

SOUTH CAROLINIANS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO THE DEATH PENALTY

IMPACT REPORT



2023

EDITION





OUR MISSION

The mission of South Carolinians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (SCADP) is to abolish the death penalty and catalyze criminal justice reform in South Carolina

THE VISION

SCADP fulfills its mission through four action steps: rehumanize, mobilize, advocate, and restore.

1. We **rehumanize** the 36 people on South Carolina's death row, and those awaiting capital trials in South Carolina.
2. We **mobilize** local communities against the death penalty by educating them about South Carolina's past and present death penalty practices.
3. We **advocate** with powerholders and stakeholders for death penalty abolition and reinvestment into life-giving alternatives to capital punishment.
4. We **restore** system-impacted individuals (victim family members, death row family members, death row survivors, corrections staff, etc.) to healing and stability with opportunities for story-telling and connections to social services.

TOGETHER, WE ARE STOPPING DEATH-DEALING SYSTEMS.



In 2021, I found myself thinking five words from Isaiah 6:8: “Here I am. Send me.” My pen-pal on South Carolina’s death row had received an execution date, and I was going to do anything to save his life...even if it meant restarting a non-profit advocacy organization.

Fast forward three years to 2024, and SCADP has grown beyond my wildest dreams. What began as a group of concerned citizens on a Zoom call has grown into listserv of 6,000+ people. With your support over this past year, we far exceeded our expectations for impact, and we are confident that our support will continue to expand across the bounds of identity and geography.

Some of our highlights for the year were:

- Media Kits for Death Row Survivors
- The Virtual Book Club Movie Night
- The Spiritual Leaders Campaign
- The Posthumous Research Program

Throughout the pages of this booklet, we are excited to share details of these successes, stories of the lives you’ve impacted, and our dreams for the coming year. As you thumb through these pages, I hope you will join us in our work to abolish the death penalty and catalyze criminal justice reform.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Hillary".

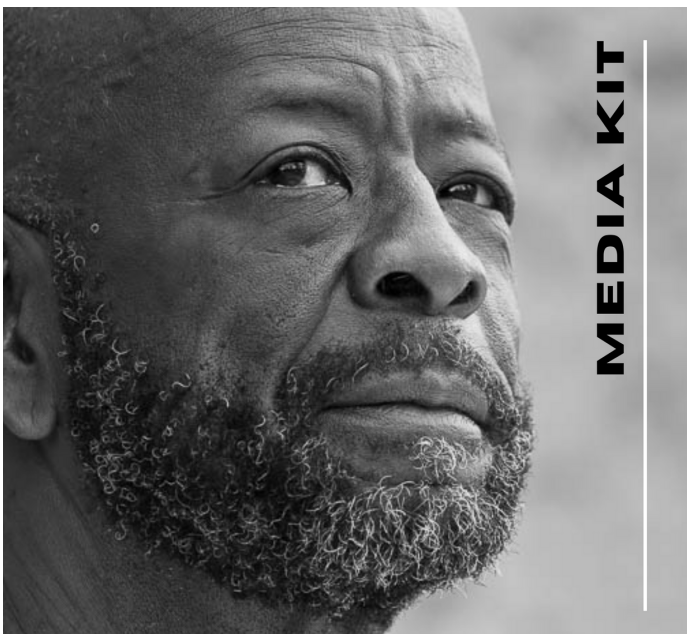
Rev. F. Hillary Taylor

Executive Director, *South Carolinians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.*

Thank you.

YOU ARE CREATING A LASTING IMPACT.

Because of your generosity and partnership, we are making a difference in the lives of capital system-impacted individuals. We are working to re-story the lives of the people most harmed by capital punishment. Below is an example of the media kits we are creating through the efforts of dedicated volunteers.



MOSES PETERSON DEATH ROW SURVIVOR / SPEAKER



CONTACT

✉ INFO@SCADP.ORG

☎ 843-601-6767

Photo and Design Credit: Sabrina Setaro

"OUR PAST IS NOT OUR FUTURE"

Moses Peterson's life is testimony that the "mistakes we make do not define us nor our future" and that even in the most desperate places, reformation can happen. He is testimony that we can man up to our mistakes, apologize and take responsibility without letting the darkest acts define our lives.

He often says "one is all it takes". One person to give you the courage you need to live another day. One person to stop you from shooting yourself up with cocaine when you think you cannot take it anymore. One person that sees the humanity in you despite the bars between and reminds you that you are a child of God.

Moses speaks out with the hope to only reach one person. One kid that finds hope through his words and turns away from violence, and one person to recognize the cruelty of a criminal legal system that kills people in the name of justice but instead only perpetuates violence.

