

Center for Popular Democracy Action: Endorses Mandela Barnes for U.S. Senate

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First 2022 CPD Action Endorsement Announced at "Hold Our Power" Event

WASHINGTON, DC – Center for Popular Democracy Action (CPD Action), the nation's largest progressive organizing network, announced their endorsement of Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes and his historic candidacy in the 2022 U.S. Senate race in Wisconsin. "Mandela Barnes was born in one of the most impoverished and incarcerated zip codes in Wisconsin. His parents – both union workers – taught him the power of organizing and the importance of reaching for what could be. Their example led him to become a community organizer in his home city, then a State Representative, and ultimately Wisconsin's first black Lt. Governor," **said Jennifer Epps-Addison, Network President & Co-Executive Director of CPD Action.** "The Center for Popular Democracy Action, the largest grassroots organizing network in the country, is proud to endorse Mandela Barnes, a fellow organizer who has tirelessly fought for a better Wisconsin in the streets and in halls of the State Capitol. We must not only defeat Ron Johnson, we must also continue to build the power of working people in Wisconsin. Mandela Barnes has proven he can galvanize young people and communities of color with an unapologetically progressive appeal, and we look forward to unseating one of the most dangerous, far-right extremist members in the U.S. Senate."

The endorsement, CPD Action's first of the 2022 midterm elections, was announced at CPD Action's [Hold Our Power](#) event today. The event, which featured Barnes as the headlining guest speaker, outlined CPD Action's plan to not only help preserve progressive majorities in Congress, but also defeat politicians who undermine our democracy, create barriers to voting, and marginalize Black, brown, poor, and working class communities.

CPD Action [previously endorsed Mandela Barnes](#) in his successful bid for Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor in 2018. Together, CPD Action and CPD affiliates in Wisconsin built on years of deep organizing in Milwaukee and beyond to drive record-breaking turnout. Increased participation in communities of color in Wisconsin helped overcome right-wing outside spending to deliver a winning campaign.