We hope you're as proud as we are of everything we've accomplished together in 2018.

With your help, we won justice for vulnerable people in our nation's courts ... helped children reject prejudice in our nation's schools ... and fought back against the hate and xenophobia unleashed by President Trump in communities across the country.

None of these things would have been possible without the support of people like you, so we want to thank you for standing with us in 2018.

Right now, we're two years into the Trump presidency and two things are absolutely clear: The president's words and actions reflect the racism that was at the core of his campaign, and we can expect more of the same as long as he's in office.

The road ahead will be difficult – no doubt. But if we stick together, if we don't give in to cynicism and despair, we will prevail over the dark forces afoot in our country. With your support, we're fighting back with our 2019 Action Plan. We'll be:

... protecting our democratic values by combating the hate unleashed by Trump and launching a vigorous campaign to expand voting rights;

... helping teachers to heal the divisions in their classrooms and to build a new generation of social activists; and

... seeking justice for those who are most vulnerable to Trump's civil rights rollback – particularly people of color, immigrants, religious minorities, and the LGBTQ community.

Join us in the fight today with an extra special gift to support this critical work.

We're Taking Hate Group Leaders to Court

Right now, we're engaged in an important court battle – one that could have a lasting impact and limit the ability of hatemongers to use the internet to terrorize Jews, Muslims, African Americans, LGBTQ people, and others they hate.

(over, please)
We're suing Andrew Anglin, one of the most notorious neo-Nazi leaders in America. He was one of the promoters of the deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville – a racist who calls Donald Trump “Our Glorious Leader.”

We’re determined to bring Anglin to justice for the terror campaign he launched against a Jewish woman named Tanya Gersh and her family in Montana.

Tanya endured months of harassment after Anglin mobilized an army of internet followers to launch a “troll storm” against her. She received hundreds of vicious emails, texts, phone calls, and messages on social media – threats that included horrifying images invoking the Holocaust. Even her 12-year-old son wasn’t spared.

But this case is not just about Tanya and her family. It’s about setting a precedent.

With your help, we aim to send a powerful message to hatemongers who encourage violence and use their internet platforms as weapons of intimidation.

There’s no mistaking Anglin’s cause. He runs a website called The Daily Stormer – which takes its name from the 1930s Nazi tabloid Der Stürmer – and he’s written that he’s doing his part “to accomplish the goal Adolf Hitler set out to accomplish.”

Anglin has established 32 neo-Nazi chapters across America and in Canada – racists who are energized by Trump’s xenophobic rhetoric.

We won key court rulings in our case this year, and we’ve got Anglin on the run. Now, we’re gearing up for a federal trial. I hope you’ll consider a gift to support this and all of our work.

We’re Hitting Hate Groups in the Pocketbook

As you know, we’ve destroyed 10 of the country’s most violent white supremacist groups by winning multimillion-dollar court verdicts for victims of their violence.

Now, we’re pioneering new strategies to fight hate in the digital era.

Over the past year, we’ve had enormous success in pushing Silicon Valley companies like PayPal to kick hate groups off their internet platforms – cutting off their primary source of funding.

Here’s what white nationalist leader Richard Spencer recently said:

“At one point, say two years ago, Silicon Valley really was our friend … what has happened in terms of the Silicon Valley attacks on us are, just, really bad.”

Our work is so important. And it’s not just hate group funding that’s at stake. Recent studies

(next page, please)
show that online hate fuels real-world violence. Plus, hate groups use the internet to recruit new members, typically young people.

We’ve seen the results. Since Trump first started campaigning, we’ve seen a **20 percent increase in hate groups**. Hate crimes are rising across America as well.

We’re constantly pressuring internet companies like Twitter and Facebook to stop the spread of demonizing propaganda on their platforms.

Thanks to your help, we’re making a big difference. But we need to keep up the pressure in the coming year, so please consider a gift today.

**We’re Countering the Hate and Xenophobia that Infests the Trump Administration**

As concerned as we are about the growth of hate groups, we’re even more alarmed about hate in the White House.

**Trump is systematically putting the white nationalist agenda into action.**

He surrounds himself with far-right ideologues – people like former Attorney General Jeff Sessions and White House adviser Stephen Miller, a former classmate of white nationalist leader Richard Spencer.

