

# EQUALITY LABS 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



# In the Face of Oppression, We Chose Each Other

If 2025 underscored one thing, it's that mainstreamed systems of domination and exploitation will not protect us.

**We**

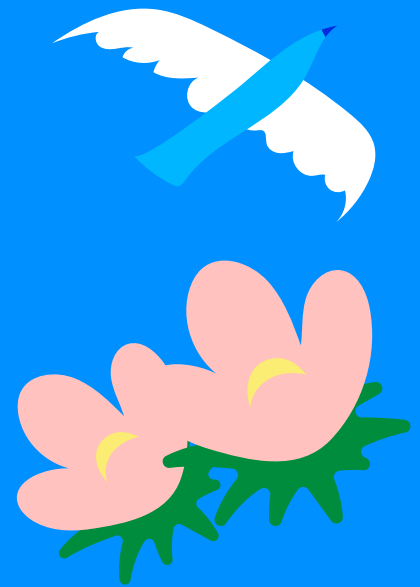
are the winning strategy.

**We**

are the ones who have  
each other's back.

**We**

are the architects of  
the future.



Within these pages, we hope you find reasons to continue forward, inspirations that help you fall in love with the future, and the solidarities that create a more just, free, luminous world.



# Protecting Movements from Growing Digital Attacks



This year, attacks on free speech and organizing reached alarming levels, driving a **500% increase** in requests for our rapid response digital security support. Approximately **35%** of our services were offered pro bono this year, given the funding cuts across the nonprofit sector. Clients consistently report feeling stronger, safer, and more confident in continuing their frontline initiatives as a result of our work.

We provided over **50** trainings that reached over **5,000** movement builders directly.

Our trainings are designed to provide every organization with a solid foundation of digital security practices, empowering BIPOC, queer/trans, and women-led groups to stay safe from bad actors both online and offline.

We produced over **80 reports** that provided vital information and tools to protect activists and communities under imminent threat. Many were individualized for particular clients, while others were generalized for our wider movement ecosystem. These reports were accessed by over **2,000 movement workers**.

**Bold Move for 2026:** We're launching our All-in for Digital Security campaign to protect our movement from digital harm related to heated election years. We will be expanding our digital security team in an effort to meet growing demand for community digital defense, protect vulnerable populations, and sustain the frontline work of organizers defending democracy and justice in an increasingly hostile digital landscape.



# Liberatory Research: Protecting Online Discourse from Digital Harm



Our open source intelligence researchers continue to lead the fight against online hate and tech-facilitated harm.

In 2025, we released our [Caste, Race, and Religious Hate Speech On Bluesky and Tracing the Online Hate Against Zohran Mamdani](#) report exposing casteist and Islamophobic slurs on the platform leading to caste being recognized as a protected class in the platform's community agreement. This resulted in caste being recognized as a protected category at Bluesky, adding to similar caste equity wins at companies like Twitter, Meta, Google, and Tiktok. Research from this team was invaluable to changing the tide in these platforms and we will continue to find more openings on this issue.

Our [Tracing Online Hate Against Zohran Mamdani](#) report shows how anti-working class, anti-immigrant, and Islamophobic rhetoric is shaping politics at a global scale. It also documents how hate speech targeting Mamdani extended to his supporters, as national and transnational right-wing actors targeted vulnerable organizers. These bigoted narratives enable voter suppression and intimidation. Our team will continue to monitor and report on these threats as well as work with South Asian partners across the country to stand with courage on the assault on our dignity, rights, and power building as this rhetoric goes national.

As a trusted voice in human rights and digital safety, we shine a light on hate speech and advocate for its removal from public discourse. The report was featured in major outlets like *The Nation*, *Zeteo*, *Slate*, and *Al Jazeera*.

**Bold Move for 2026:** We'll be shining a light on hate speech and its intersections with some of the most urgent topics of our time, such as the use of islamophobia as a political weapon, attacks on human rights defenders, and the role of artificial intelligence in amplifying them.

# Caste Equity:

## Protecting the Oppressed from Discrimination

Our caste equity work continues to grow through advocacy, education, and community care. This year, we celebrated major wins, including the passage of caste protection resolutions in California, with more in progress.

Through in-person and virtual Know Your Rights trainings, we reached participants from over 20 states, helping communities navigate threats to their legal and constitutional rights.

Our Affinity Groups explored critical topics such as caste liberation, collective safety, and the climate emergency.

And across multiple sites, we held in-person safety trainings as well as conducted crucial mutual aid support for vulnerable Dalit families impacted by SNAP cuts.

**Bold Move for 2026:** Amid instability caused by immigration crises, budget cuts, and rising hate speech, we will provide vital support to ensure safety, dignity, and justice for marginalized communities nationwide.



# Dalit Feminist Powerbuilding



Our International Dalit Feminist Fellowship nurtures the next generation of Dalit women and queer leaders, providing the training, resources, and support they need to thrive as entrepreneurs and changemakers in their communities.

As 2025 saw massive funding losses in civil society, the fellowship empowers human rights defenders to remain active in their work, build economic strength, and develop innovative solutions alongside fellow survivors of violence.

**Bold Move for 2026:** We will be piloting microloans for our fellows, supporting them to launch business ideas they've cultivated through our fellowship and add an additional layer of economic stability during volatility.



# Thank You!

Thank you for finding your own unique way of contributing to this work and everything you do to build new worlds in which all beings are respected and cared for. We are honored to walk the path of liberation alongside you.

