



GAMALIEL

AT A GLANCE



GAMALIEL

our namesake

The name Gamaliel (guh-MAH-lee-el) comes from the New Testament. The first Christians were a threat to the established authorities in Israel. The Sanhedrin met to decide the fate of the leaders of the new religion. Some wanted to kill them. But the wise rabbi Gamaliel stood up and said, "Refrain from these men, for if this work be of men, it will come to naught, but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it, lest haply ye be found even to fight against God" (Acts 5:38-39).

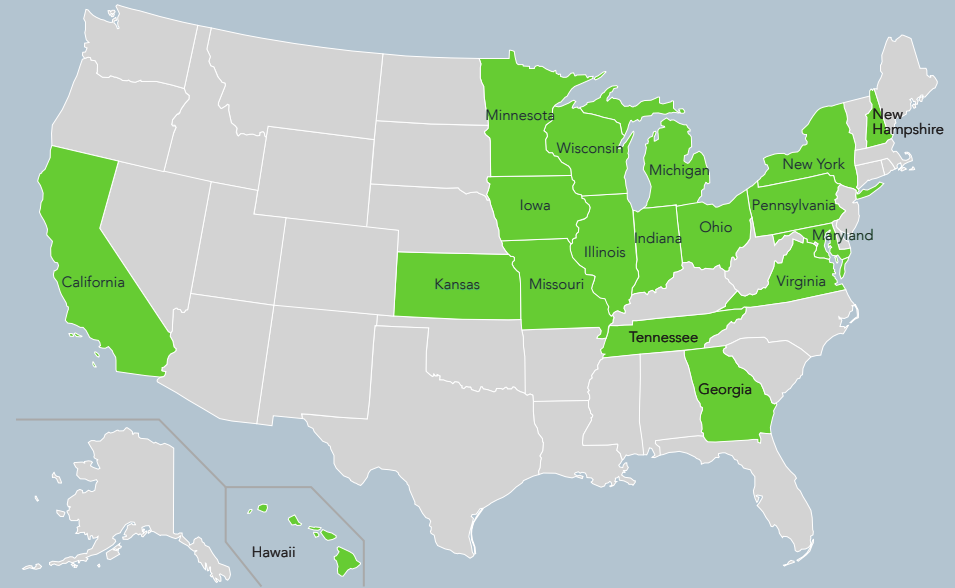
In the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, Paul refers to himself as "a disciple of Gamaliel."

our mission



Gamaliel's mission is threefold:

- to assist local community leaders to create, maintain and expand independent, grassroots, and powerful faith-based community organizations so that ordinary people can impact the political, social, economic, and environmental decisions that affect their lives;
- to provide these organizations with leadership training programs, consultation, research and analysis on social justice issues; and
- to be a network for mutual learning environments and working coalitions.



GAMALIEL U.S. AFFILIATES

a powerful organizing network



Gamaliel Foundation is an international organizing network with affiliates in 18 U.S. states, as well as South Africa and Great Britain.

Gamaliel's organizing work draws on struggles for justice by people of faith spanning many nations, creeds, and cultures. Our work draws on Biblical scripture, Christ's life and teaching, the Torah, the Qu'ran, Catholic social teaching, the founding principles of American democracy, the U.S. civil rights movement, and many other sources.

Above all, our work begins and ends in an expression of the personal faith and values of its members.



our history

Gamaliel was founded in 1968 to support the Contract Buyers League, an organization that fought to protect African American homeowners in Chicago against discrimination by banks and savings and loan institutions.

In 1986, Gamaliel was restructured as a community organizing leadership institute that trained community leaders to build and maintain powerful organizations in low-income communities.

our work

Gamaliel trains community organizers at national training events, helps build local affiliate organizations through ongoing consultation, and coordinates the work of affiliates on national social justice campaigns.

Gamaliel's national work focuses on three issue areas: immigration, health care, and transportation.

our victories

Below are a small number of victories won by Gamaliel affiliates around the U.S.:

Immigration



MOSES won an anti-racial profiling ordinance in Detroit that was the first of its kind in Michigan.

Responding to massive traffic stops targeting Latinos, **ABLE** leaders won a commitment from the mayor of Atlanta to establish a hot line for Spanish speakers to call the police without fear of being arrested.

