



I want to talk about love.

We throw the word "love" around so casually but often hide from feeling the fullness of the word. In our work fighting for justice and a new future, love can easily get overshadowed by all the things working against it.

I grew up poor in a Black, immigrant family with so much stacked against us. Yet, love from my family and my community ensured that I never felt alone. The love that was poured into me allowed me to ground myself in my own power and voice in a world that had tuned me out. Love is what led me to organizing. Love is what caused me to drive overnight from Ottawa, Canada to my hometown of Atlanta to become the first CEO of New Georgia Project.

Love has guided me as I have led and grown this organization over the past seven years. Love moved me to found New Georgia Project Action Fund to win campaigns and elections and change the face of Georgia politics forever.

What started as my friend Stacey's attempt to get healthcare to every Georgian has grown into so much more. NGP has become a garden for new leaders to grow and emerge, a laboratory for visionaries, cultural creators, and outright doers, and a political home for so many Georgians who had been left out of the political process—Black folks, brown folks, young people, seniors, LGBTQ+ folks, and more.

Love is my central organizing theme, my power source. It's the renewable resource that I can and do always come back to. And it's the reason that, after seven beautiful, inspiring, incomparable years, I will be stepping down from my position as CEO of New Georgia Project and New Georgia Project Action Fund.

Know that this decision was made out of love—love for myself, love for my NGP family, love for all of the Georgians I have had the opportunity to organize with. Together, we have made NGP what it is today—a state-wide, multi-racial, multi-ethnic, cross-class, intergenerational movement that's breathing, inspiring, and organizing a new Georgia and a new South into existence.

To my courageous NGP fam, to my fellow badass Georgia organizers, to the Georgia voters who have faced and overcome so many obstacles to make their voices heard, to my home state homies:

I love you. I want to be clear about that.

You are my home. You are where I've come from and where I am going. You are the reason that I organize. The love I have for you is at once my organizing foundation, my organizing strategy, and my organizing vision. To borrow from the unendingly brilliant Black feminist visionary, bell hooks: I move with and from a love ethic, which has guided me, fortified me, and provided the load-bearing beams that support all that we have built.

With deep gratitude and unending love,

