THE MIDTERMS WERE STEP ONE. NOW WHAT?

Feedback from REPAIR Participants • November 17, 2026

DO YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS TO OFFER? CONTACT REPAIR VIA THE QR CODE AT RIGHT

1. What are your biggest hopes in the aftermath of the 2026 midterm elections? What are your biggest fears?

HOPES:

- Hope that the election results will lead to ending the war in Iran
- Hope that ICE activity will be curtailed
- Hope that traditional Congressional oversight will be resumed
- Hope that legislation designed to help people's lives will be passed
- Hope that the new Congress will enjoy genuine and widely recognized successes
- Hope that our country will continue to encourage and support diversity among elected officials
- Hope that we will engage in necessary self-examination into issues such as "What has happened to our democracy?"
- Hope that we will affirm and support the many young people who are newly engaged in democracy
- Hope that we will not just restore our democracy but reform it

FEARS:

- Fear that many of those who voted blue were motivated merely by the price of gas
- Fears about the recent system breakdowns (air travel, computer security) and future dangers they may portend
- Fear that science may continue to be dismantled
- Fear that racism and sexism will persist and re-assert themselves

2. What issues or challenges—especially those related to racial and social justice—are you most concerned about for the next two years?

- Continuing threats to democracy—ICE at the polls, legal attacks on voting rights, extreme Supreme Court decisions
- Mutually supportive connections among corruption, economic injustice, racism, and sexism
- Extreme wealth inequality, exacerbated by failure to impose fair, progressive taxes
- Continuing failure to make access health care a universal right
- Protecting refugees and immigrants who are under siege in many communities
- Economy distress being suffered by millions, including the additional impact on people of color and other disadvantaged groups
- Possible escalation of attacks by the administration against political enemies as a backlash against the midterm results

3. What activities or groups are you supporting to influence public opinions and policies?

- Local and national voting drives and voting rights efforts; these were effective in the midterms and remain important going forward
- Organizations filing lawsuits to thwart authoritarian and destructive governmental programs and policies—including on the environmental, the racial, and other fronts
- Efforts to influence policy and public opinion on a range of issues—for example, the dangers and costs of data centers
- Five Calls—a computer app that makes it easy to contact government officials to register your opinions
- Organizations that oppose book banning and promote literacy
- Food pantries, farmers, and others who help reduce food insecurity in our communities, including many that are supported by Episcopal Charities (among other funding organizations)
- Youth programs, including those focused on civic engagement
- Local journalism
- Braver Angels and other groups that lead activities designed to help reduce political and community polarization

And consider these groups that REPAIR has learned from over the years:

- Neighbors Link
- Westchester Residential Opportunities
- Center for Anti-Violence Education
- Historic Hudson Valley
- The Poor People's Campaign
- HIAS
- Episcopal Migration Ministries
- Energy Justice Law & Policy Center
- National Center for Law & Economic Justice
- American Civil Liberties Union

4. What activities and services would you like to see REPAIR engaged in over the next two years?

- Listening Circles—a technique designed to implement restorative justice, now also used as a tool for address a community's racial history and its need for repentance. Training in the creation and use of Listening Circles is available through the Westchester MLK Institute.
- Participation in appropriate demonstrations, vigils, marches, teach-ins and other public events—making our presence visible as representatives of REPAIR (for example, by displaying a banner)
- Producing, distributing, and using branded pins, T-shirts, and other "conversation starters" to increase awareness of REPAIR
- Planting trees as a concrete way of nurturing our environment
- Hosting community conversations on topics of broad interest—e.g. prison reform
- Occasional in-person events (such as potluck dinners or picnics) in addition to our online gatherings