Talking to Moses is a humbling experience and, at the same time, an empowering one. His life's journey is filled with experiences of endurance and deep gratitude towards his family and his lawyer, wardens and most of all God.

ABOUT MOSES

Moses Peterson is a returning citizen from a thirty-eight-year prison journey that included two years on South Carolina's death row. He describes himself as a determined individual, open to adapting and adjusting to new learning.

Today, Moses has dedicated his life to tell the truth. The truth of his own story but also that of a dysfunctional criminal justice system and about the torture that is death row.

Moses recharges in ways most of us do. He loves watching movies, going fishing and spending time with his family - especially his grandchildren.

REQUEST AN INTERVIEW

- Speaking in Schools and Universities
- Talks for Professional Groups and at Conferences
- Available for Podcast Interviews

MOSES PETERSON +1 843-601-6767
INFO@SCADP.ORG



YOUR IMPACT IN 2023

6,000

SUBSCRIBERS TO OUR
EMAIL NEWSLETTER

\$115,126

SUPPORT RAISED
DURING 2023

900

COMBINED FOLLOWERS
ON META PLATFORMS

15

SUPPORTERS SPEAKING
TO LEGISLATORS

3

GRASSROOTS
CAMPAIGNS STARTED

7

UNIVERSITY + STUDENT
GROUP CONNECTIONS

8

MEDIA PIECES
INFLUENCED

3

INTERNSHIPS
GRANTED

3

TESTIMONIES WITH
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

13

DIGITAL ORGANIZING
EVENTS



VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB GOES TO THE MOVIES

In July 2023, SCADP's Virtual Book Club program partnered with writer and producer Ray Lenard Brown to show his film **"83 Days"** at the Nickelodeon Theatre in Columbia, SC. This short film depicts the arrest, trial, conviction, and execution of George Stinney, Jr., the youngest person to be executed in the United States. George Stinney, Jr. grew up in Alcolu, SC (just outside of Manning in Clarendon County), but his story has only been discussed meaningfully in the last 10 years. In 2014, his case was vacated by the Sumter County Solicitor's Office.



After the movie, Ray Lenard Brown (center) joined a panel with Moses Peterson (L, a death row survivor) and Lindsey Vann, Esq. (R, Executive Director of Justice 360) to answer questions about the historical realities of the death penalty, and what it was like to go digging through South Carolina's Jim Crow execution era.

SCADP is currently looking for sponsorships to show this film across the state (especially in rural communities). To inquire about sponsorship opportunities, please email info@scadp.org. We look forward to sharing this important history with more South Carolinians.

(Right) Panelists Moses Peterson and Ray Lenard Brown posing with actor Dejean Deterville (L) and family.



SPIRITUAL LEADERS PETITION



October 10th is World Day Against the Death Penalty. To mark this day in 2023, SCADP recruited religious and spiritual leaders across South Carolina for a campaign launch and press release. At least 8 different religious traditions (including several Christian denominations) were represented. The campaign calls for South Carolina Governor, Henry McMaster, to stop pursuing the death penalty, as the governor alone has the power to grant clemency and commute death penalty sentences to prison terms. SCADP plans to return to the State House steps on October 10, 2024 with at least 200 signatures from faith leaders across the state

If you are a leader of a religious or spiritual community, you may sign the petition by going to <https://bit.ly/scadp-faith-leaders>



THE POSTHUMOUS RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Posthumous Research Program was born out of a concern that innocent people were executed in South Carolina between 1912-1972. During this time period, executions were centralized across the state, meaning that counties were no longer responsible for carrying out their own executions. However, due to racial repression of Jim Crow laws, the death penalty became a form of “legalized lynching” resulting in executions like that of George Stinney, Jr.

In June 2023, with the help of three law students from Charleston School of Law, SCADP launched this program by which interested law students could research past capital cases to document mitigating circumstances and potential innocence claims. SCADP hopes to paint a more detailed picture of the inherent racism and classism of South Carolina’s death penalty through this research.

To date, the Posthumous Research Program has researched nearly 100 cases and identified 10 cases with potential innocence claims. Dozens more cases hold mitigating factors which could one day qualify for a pardon.



Student researchers at the Charleston School of Law with guest speakers on capital litigation.



