

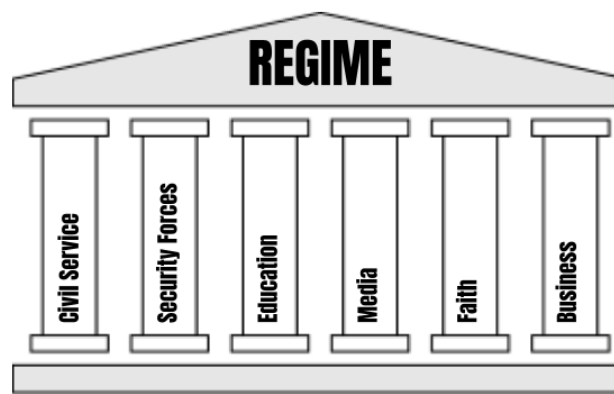


# INDIVISIBLE BENTON COUNTY

## N e w s l e t t e r

*February 16, 2026*

### Understanding Pillars of Support



Authoritarianism is a system built on enforced obedience to a single leader or a small ruling circle. When that power rests in one person alone, it is often called autocracy. When it is concentrated in the hands of a wealthy elite, it becomes oligarchy.

Authoritarianism becomes fascism when power is fused with a mass political movement driven by rigid, ultra-nationalist, and exclusionary ideology. These systems overlap and reinforce one another. What they share is a dependence on repression, intimidation, and the steady erosion of democratic norms in order to survive.

But no authoritarian system stands alone. Every one of them depends on “pillars of support”—the military, the media, corporations, financial institutions, religious organizations, civic groups, and other centers of influence. These pillars provide legitimacy, money, workers, and enforcement. Without them, concentrated power cannot endure.

History shows that when these pillars shift—even slightly—the entire structure begins to weaken. Nonviolent movements succeed not by matching repression with force, but by persuading, organizing, and mobilizing people within those institutions to reconsider their support. When legitimacy erodes, control follows.

So ask yourself: Which pillars are you connected to? Where do you have influence—at work, in your community, in your faith organization, online, in professional networks? Change does not come from outrage alone. It comes from coordinated, strategic pressure applied across these pillars at the same time.

If we want a freer, more just, and more democratic country, we must recognize that power is sustained collectively—and it can be reshaped collectively.

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### Recap of this week

We had a great general meeting on 2/11. The events, community outreach, and legislative action committees met. At the events action committee, they began planning for No Kings III, which will be on March 28th!

No Kings III will be a peaceful demonstration, from OSU to the Courthouse starting at noon, with a march along Madison Ave. We are hoping to have multiple areas of engagement along the route.

To pull this off, we need **100 safety volunteers**, plus dozens of people to set up tables, art, and sound equipment; staff information; and first aid tables; and clean and pack up afterwards. To volunteer for the day of the event, please email [indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com](mailto:indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com) with the subject "No Kings volunteer" and indicate how you would like to be involved.

A core principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to nonviolent action. Nonviolent peaceful action is not passive. It is a well-studied form of civil resistance that has been shown to be far more successful than the alternative. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values and to act lawfully at these events. Weapons of any kind, including those legally permitted, should not be brought to events. We believe that safety and de-escalation is every participants' responsibility.



There was an amazing turnout for the NeST Fund Heart to Heart Bingo Night at Oscar's Tacos and Cantina on 2/14. The prizes were fun, the company was lively, and the specialty cocktail, "The Bad Bunny," was delicious!

Thank you to everyone who participated and to the organizers who made the event possible. It was truly an uplifting gathering of our community, coming together in support of one another.



## Upcoming meetings/events

### DE-ESCALATION TRAINING for NO KINGS III

**Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup> 2026 5:30 - 7:30 pm**

How to make actions safer — and steps for you to stay safer, too



Corvallis Public Library  
645 NW Monroe Ave.  
Corvallis, OR 97330

There will be a De-escalation training on 2/19 at the Corvallis public library at 5:30pm. Come early at 5:00pm for social time and set up.

Our next general meeting on 2/25 will be at the Corvallis Community Center. We have a special speaker, **Dave Alba**, from the Progressive Democrats of America. He will be speaking on the importance of movement candidates, as well as his experiences with de-escalation techniques.



### Postcard writing

**February 20th, from 10am-noon, at Natural Grocers, 1235 NW 10th St** behind The Arc, off 9th. Sign up here on [Mobilize](#).

Voter engagement is crucial for this year's mid-term elections. There was a great turn out at the last event; approximately 300 postcards were written, with 240 sent out!

Cards, addresses, and scripts will be provided. A \$10.00 donation is requested for stamps. Help today to change tomorrow and win back the House and Senate!