Gamaliel of Metro Chicago trained 200 volunteers to help 1,000 Legal Permanent Residents apply for citizenship, and delivered 10,000 letters to Congress calling for comprehensive immigration reform.

ISAIAH won the passage of ordinances in Minneapolis and St. Paul to protect immigrants from harassment, allow them to more fully participate in the community, and let them feel safe to report crimes.

Health Care



Gamaliel members conducted dozens of congressional visits, vigils, marches, public meetings, and other activities in support of national health care reform.

Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) and partners in St. Louis, MO, won health care coverage for 90,000 children.

United Action in Connecticut (UACT) and partners won \$460 million to increase Medicaid reimbursements from 35% to 70%, increasing the access to health care for those on Medicaid.

our victories (cont.)

One of Gamaliel's projects is the Transportation Equity Network (TEN), a grassroots network of more than 350 community organizations in 41 states.

Transportation



TEN and **MCU** won unprecedented workforce equity requirements for Missouri's \$500 million I-64 highway project. Minority and female workers performed 26% of the workforce hours, and \$2.5 million were devoted to job training.

TEN then won a commitment from Secretary of Transportation Raymond LaHood to encourage state Departments of Transportation to adopt TEN's "Missouri Model" of workforce development nationwide.

In January 2010, the USDOT adopted new livability-based funding guidelines for major transit projects, fulfilling a longtime TEN demand.

In March 2010, TEN and its allies drew national media attention to transit funding crises with "Resurrect Mass Transit" rallies in eight cities.



In April 2010, TEN member **MCU** led a successful campaign in support of a ballot initiative to reinvest in transit in St. Louis city and county. Voters overwhelmingly supported the measure, which will provide \$75 million a year to restore service cuts.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, TEN member **GENESIS** and allies filed a federal civil rights complaint that stopped the use of \$70 million in stimulus funds for a rail project that would have violated the Civil Rights Act.



"Let no one attempt with small gifts of charity to exempt himself from the great duties imposed by justice."

– Pope Pius XI



“How long? Not long. Because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

– Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

our trainings

Gamaliel offers more than 100 training events each year. We teach organizing techniques that have helped build community power in rural, urban, suburban, white, Black, Hispanic and working-class communities.

National Leadership Training



In this seven-day training, we teach the basic concepts and tools needed to be an effective leader. We offer people the opportunity to reflect on their role in the public arena today and what they would like it to be in the future. The training style is agitational. We conduct this training four times a year.

Clergy Training

We offer an annual three-day training program conducted by and for affiliate clergy. This training gives clergy the tools to balance the demands of their own institutions with issues of justice and community concerns.

Advanced Leadership Training

We offer this three-day program once a year to 75 top leaders. Advanced Leadership Training challenges and equips leaders to assume major responsibilities within their organizations.

Ntosake



Ntosake is a word from South Africa that means “She who walks with lions and carries her own things.” This women’s leadership training program is designed to help women overcome the internal and external obstacles faced on the journey to becoming powerful and effective leaders.

Local Training

Twice a year, Gamaliel conducts two daylong or weekend trainings in the local setting of each Gamaliel affiliate.

structure



Gamaliel has five national structures that help to coordinate its work on a national scale.

These tables are composed of leaders who are either appointed or elected by the network's local affiliates.

Council of Presidents

The president of each affiliate sits at a table called the **Council of Presidents**. Meeting four times a year, this table has adopted the vision that guides our common work, and coordinates the common work of the network and network leadership tables.

Gamaliel National Clergy Caucus

The **Gamaliel National Clergy Caucus** meets four times a year. Composed of representatives from each state in the network, this table connects the work of other tables and the network at large to our common theological values.

African American Leadership Commission

The **African American Leadership Commission** ensures that the agenda of African Americans is always central to Gamaliel's work, to help recruit new African American clergy, and to help recruit and support African American organizers.

Civil Rights of Immigrants Department

The **Civil Rights of Immigrants Department** leads a national campaign among Gamaliel affiliates to enact smart and fair policies that affect immigrants locally and to win comprehensive immigration reform nationally .

International Leadership Assembly

The **ILA** board is also composed of delegates from each state who meet regularly to plan the annual International Leadership Assembly, which includes worship, award, workshops, and actions.

JOIN US.

Visit us online at www.gamaliel.org, where you can learn more about our history, work, trainings and events, and affiliates.



You can also contact us at:

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