While we are finding innocence claims in our research, we are also finding many cases with mitigating factors. Many of these cases mirror the circumstances of post-modern cases like Raymond Patterson’s, whose crime was committed in a county notorious for convicting Black men with white victims to death row.
(Photo credit: Sabrina Setaro)

SCADP Goals for 2024

A New Staff Person

The work of SCADP ranges from creating toolkits for clemency campaigns, recruiting/training system-impacted speakers to speak publicly, debating the merits of abolition in front of law school students, and everything in between. This year, SCADP hopes to hire a new staff person to help with digital and/or in-person organizing efforts across South Carolina and between different constituencies working for criminal legal reform.

| Financial Goal: \$27,000 |

The Palmetto Journey of Hope

For the last two years, SCADP has co-sponsored a state-wide lecture series highlighting the stories of victim family members, death row family members, death row survivors, and corrections staff harmed by the death penalty. We are looking to expand the lecture series to cover at least 23 counties, with 10 speakers in two weeks for a total of 160 speaking engagements.

| Financial Goal: \$19,400 |

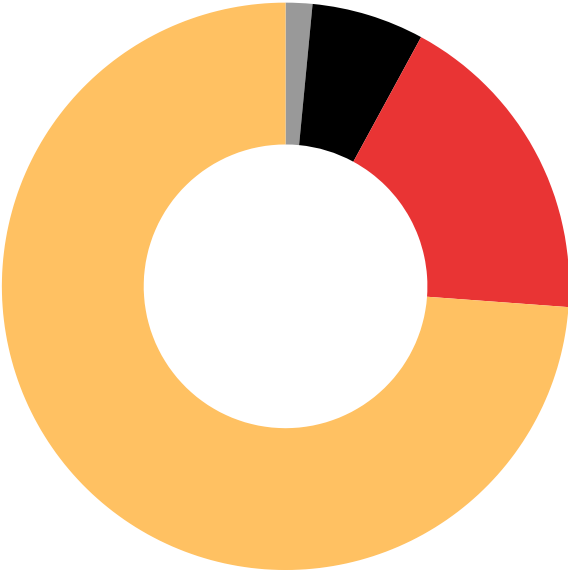
The Immersive Internship Program

So much of what happens to us as young adults shapes the trajectory of our lives. As such, SCADP is committed to cultivating the next generation of activists through an immersive summer internship program, complete with reading assignments, individual meetings, group projects, guest speakers, and pilgrimages to relevant anti-death penalty historical sites in the Southeast.

| Financial Goal: \$6,000 |

FINANCIALS

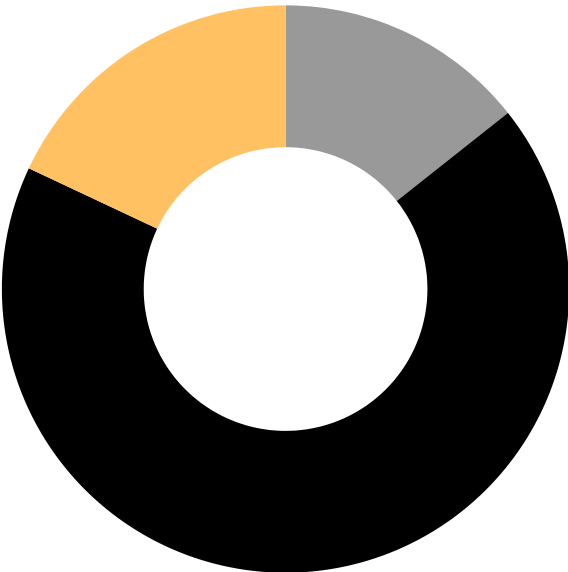
Income 2023



Individual Grants	\$1,750
Individual Donations	\$7,376
Donor Advised Funds	\$21,000
Foundation Grants	\$85,000

Total: **\$115,126**

Budgeted Expenses 2024



Operations and Administration	\$17,284
Digital and In-Person Organizing	\$21,700
Personnel (Staff, Interns, Benefits)	\$81,544

Total: **\$120,528**

*Numbers based on activity through December 31, 2023.

DONOR STATISTICS

*Numbers based on activity through December 31, 2023.

Number of Major Donors	Average Amt Major Donors	2023 Total Amt Major Donors
5	\$4,700	\$23,500

Number of Monthly Recurring Donors	Average Amt Monthly Recurring Donors (per person/month)	2023 Total Amt Monthly Recurring Donors
14	\$21.23	\$828

Number of Regular Donors	Average Amt Regular Donors	Total Amt Regular Donors
53	\$166	\$8,798.82

Multi-Year Donors	13
First-Time Donors	44
Total Donors	57



How You Can Help

Donate

Online: visit www.scadp.org/donate
-OR- scan the code below. Donations are not only transformational investments: they are also tax-deductible.

Send by mail:
SCADP
PO Box 25485
Greenville, SC 29616



Subscribe

Get the latest information, events, and actions by:

- going to scadp.org/newsletter
- Scanning the code below
- Following us on social media



Volunteer

Volunteers are key components of our ongoing operations. Visit scadp.org/join-the-movement for more details.

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