Both Sessions and Miller are architects of the administration’s cruel immigration policies – like what we saw at the border this summer, when little children were ripped from their parents’ arms and put in cages because their families dared to legally seek asylum.

This administration is stacking the deck against immigrants. It’s ordered judges to speed up their judicial reviews, so they can be deported faster. And they changed the rules so that our country is now turning its back on victims of violence who seek asylum.

**We’re committed to fighting back against this administration’s human rights outrages.**

We’ve launched an ambitious initiative to provide legal representation, at no cost, to immigrants who are being swept up across the country and thrown into prisons in the Deep South, often in horrible, inhumane conditions.

Because of your support, we’ve been able to expand our operations in an incredibly short period. We’ve established legal offices at five of the largest immigrant prisons in remote areas of the Deep South, and we’re providing vital support at six others.

We won’t sugarcoat it. The going has been tough so far. We’ve had to sue the Trump administration again and again for erecting barriers to justice and keeping us from clients who need our help.

(over, please)
But we'll do whatever it takes, because we're a lifeline for many good people who are in danger of being separated from their families and thrown out of the country they love. Some are facing almost certain death if they're deported.

Trump is telling Americans that these immigrants are "animals" and "criminals" who "infest our country."

It's all a big lie. We know better – because we're helping them every single day.

They're people like Jose, a young father who fled threats of violence in Honduras only to be separated from his 3-year-old son, Josecito, for 54 agonizing days after the pair sought asylum at the border.

We reunited Jose and Josecito, who was clearly scarred by the trauma of Trump's "zero tolerance" policy. My colleagues told me they had to fight back tears when they brought the two back together again. "God bless you, God bless you," Jose kept saying.

Your generous support will help many others like Jose and Josecito. Please support our work in 2019 with a special gift today.

We're Representing Those Who Have No Other Champions

Trump pretends that he's a champion for the many who are struggling in our country.

The reality is, he's shredding the safety net that's designed to help them. In fact, he's created a despicable scheme to strip health care coverage from the poorest Americans – all while handing out massive tax cuts to wealthy people, like those in his own family.

We're doing everything we can to protect health care for the impoverished.

As you may have seen in The New York Times, we are in court to stop the state of Kentucky from taking advantage of Trump's plan – which would boot nearly 100,000 people off Medicaid.

And, we're suing to protect low-income people in Arkansas, where Trump officials approved the same scheme. And we're preparing to sue other states that adopt it.

Our suits are helping people like Cesar Ardon in Arkansas.

Cesar spent 15 years as a welder before doctors removed a tumor from his ribs last year. Now, he's a handyman – and he relies on Medicaid to cover his treatment.

But Cesar got a letter telling him he'll lose coverage if he can't prove he works at least 20 hours
every week. Because his work is infrequent, he fears the worst:

"I worry about getting sick and being unable to work and access health care if I lost my Medicaid coverage. I hope this lawsuit will help others like me. No one should have to lose their Medicaid coverage just because they are having trouble finding enough work."

The cruelty of Trump's Medicaid scheme is plain to see. But there are so many other ways that Trump is turning his back on the poor.

Across the Deep South, low-income people are being charged exorbitant fines and court fees for minor offenses like traffic tickets. If they're too poor to pay, they risk being thrown into what are, in effect, debtors' prisons.

This can be devastating to families – and can literally take food off children's plates. Now, though, the Justice Department has abandoned Obama-era initiatives designed to stop courts from punishing the poor simply because of their poverty.

We're at the forefront of legal action to eliminate this kind of injustice.

Our lawsuits – and the precedents they've set – have stopped abusive practices across Alabama, helping thousands of desperate people. Now we're taking our campaign to Louisiana and other states in the Deep South.

In the Trump era, our work is more important than ever. It's our job to help those left behind by this callous administration. So many people are counting on us.

We're Expanding Our Voting Rights Work

The forces of extremism – the same forces that gave us Trump – can't hold on to political power if there's a level playing field.

That's why we've seen a systematic attack on voting rights in recent years.

And it's why we see Trump promote bald-faced lies about supposed "voter fraud" by individual voters – like his ridiculous claim that millions of people voted illegally, all against him, in the last election.