## CALENDAR

### February

### March

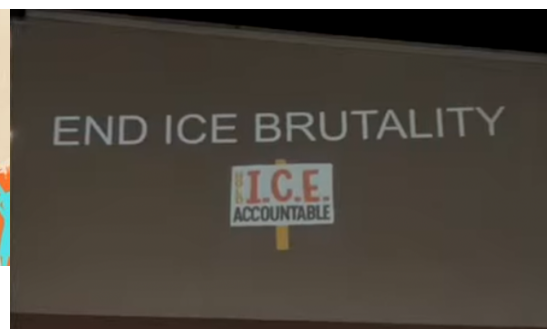
- 2/18 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/19 | De-escalation Training. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/20 | Rogue One Breakfast. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/20 | Postcard Writing. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/21 | De-escalation Training by COREcorvallis. See below!
- 2/25 | Indivisible General Meeting, [Corvallis Community Center](#). Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/25 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 2/27 | Visibility Brigade Banner Making Session. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)

- 3/1 | I-5 Overpass Bannering. Email [visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com](mailto:visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com)
- 3/4 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/6 | Rogue One Breakfast. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/7 | De-escalation Training by COREcorvallis. See below!
- 3/11 | Indivisible General Meeting, **NOTE location: [Corvallis Library](#)**. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/11 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/18 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/20 | Rogue One Breakfast. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/25 | Indivisible General Meeting, location TBD. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/25 | Weekly Wednesday Protest. Sign up on [Mobilize!](#)
- 3/28 | NO KINGS III!!!



# SINGING RESISTANCE

Lifting Our Voices in Song for  
Love, Hope, Peace & Justice!



Join the Visibility Brigade's new chalk team! This group will use the sidewalks in high traffic areas to publicize events and to leave short, pithy political messages similar to those on our freeway and protest banners. It also may include some simple artwork, depending on the talent and bandwidth of the team. No special talent is needed, though. If you can hold a piece of chalk and print legibly, you can participate! This team likely will become more active after the rainy season, but we will wield our chalk in March as weather permits to publicize NoKings III. We'll start small and see where our energy and creativity takes us. Send an email to [visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com](mailto:visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com) if you want to join the fun.

Corvallis Singing Resistance is getting organized!

Singing Resistance is building a mass movement of singers to protect and care for our communities in the face of rising authoritarianism. It is grounded in love, nonviolence, and solidarity. In the context of escalating violence towards our communities and federal invasions of our cities and towns, we sing because song is an antidote to fear, and song helps us connect to each other.

We sing publicly in the streets for the sake of solace, strength, solidarity, to voice our dissent, and to refuse cooperation with oppressive and autocratic forces.

Email [indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com](mailto:indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com) to join.

Visibility Brigade Banner Making Session: Friday, February 27, 4:00 at the Unitarian Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle  
Sign up on [Mobilize](https://mobilize.org).

I-5 Overpass Bannering: Sunday, March 1 from 1:00-3:00. Send an email to [visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com](mailto:visibilitybrigadebc@gmail.com) to sign up.

The Visibility Brigade also is gearing up to help publicize No Kings III in March. They will be scheduling at least one rush hour bannering per week in Corvallis. Watch for the schedule in upcoming newsletters and on Mobilize.

## How to make our community safe!

### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

<p><b>DON'T OPEN THE DOOR</b></p> <p>Communicate through the window or closed door. Immigration can only enter your home with an arrest warrant signed by a judge.</p>	<p><b>REMAIN SILENT AND DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING</b></p> <p>You have the right not to speak. Say out loud that you will not answer questions or sign any documents without a lawyer present.</p>
<p><b>DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION FOR SEARCH</b></p> <p>You have the right to refuse permission for immigration authorities or police to enter or search your car or person unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.</p>	<p><b>TAKE PHOTOS, VIDEO AND/OR NOTES</b></p> <p>Inform the officer that you will be using your right to record. Take photos, record the interaction, and write down the details.</p>
<p><b>REPORT ICE ACTIVITY TO THE COMMUNITY HOTLINE</b></p> <p>PIRC will contact rapid response teams that will verify and document immigration activity and offer support to affected people.</p>	<p><b>CONFIRM NEWS AND RUMORS</b></p> <p>Do not share unverified information, as this only creates fear. Ask people sharing news about ICE to share their sources and have witnesses call PIRC to verify.</p>

**PIRC HOTLINE:**  
**1-888-622-1510**

**PIRC**  
PORTLAND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COALITION

### DE-ESCALATION TRAINING

**SAFER AND SMARTER:**

- CRISIS RESPONSE
- DE-ESCALATION
- BYSTANDER INTERVENTION
- SELF-DEFENSE

**SATURDAY**  
2.21.26  
3.7.26  
6 - 8PM

Please arrive 15 min early - complete a human rights observer training first

**CORVALLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
MAIN MEETING ROOM  
645 NW MONROE AVE  
CORVALLIS, OR 97330

presented by CORE  
[COREcorvallis.org](http://COREcorvallis.org)

### COMMUNITY ALERT

The PIRC hotline has seen an exponential increase in the number of calls we are receiving during this current assault on our communities. The hotline is staffed almost entirely by volunteers who are working around the clock to respond to this crisis. In order to help us meet the challenges of this moment and to center those most impacted, we have an ask of the community.

