

Momentum Alliance

Momentum Alliance (MA) is a youth-led social justice nonprofit whose mission is to inspire young people to realize their power individually and collectively and to mentor future social justice leaders.

Youth have always been on the frontlines of the fight for survival and social justice. The leadership of youth is foundational in the struggle for social justice. Youth want opportunities to: heal from trauma; be in a space where they can fully be themselves; connect their personal struggles to systemic and historical oppression; have hands-on leadership opportunities; explore different methods for social change; and take collective action for social justice. We provide young people (ages 14 - 30) intensive year-round leadership opportunities.



Contact us!

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Follow us!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/momentumalliance

Instagram: [getyourmomentum](https://www.instagram.com/getyourmomentum)

Who is Momentum Alliance?

We are young people of color (ages 14 - 30)- who are immigrant, refugee, low-income, woman, LGBTQ, teen parents, survivors of hate crimes and violence, youth impacted by displacement, foster care, and youth with disabilities.

We are youth-led at every level of our organization. All of our staff are ages 20 - 28.

All of our staff are women of color / queer trans people of color.

85% of our board members are youth of color under the age of 25.



Our founding is in the leadership and advocacy of undocumented youth for immigration justice. MA emerged from ‘Papers Youth Crew’ -youth who helped produce and distribute the documentary “Papers: Stories of Undocumented Youth” -which has screened in all 50 states and the U.S. Congress. We continue to support the leadership and livelihood of immigrants and refugees. In 2017, we organized an undocumented youth rally in front of Portland Immigration Customs Enforcement, hosted a meeting for Congressman Earl Blumenauer to hear directly from undocumented youth, raised \$20,000 to support DACA recipients with their DACA renewal fees, and sent undocumented youth to D.C. to fight for a Clean Dream Act.

We provide “Equity” trainings for youth AND “adults”. We’ve done trainings for:

- Governor Kate Brown & Oregon State Departments Heads
- Metro Regional Government (including Metro President)
- City of Portland & Portland City Council
- World Affairs Council
- Portland State University
- International Alliance for Public Participation
- NW Public Employees Diversity Conference
- Alliance for Nonprofit Management National Conference
- Campfire Oregon
- Western States Center Activist Mobilizing for Power Conference
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Oregon Students of Color Conference
- Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation
- Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington and Philanthropy Northwest
- Marguerite Casey Foundation Equal Voice Conference in Atlanta, GA



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What trainings do we provide?

(READ THIS CLOSELY, THANKS!)

We provide customized equity trainings that are *interactive, value-driven, and relationship-based*. We highly recommend you to commit to a series of *at least 5* trainings. We strongly encourage you to commit to a series of 8 trainings. We say this because the quest to be “equitable”, “inclusive” and “accessible” -especially to marginalized communities, is a lifelong effort and learning process. Our trainings nurture deep cross-cultural understanding and healing. There will also be growing pains. That’s where much of the learning happens: our discomfort. At each training, participants will learn about the importance of social justice, community organizing, transparency, accountability, the power of storytelling, and the value of collective agenda setting.

Prior to the training series, we will meet with you in advance to co-create shared goals, agendas, and evaluation methods. It is important for us to co-create so we are all active participants in our learning. Our trainings always have built in opportunities for participant feedback and modification to ensure we are meeting your needs! Price: \$350 - \$500/hr (adjustable); Trainings are 2 - 3 hrs each (adjustable).

We have workshops on a wide range of topics, including:

- Racial Justice
- Immigration justice
- Gender and Reproductive Justice
- “Intersectionality”
- Environmental justice & Economic justice
- Youth organizing
- Policy advocacy
- How to “diversify” your organization and be “accessible” & “inclusive”
- Equitable management and business practices

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In our basic training series, we will explore the following topics:

- **“Identity”**: When it comes to our identities, what are our experiences, traumas, and privileges? ‘Race’, ‘Ethnicity’, ‘Class’, ‘Religion’, ‘Citizenship’, ‘Gender’, ‘Sexuality’, ‘Disability’, ‘Age’ -are among the many identities we hold.
- **“Systems of Oppression”**: What exactly are “systems of oppression”? What are “systems” and how do systems “oppress” people? And who do they oppress? What is the history of systems like: slavery, colonies, prisons, immigration, education, welfare, foster care, and health care?
- **“Intersectionality”**: What does it mean to have “intersecting” identities? What does it mean for “systems of oppression” to intersect? What does it mean for racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, ageism, capitalism, and classism to *intersect*?
- **“Gender and Reproductive Justice”**: What have communities of color fought for in order to take care of our own bodies, children, families, and destinities? What are we fighting for now?
- **“Racism & Root Causes”**: How does racism show up in our lives, relationships, and institutions? What are the “root causes” of racism? What would it take for us to address the “root causes” of racism?
- **“Communities of Color”**: What do we mean when we say “Communities of Color”? What are the complexities, possibilities, and limits to this term and concept?
- **“Whiteness & Anti-Blackness”**: What is the historical relationship between Whiteness/Anti-Blackness? What is my relationship to Whiteness/Anti-Blackness?
- **“Accessibility and Inclusivity”**: Who ought we be “accessible” for and “inclusive” of? What will it take for us to be truly “accessible” and “inclusive”?
- **“Equity”**: Equity has become a buzzword. What does it really mean to be “equitable”?
- **“Accountability”**: What does community accountability look like for racial justice? We all live in a world that raises us all to be racist, heterosexist and ableist. It is inevitable that we will all make mistakes and hurt each other. What accountability processes do we want to address and prevent harm in our communities?



On a different note. What opportunities and programs do we provide youth?

- We host two intensive year-round issue-based advocacy cohorts, one on Education Justice and one on Reproductive Justice. Cohorts are led by past participants. Together the cohorts have hosted workshops like “Decolonize Your Life!”, “School to Prison Pipeline”, “Intersectional Approach to Fuckboys”, “Slut Shaming in Our Communities”, “How A Bill Becomes Law: Ethnic Studies edition”, & etc.
- We host 3 Seasonal Social Justice Camps every year: 3 day Summer Camp; 9 day Summer Camp; 3 day Winter Camp.
- We send 60+ youth to Oregon Students of Color Conference annually.
- MA has a partnership with our regional government Metro to help them implement their racial equity strategy:

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/strategic-plan-advance-racial-equity-diversity-and-inclusion>.

- MA has a partnership with the City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement Diversity and Civic Leadership Program
- MA is supporting 2 youth to participate in the Ethnic Studies Advisory Council that will help implement statewide K-12 Ethnic Studies. We were part of the coalition that helped pass HB 2845 that will bring Ethnic Studies to Oregon K - 12 schools:
<http://www.wweek.com/news/state/2017/07/01/oregon-is-now-the-only-state-to-have-required-ethnic-studies-curriculum-for-k-12-students/>
- We have partnerships with over 50 organizations, institutions, and government agencies.



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