

What has ACORN done?

HOUSING Created or upgraded homesteading programs that turn over vacant houses to low income residents in Philadelphia, Detroit, Brooklyn, Bridgeport, Phoenix, Little Rock, St. Louis, and Columbia. Won passage of a national homesteading bill.

BANKING Negotiated landmark community reinvestment agreements with banks in St. Louis, Baton Rouge, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Denver, Washington, DC, and Brooklyn, making over \$200 million a year available for loans in low income neighborhoods. Won "Lifeline" basic banking service packages for low income consumers in 15 cities.

JOB Secured "First Source" ordinances or agreements requiring developers to hire low income unemployed residents in Miami, Washington, DC, Bridgeport, Pittsburgh, Dallas, St. Louis, Little Rock, and Des Moines.

VOTER PARTICIPATION Registered over 250,000 new voters since 1980. Struck down barriers to voter registration in Bridgeport, Pine Bluff, Little Rock, Atlanta, Grand Rapids, and Pittsburgh. Recruited and trained ACORN members to run for public office in Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Philadelphia, and Bridgeport.

ENERGY Won model utility shut-off protections in Illinois, Arkansas, and Denver. Beaten utility rate increases in over a dozen states.

TOXICS Forced companies to clean up, move, or cancel plans for toxic chemical plants, dumps, or discharges in Memphis, Ft. Worth, Philadelphia, Des Moines, New Orleans, Dallas, Minneapolis, Jacksonville, St. Paul, and Chicago.

SCHOOLS Improved school facilities in low income neighborhoods in Bridgeport, stopped school closings in Des Moines, improved school safety in New Orleans and Detroit, and won testing for asbestos in Philadelphia, New Orleans, and Washington, DC.

The New York Times

"An unusual political force that began in Arkansas is nettling the economic and political establishment in a widening swath. It is the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, popularly known as ACORN."

The Washington Post

"ACORN is short on radical rhetoric and long on pavement pounding in local communities. Members spent years attacking bread and butter issues such as utility rates and sales tax on medicine, before sallying forth into presidential politics."

Pittsburgh Post Gazette

"ACORN is not an organization to be taken lightly. It's a citizens group that has begun to flex its muscles."

The Economist

"ACORN is a network of neighborhood groups whose black, white and Latino members are not well off; they are dishwashers, blacksmiths, carpenters, unemployed electricians, factory workers, and small businessmen. It is populist in tone, drawing on the experiences of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union during the 1930s depression and those of the National Welfare Rights Organization more recently. Both groups sought to win more political power for the poor."

Dallas Morning News

"Since its inception in 1970 in Little Rock, Arkansas, the collection of neighborhood groups has fought most of its battles with power companies, city halls, and state houses. But while these struggles, for lower utility rates and better service are ACORN's lifeblood, the ultimate goal has always been a redistribution of power in American society."

ACORN is organizing in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Washington, DC, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Texas.

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