**Please continue to CALL the hotline with any urgent concerns:**

- You are witnessing ICE presence (suspected or confirmed)
- You have witnessed or have information about an ICE detention
- You're looking for a missing loved one

**Please TEXT the hotline with nonurgent issues:**

- Questions about accessing non urgent resources (as long as it isn't needed within the next 24 hours).
- Photos of possible ICE sightings, license plates, etc. If urgent, please call first before sending text messages

**Please EMAIL:**

- [press@pircoregon.org](mailto:press@pircoregon.org) for any media inquiries.
- [volunteers@pircoregon.org](mailto:volunteers@pircoregon.org) for questions about volunteering, donating to the PIRC Resource Center, and Migra Watch.
- [pircpdw@gmail.com](mailto:pircpdw@gmail.com) with any VIDEO footage of ICE activity (please be sure to include information about date, time, location, any other relevant info) OR any other general inquiries

**PIRC** HOTLINE: 1-888-622-1510

## Community Events

### OFFERS

The organization Manyworld is sponsoring an Offers and Needs Market in Corvallis on

### QUEER COMMUNITY NIGHT

at the Plaza

**& NEEDS MARKET**

Give what you can

Ask for what you need

**FEB 19 7-8:30PM**

**MANYWORLD**

1013 Nw Taylor Ave  
Corvallis OR 97330  
manyworld.diy

Thursday, February 19th, 7 PM, 1013 NW Taylor Ave. Anyone can come and offer what they have and request whatever they might need. Offers and needs can be as big or as small as one desires. No RSVP needed. This is a great way for us to support mutual aid networks in our community!

To help build community, the Good Trouble Corvallis Queer Solidarity team will be hosting Queer Community Nights on the 3rd Friday of the month (7-9 pm) in the upstairs Mezzanine at the Plaza (425 SW Madison Ave). Allies welcome too.

**FEB 20** Art Night 7pm - 9pm  
Junk journaling and mandalas! Everything will be provided, feel free to bring your own supplies.

**MAR 20** Game Night 7pm - 9pm  
Bring a board game or play one of ours! Join us for some cozy game time with friends.

**APR 17** Book Swap 7pm - 9pm  
Banned books encouraged! Bring some books to swap and chat about your favorite authors. Don't want to swap? Tell us your favorite stories!

**THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**  
JOIN US IN THE PLAZA, MEZZANINE TWO  
425 SW MADISON AVE

Hosted by Good Trouble Corvallis  
For more details and updates about these events, please email: [gt.corvallis.events@gmail.com](mailto:gt.corvallis.events@gmail.com)

**DAY WITHOUT AN IMMIGRANT**

VISIBILITY ACTION  
**FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> 2026**

**BENTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
11 AM - 1 PM

SIGN THE PLEDGE:  
[bit.ly/DWOIPledge](https://bit.ly/DWOIPledge)



Benton County and Linn County Democrat's **Neighborhood Leaders** engage with registered Democrats near where they live. If you are worried about this year's election, this is one of the most impactful ways to get involved. The program is kicking off with in-person launch events in February.

**Linn County: 3:30-5:30 on Saturday, 2/21:**  
First Christian Church, 432 Ferry St SW, Albany (N. Albany Leaders are welcome!)

**Benton County: 3:30-5:30 on Sunday, 2/22:**  
City of Corvallis Tunison Community Room, 365 SW Tunison Ave, Corvallis

Email [carrie.phillips.bcnlp@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.phillips.bcnlp@gmail.com) for more info.

Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates  
Cospored by League of Woman Voters of Corvallis

**Universal Health Care Town Hall**

**Speaker** **Speaker** **Speaker**

**Tony Germann, MD**  
Vice President  
Health Care for All Oregon,  
member of the Oregon Health Policy Board

**Miriam McDonnell, MD**  
Executive Director  
Oregon Universal Health Plan Governance Board

**Brian Mayo**  
Executive Director  
Oregon State Pharmacy Association

**4 March, 2026** **6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Corvallis-Benton County Public Library and remote on Zoom** **645 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis, OR 97330**

Come prepared for an interactive session on the following topics:

- What are the current gaps in our health care system?
- What additional challenges will we see with cuts in federal funding?
- What is the Universal Health Plan Governance Board proposing?

## Indivisible Benton County's Action Committees

Most of Indivisible BC's work is done by our four loosely organized action committees. If you'd like to read about the general organization of our committees, visit our website [HERE](#).

To join or learn more about any committee, please email [indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com](mailto:indivisible.bc.or@gmail.com) with the name of the committee(s), or attend the committee meeting at the next general meeting.

## Our Mission

Indivisible Benton County is a grassroots organization of volunteers committed to advance bold and progressive actions and policies.

We are determined to resist corruption, authoritarianism, and inequality.

We educate, engage, and mobilize to promote values of inclusion, tolerance and fairness with the goal of helping build a more perfect and representative government that is For The People and By The People.

Donate Here

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Indivisible Benton County  
Benton  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
United States

(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)