



Building a New Georgia with New Leadership

We've been around Georgia politics, organizing, and movement-building for a long time. As Black men raised in the South, we know what it's like to be on the front lines of the fight for justice, for equity, and for our rights. Never have we been more honored to serve as the Board Chairs of New Georgia Project (NGP) and New Georgia Project Action Fund (NGPAF)—two organizations that, in only a few years, have grown from nascent, scrappy, and underestimated-but-we-know-our-worth community groups to power-houses leading a growing, formidable, progressive movement in the Deep South.

Through their work, NGP and NGPAF have effectively transformed the face and power of the Georgia electorate and created a force and model for change that can no longer be ignored. We know that we will not stop doing everything we can to demand and secure the future that Georgians need.

We are building a new Georgia and, with that, comes new leadership for NGP and NGPAF. We shared this news with our staff a few weeks ago as we moved into these critical final days of the 2022 election cycle; now, we are thrilled and privileged to bring you into this exciting time for our organizations and our state. **We are honored to announce that, after a rigorous, national search, Kendra Davenport Cotton has been selected as our next CEO. She began her new role as CEO on October 17, 2022.**

Kendra brings more than 20 years of experience to her new position, including serving as the organizations' first Chief Operating Officer during the pivotal 2020 election cycle and a period of tremendous growth for the NGP and NGPAF. You can read Kendra's full bio [here](#).

Kendra, known for her "Mama KDC energy," will bring both care and tenacity to her role as CEO. Her vision and commitment to what is possible in Georgia will propel NGP and NGPAF into our next phase of impact. On the eve of a critical election with everything from voting rights to reproductive freedom to racial justice and more on the ballot, **Kendra Cotton is what Georgians need in this moment and for the years to come.**

Kendra succeeds Nsé Ufot, who became NGP's founding CEO in 2014 and launched NGPAF in 2017. Under Nsé's leadership, the organizations have helped more than 600,000 Georgians register to vote, contributed to unprecedented voter turnout in multiple election cycles—most notably the 2020 general election and January 2021 Senate runoff election—and expanded Georgia's state-wide, multi-racial, multi-generational, cross-class movement that puts the needs, voices, and solutions of Black, brown, young, and other underrepresented communities at its center. We are so grateful for Nsé's vision, commitment, creativity, and leadership. It has been a privilege to fight, work, and organize alongside her for the past eight years.

We offer our congratulations to Kendra as she takes the helm of NGP and NGPAF. We know the work ahead, and, as always, we remain laser-focused on building a new Georgia, a Georgia that works for everyone.

In solidarity,

Attorney Francys Johnson
Board Chair, New Georgia Project

Mr. Frank Wilson
Board Chair, New Georgia Project Action Fund