- Our negative literature leave-behinds improved low propensity voter turnout
- Districtwide, Sidman (D) ran behind Harris. But in the precincts we saturated with voter engagement, Sidman ran AHEAD of Harris. Our efforts absolutely made an impact!

Many viewers had asked questions that basically boiled down to concerns about our ability to hold fair and free elections in 2026 (but don't forget about the elections happening all across the state in 2025!). As Amy affirmed, the truth is that we need to meet this moment with every effort we can, while STILL planning strategically to win in the future. And when we win, we need to make sure that we win by margins that cannot be questioned. We will see you soon on the canvassing streets!

We are thankful for the data nerds at FLIP NC. Their precise analysis of their own voter engagement and ours, guide our electoral strategy to maximize effectiveness. With limited resources, we need to know who to target and how, in order to bring about impactful electoral change.

"From the New Deal to the Field": A Conversational Training w/Lexi Coburn & Kristen Grimm (Charlotte) Mar. 29th









"From the New Deal to the Field"

On **Saturday, March 29** ICLT was pleased to host **Lexi Coburn** and **Kristen Grimm** for our **7th DEI training**, a bespoke training just for our group and just for this moment in time. This time, Lexi and Kristen combined our struggles for a more perfect union through race and class. We learned about the **transformative lessons of Eleanor Roosevelt's life**: bearing witness to the suffering of the most vulnerable, and the power of standing in the gap between those who most need protection in order to effect change.

Lexi and Kristen masterfully told the story of "how did we get here: 2025" by weaving Eleanor Roosevelt's lifelong fight for Human Rights through the story of how America's efforts to expand rights through legislation has been manipulated and assaulted. From these policy successes and failures,

we can rebuild electoral power through class solidarity, organizing with love for each other, and bringing empathy into our policy. As Kristen likes to say, "You cannot save what you don't love, and you cannot love what you do not know."

We are so grateful for their time and for those who joined us at this impactful training!

And we can't forget to thank Tasty Plates for the delicious foods! Contact them for your next event-tons of vegan, vegetarian and GF options!



# GROUP NEWS: Eva Chu has joined ICLT as our new Internal Communications Coordinator!



Eva Chu
Internal Communications Coordinator

#### Welcome Eva Chu, Our New Internal Communications Coordinator!

We're excited to welcome Eva to the Indivisible Charlotte team as our new Internal Communications Coordinator! Eva is a process engineer by profession, with a keen eye for organization and efficiency—skills that will be a tremendous asset as we continue growing our impact.

Eva reached out to us looking for a way to contribute, and we're so grateful she's stepping up. Her role will focus on improving how we communicate and collaborate behind the scenes, making it easier for all of us to stay informed and aligned.

"I'm fairly new to the group, like many others," Eva shared. "I'm looking forward to supporting the flow of information and helping the team stay connected so we can accomplish even more together."

Please join us in welcoming Eva and thanking her for bringing her talents to the team!

## GROUP NEWS: Sharon Harmon has joined ICLT as our new PR Coordinator!



Sharon Harmon PR Coordinator

#### Exciting News – Meet Our New PR Coordinator!

We're thrilled to welcome Sharon Harmon as Indivisible Charlotte's new PR Coordinator!

Sharon brings over 35 years of experience in nonprofit and corporate public relations—an incredible asset to our team. We're deeply grateful to have her talent, insight, and passion working alongside us.

In this role, Sharon will help shape our messaging and serve as a key point of contact for media outreach and engagement.

In Sharon's words: "Nothing is more important right now than using my experience and energy to work with Indivisible Charlotte to fight for our democracy."

Join us in celebrating Sharon—our movement is stronger because of her!

## Support ICLT - Your donations fuel our activism!



Support us Here!

We are a boots-on-the-ground, all volunteer organization and operate our voter engagement efforts through your generous donations and yearly dues!

You are truly allowing us to reach more voters and have a significant impact in our community. We couldn't do it without you!

We have BIG PLANS!

Here's the link to our Act Blue account - https://bit.ly/supportICLT



Pay your \$20 yearly dues or simply donate here.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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**GET INVOLVED! STAY ENGAGED!** 



-Your ICLT Leadership Team (L to R) - Rachelle Salo - Carolyn Eberly - Ava Williamson -



www.indivisibleclt.org



https://www.facebook.com/groups/indivisibleclt

https://www.instagram.com/indivisiblecharlotte/

Indivisible Charlotte Matthews NC, 28105

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