



ALABAMA
APPLESEED
CENTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE

2023 Justice Report

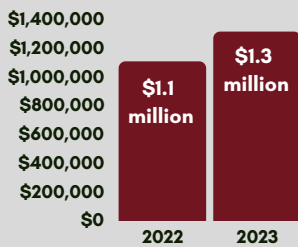
From the Executive Director

Appleseed is overwhelmed with gratitude for your support. Together, we've tackled stubborn problems and glaring inequities. And we are here to report that more compassion, more fairness, and more justice are on the march across Alabama! We are winning in the Statehouse with back-to-back years of economic justice reform. We are winning at the courthouse with freedom for Alabamians once condemned to America's worst prisons. Thank you for joining Appleseed's fight for a Better Alabama!

With deepest gratitude,
Carla Crowder



Appleased by the Numbers | 2023



12,523

Number of miles our re-entry team has driven to help our clients with documentation, doctor appointments, shopping & more (and counting!)

58

NUMBER OF NEWS ARTICLES MENTIONING APPEASEED IN 2023 (AND COUNTING!)

Staff

11 full time staff



ONE part time Legal Assistant



FOUR awesome interns

TWO offices (and ONE outpost!)



Montgomery
Birmingham
Piedmont

89

The age of client John Coleman who moved into his first apartment this year

61

Number of community events, presentations, panels & special events that Appleased staff have organized or served on in 2023

5

Number of clients who traveled to the Statehouse in Montgomery to share their story and testify in front of lawmakers this session

OVER
120

Interviews conducted by Researcher Eddie Burkhalter for our *Taken for a Ride* report, for his original Appleased reporting & with impacted people and their families.



Bill Passed in 2023

SB154 curtails debt-based driver's license suspensions

4

Talented clients who sang backup vocals at our Celebrate Justice event!

2,026

Number of times elected officials were contacted by constituents through Appleased's Action Network

84,091

NUMBER OF WORDS WRITTEN BY OUR RESEARCH TEAM LEAH NELSON & EDDIE BURKHALTER THIS YEAR

Direct Representation



Appleseed's legal advocacy and re-entry support for older, incarcerated men changes lives. Appleseed has succeeded in gaining release through resentencing efforts for 15 men who together served 476 years in prison for offenses with no physical injury. Our Fresh Start re-entry program ensures that our clients feel supported, empowered, and confident.

Our program boasts ZERO recidivism and 8 of our 15 clients have celebrated at least one year of freedom.

Research & Storytelling

Appleseed conducts extensive research and develops reports to shine a light on how bad laws harm everyday people across our state. Read more at bit.ly/appleseedreports.



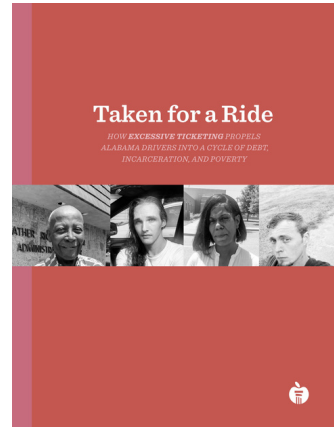
Afterward

Last year Team Appleseed traveled across the state to ask people about what happens after violence occurs in Alabama. Are people getting the resources that they need to heal and recover? How can our state better serve victims and survivors? After surveying, interviewing, and breaking bread with more than 400 impacted Alabamians, we released the report *Afterward*. We will use this research to build a more inclusive response to violence that focuses on restoration and meets survivors where they are.



Taken for a Ride

Appleseed's newest report shows how excessive ticketing propels Alabama drivers into a cycle of debt, incarceration, and poverty. This report also looks at how many Alabama police departments use federal dollars meant to reduce crash fatalities and injuries to more heavily ticket those same low-wealth and Black drivers.



Our findings, we hope, will create the opportunity for a shared understanding of how the system works and what it does to people caught up in it, to the end of identifying actionable opportunities for improvement.

Appleseed has produced original reporting and stories over the past year on excessive sentencing, brutal prisons, and heartbreak, while also uplifting stories of hope and redemption.

Read more at bit.ly/AppleseedResearch

Legislative Advocacy



Appleseed's bill SB 154 was signed into law in 2023, ending Alabama's practice of automatically suspending people's driver's licenses for missing a single payment or court hearing. Under the new law, people can miss up to three payments and miss one court hearing before license suspension. Also, if someone has their license suspended for not showing up to court, they can appear before the court and begin the process of getting their license reinstated. This will make life easier for more than 170,000 Alabamians who have had their license suspended for debt-related reasons.

Appleseed continues to introduce new legislation to fight for a better Alabama. Join us in 2024!

Sign up for our Action Alert Network to keep informed on Appleseed's issues at bit.ly/ApplesseedAction.

Coalitions & Partnerships



Appleseed creates and maintains coalitions of civil rights organizations, direct service providers, impacted individuals, and elected officials, working together on shared goals.

Because we can build a better Alabama together!



Donate to Appleaseed

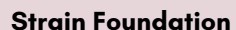
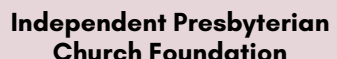
Thank you for standing with us to build a better Alabama!

You can donate to Appleaseed in one of the following ways:

- Through this nifty QR code →
- Mail a check to *Alabama Appleaseed* using the enclosed envelope or to
2 Office Park Circle, Suite 10, Birmingham, AL 35223
- Online at bit.ly/DonateAppleaseed
- Through your employer's matching funds. Ask them!



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