There are more than 858,582 poor and low-income voters in Kansas and 85 million across the nation. Together, we account for one-third of the electorate. Together, we can ensure that the days of poverty and low-wages - and the unnecessary cruelty of abandonment amidst abundance - are numbered. Together, we can revive the heart and soul of this democracy to ensure dignity and justice for all. Forward together, not one step back!

Poverty and Low Wages
- Living Wage Calculator: https://livingwage.mit.edu/
- Hours of Work to Afford Housing: https://mitrcc.org/
- Household and student debt: https://www.newyorkfed.org/education/crhc.html

Rolling Back on Basic Needs
- Impact of the EITC and CTC: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/pandemic-report/
- SNAP Cuts: https://frac.org/research/resource/brigby-v-mae-state-fact-sheets/
- Tracking Evictions: https://evictionlab.org/eviction-tracking/

Health Care and the Pandemic
- Paid Family and Medical Leave: https://nationalgenderequality.org/feed-post/233/

Militarism
- Warfare State: https://ips-dc.org/report-warfare-state-how-funding-militarism-compromises-welfare/
- Gun Violence Archive: https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/
- Mapping Police Violence: https://mpvidata.org/
- Prisoner Privacy Initiatives: https://www.policepolicyinitiative.org/profiles/
- Incarceration in the US: https://livingwage.mit.edu/

Democracy
- Voter Restrictions: https://tracker.wlrc.indiana.edu/voter-tracking/2023/
- Anti-Trans Legislation: https://transgenderaction.com/

Poor People’s Campaign Resources
- Poor People’s Moral Agenda and Demands: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/about/poor-peoples-moral-agenda/
- Poor People’s Moral Policy and Jubilee Platform: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/about/poor-peoples-moral-policy/
- A Poor People’s Moral Budget: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/resource/a-poor-peoples-moral-budget/
- A Poor People’s Pandemic Report: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/pandemic-report/

Compilation of Fact Sheets: https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/resource/factsheets/

For more information and resources, visit poorpeoplescampaign.org.
Poverty and Low-Wages: Poverty is a policy choice, reflecting both low wages and high costs of living. These two conditions make it hard to meet basic needs and easy to fall into debt. In Kansas:
- Between 2018-2020, there were 874,000 poor and low-income people, accounting for 30.7% of the population.**
- To meet their basic needs, a household with two adults and two children needs to earn over $23/hour. However, the current minimum wage is just $7.25/hour. At this wage, an individual must work 93 hours/week to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment.
- There are 547,930 people, or 36.5% of the workforce, earning less than $15/hour. This includes 473,815 adults and 36.2% of Asian and Native workers, 53.9% of Black workers, 57.5% of Hispanic workers, 32% of white workers, 46.2% of working women and 65.4% of working women of color.
- Average household debt rose 5% in 2022 to an average of $43,440.
- Average student loan debt held by households was $5,600 at the end of 2022.

Rolling Back on Basic Needs: Pandemic relief policies temporarily lifted the load of poverty, but ended too soon, resulting in higher rates of economic, food and housing insecurity. In Kansas:
- In 2021, 621,000 children in 348,000 households received the expanded Child Tax Credit and 168,000 low-wage workers without children received the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit. The expansions contributed to a dramatic decline in poverty, but ended in 2021.
- In 2022, 195,800 people relied on expanded SNAP (food stamps) benefits to feed themselves and their families. However, in 2023, SNAP benefits were reduced by $90-$250/mo, cutting them down to $6/day. At least 63,000 people will be impacted by these cuts.
- At the beginning of 2023, more than one year after eviction protections were ended, 68,249 households reported being behind on their rent or housing payments.

Climate Crisis and Ecological Devastation: Extreme heat, storms and drought are becoming more common, with poor and low-income communities at greatest risk. In Kansas:
- Over the past century, the state warmed 0.8 degrees Celsius. As this trend continues, food production, spread of diseases, and health will all be adversely impacted.
- Precipitation patterns have also changed, with increased risks of flooding, drought and water scarcity.
- The percentage of poor and low-income household income that goes towards energy costs is 5 times greater than what an average income household spends on energy.

Military: Government spending that prioritizes war, mass incarceration, excessive policing, and anti-immigrant forces is leading to greater violence, fear and criminalization of the poor. In Kansas:
- In 2023, taxpayers will contribute $745.45 million to Pentagon spending, $211.97 million to immigration enforcement and $255.5 million to nuclear weapons.
- Over the past 30 years, $5 million in military equipment (tanks, drones, combat rifles and ammunition) has been transferred from the Pentagon to state and local law enforcement.
- Between 2001-2020, 1,394 veterans committed suicide.
- In 2021, 503 people were killed by gun violence.
- There are 16,488 people incarcerated. As of April 2023, 69 immigrants are in detention.

Poverty and Low-Wages:
- There were 24 voter restrictive bills introduced between 2020 and 2023, and 17 anti-LGBT+ laws introduced in 2023.
- Three of the voter restriction bills were passed, while five of the anti-LGBTQ laws were passed.
- After Kansasans voted in 2022 against a constitutional amendment that would restrict abortions, Republican lawmakers passed new anti-abortions in 2023, overriding the Governor’s veto.
- In Kansas, there are 858,582 poor and low-income eligible voters, including 764,316 white voters, 38,965 Latino voters, 3,161 Asian voters, 27,573 Black voters and 816 Indigenous voters. Together, they account for 39% of the electorate.

Democracy:
- Across the nation, a surge of attacks on voting rights and on the rights of women and LGBT+ people are denying basic rights to millions of people and constraining our ability to participate in democracy. Poor and low-income people can change this direction. In Kansas:
- The percentage of poor and low-income household income that goes towards energy costs is 5 times greater than what an average income household spends on energy.
- In Kansas, state taxpayer dollars are being siphoned towards militarism: state taxpayer dollars for deportations and border control could instead subsidize more than 36,572 public housing units. Taxpayer dollars going to nuclear weapons could provide health insurance for 82,551 children. Taxpayer dollars going to the biggest weapons contractor, Lockheed Martin, could hire more than 4,282 elementary school teachers.

There is an abundance of wealth and resources to meet our basic needs and ensure we all survive and thrive.

Health Care and the Pandemic: Across the country, approximately 1,000 people are still dying from Covid every week and millions of people lack access to health care. In Kansas:
- During the most intense period of the pandemic, 262,300 people were uninsured.
- With the ending of continuous eligibility for Medicaid, 75,000 people are estimated to lose access to health care.
- Between 2019 and 2020, Kansas experienced a 1.8 year decline in average life expectancy.
- Approximately 2 million workers, or 80% of the workforce in the state, do not have access to paid leave.

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