

**10/6/2020**

**Solidarity for Jail Support**

We write to express our deep and unequivocal backing of Jail Support. We applaud the dedication, love, and imagination that we have seen from the Charlotte community. Individuals have been providing free food, medical supplies, water, transportation, clothes, housing connections, and education on the criminal justice and carceral system across the state of North Carolina during national uprisings over police brutality, a global pandemic, and economic crisis. These acts are a beautiful and necessary way to engage in a long tradition of mutual aid efforts in the United States. Efforts that would not be needed but for the continued exploitation and dehumanization of the most vulnerable among us through poverty wages, gentrification, mass criminalization and incarceration, the corrupt two party system and calls for moderation from centerarists.

We understand that local government officials are threatened by Jail Support because the Jail Support community has demonstrated that bureaucratic procedures are only effective at maintaining white supremacy. Cash bail is one of the aspects of the criminal justice system that maintains debt and slavery in our communities. We appreciate the very real danger that the Jail Support community presents to the State because the Jail Support community is a beacon to all that real power lies with everyday people working together to provide for each other's basic needs and not in the inherently violent American government. Jail Support deligitmaizes the State and there is no greater threat to it than that. It is clear that this is why the Jail Support community faces continued physical, emotional, and psychological attacks from Sheriff McFadden and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office.

The first targeted attacks of Jail Support began on June 18th, 2020 when Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested 43 people. Three months later, in the early morning hours of September 11th, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office ambushed and kidnapped 5 individuals. Most recently, 25 members of the Jail Support community were arrested on September 21st.

We condemn the violent dismantling of Jail Support and their continued persecution. We demand that Jail Support continue to exist without threat of removal or arrests from here on out.

We can create a better, truly just world. A world where we are more than the worst thing we've done and Black life is affirmed and celebrated. Jail Support has shown us that this world is possible and that is precisely why MCSO will use any means necessary to destroy it. We will not let that happen. Jail Support is essential, Jail Support is not a crime, and Jail Support is community care.  
Long live Jail Support.

In solidarity,  
Forsyth Court Support  
Greensboro Rising  
Greensboro Mutual Aid  
Housing Justice Now  
Prisoner Outreach Initiative  
Triad Abolition Project  
WHOA Greensboro