We know that the real goal of new voter requirements is to suppress the votes of marginalized communities. In North Carolina, for example, a federal judge found that a voter ID law was drafted to "target African Americans with almost surgical precision."

(over, please)
There’s little doubt that Trump will do everything he can between now and 2020 to boost his reelection chances — even if it means rigging our democracy even further.

Because the stakes are so high, we’re expanding our voting rights work in 2019 — forming a new legal team to challenge laws that disenfranchise people of color and dilute their voting power.

We’ll also be piloting a grassroots project to increase voter participation and engagement — especially in Deep South communities that have long been marginalized.

And that’s not all. We’re also working to erase one of the ugliest legacies of Jim Crow.

Millions of people are currently blocked from the ballot box because of previous criminal convictions, particularly in the Deep South.

The situation in Mississippi is egregious. The law there has its origins in the state’s notorious constitution of 1890 that was designed, in the words of the Mississippi Supreme Court, “to obstruct the exercise of the franchise by the negro race.” Today, the state’s law denies the right to vote to one in six black people — and some 200,000 people in all.

Herman Parker Jr. is one of the people we’ve met who is being denied the right to vote in Mississippi. When he was a teenager 25 years ago, he was convicted of a crime. Here’s how he describes his situation today:

“I’m a husband and father of two beautiful children, and I’m proud to work for the city of Vicksburg, where I was born and raised. I’m not that 19-year-old boy anymore — I’m a man and deserve a voice in government because of who I am today.”

We agree completely with Mr. Parker. That’s why we’re representing him and other people in Mississippi who have long since paid their debts to society in a case challenging the state’s discriminatory voting system.

It’s this kind of work that will strengthen our democracy.

Please consider an extra special gift today. Your support will have a real impact on the future of our country.

We’re Helping Children Reject Hate and Building a New Generation of Activists

This fall, millions of children all across America returned to classrooms that have been deeply divided and traumatized by Trump’s incendiary rhetoric.

As you may have seen in the news, teachers are telling us they’re highly alarmed about the toxic effect of Trump’s words.

We’re answering the call — helping educators counter the bigotry Trump has unleashed.

(next page, please)
For nearly three decades, our Teaching Tolerance program has provided educators with high-quality resources that help create bias-free, equitable classrooms where children learn to appreciate our democratic values. Now, with your help, we’re redoubling our efforts. We’re:

... engaging children – and their parents – in discussions about voting and encouraging them to be active participants in our democracy;

... empowering educators to kick off projects that improve school climates and help students thrive in a diverse society; and

... training teachers to implement anti-bias instruction in their classrooms.

This work is vitally important right now. Here’s what one teacher recently said:

“I’ve used your publications for years … this year was especially difficult. I am so thankful for the lifeline of resources and feeling of community that comes from your publications. Your work has allowed me to hang on in a profession that I love in spite of the tough going.”

We don’t charge a penny for our classroom films, lesson plans, and other resources. Instead, we rely on the generous support of people like you – people who care about equality and a brighter future for our country.

We’re Asking You to Stand With Us in the Year Ahead

In the first two years of Trump’s presidency, our worst fears have been realized. We have a president who is shredding civil rights protections, flouting the rule of law, and thumbing his nose at our democratic values.

With two years left on his term, the situation could get much worse as Trump continues to fuel hate and implement his white nationalist agenda.

It’s clear that our work will be needed more than ever. Many people who deserve our compassion are counting on us to stand up to the powerful forces inflicting pain on our country.

And the truth is, it’s going to take all of us standing together in solidarity, with the resolve that comes from our belief in equality, our thirst for justice, and our compassion for the least among us.

Please continue your support in 2019 and help us fight back with our **2019 Action Plan** to stave off Trump’s reckless assault on America’s most fundamental values. I hope you’ll let us hear from you soon.

Just as important, be an activist for justice in your community. Stay deeply involved in the
political process, hold public officials accountable for their actions, and speak out against hate and bigotry whenever and wherever you see it. Make your voice count.

Thank you so much for standing with us at this critical time.

Sincerely,

Richard Cohen, President  Morris Dees, Founder

PS: It’s urgent that we continue to fight the hate unleashed by Donald Trump in 2019. Right now, we’re compiling our annual count of hate groups operating in America – groups energized by Trump. And it looks like there will be a record number of active groups. I hope you stand with us today.