

WE ARE THE PEOPLE
WE **SERVE**.



SisterReach

**WE MUST
VOTE!**



OCTOBER 2026 | FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

For 15 years, our work has been grounded in a simple truth: We are the people we serve. And the people we serve deserve more than the right to survive. They deserve the right to thrive. That's what Reproductive and Sexual Justice is about.

It's about the human right to make decisions about our bodies, our families, and our futures. It's about raising our children in safe, healthy, sustainable communities. It's about having access to healthcare, housing, education, economic opportunity, and the freedom to live authentically and without discrimination. And none of those rights can be separated from the health of our democracy.

Here in Memphis, we know something about the power of the vote. We live in a city shaped by Black resistance, Black leadership, and generations of people who understood that political power was never simply handed to us.

And Black women have been at the forefront of that struggle.

And Black women know that the struggle for representation does not begin or end with us. Queer and gender-expansive people, young people, those who are disabled, those who are unhoused, our undocumented communities, people living in poverty, and other historically marginalized communities all deserve a meaningful voice in the decisions that shape our lives.

Over the past two years, Memphis has experienced profound debates about who governs our schools, who represents our communities, the role of the roles of federal government and law enforcement and how much authority local residents should have over the institutions that are supposed to serve them.

These are not abstract political questions. They are questions about power. Who gets heard? Who gets represented? Who gets protected? And who gets to decide? Reproductive and Sexual Justice asks us to consider all of those questions together.

Because what good is bodily autonomy without access to healthcare? What good is the freedom to raise a family if that family cannot afford housing or food? And what good is political representation if the communities most affected by government decisions are excluded from meaningful participation?

Democracy must be more than a promise written on paper. It must be something people can experience in their everyday lives. So as early voting gets underway, I encourage every eligible voter to become informed, examine the issues, understand the responsibilities of the offices on the ballot, and exercise their right to participate.

Our bodies matter. Our families matter. Our communities matter. And our voices matter. Memphis has a history of showing this nation what collective courage looks like. They may have divided our districts. But don't let them divide our votes!

Vote! And vote early! Women Vote Early!

Cherisse Scott

Founder & CEO, SisterReach

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MEMPHIS LET'S TALK!

Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, and Human Trafficking in Memphis: Advancing Safety Through Policy and Community Action



Domestic violence (DV), intimate partner violence (IPV), sex trafficking, and human trafficking continue to impact thousands of individuals across Memphis and Shelby County, disproportionately affecting women, girls, LGBTQ+ individuals, and communities of color. While Memphis has experienced declines in some categories of violent crime, domestic violence remains a persistent public health and safety crisis. Thousands of domestic violence incidents are reported annually, underscoring the need for stronger prevention efforts, survivor-centered services, and coordinated community responses.

The Tennessee General Assembly has recently advanced legislation aimed at strengthening protections for survivors. Current domestic violence legislation includes measures such as "Katherine's Law," which would establish the offense of aggravated domestic assault and strengthen accountability for repeat offenders. Tennessee lawmakers have also continued efforts to enhance protections for survivors of human trafficking, expand victim services, and improve access to justice for those impacted by gender-based violence.

For more than a decade, SisterReach has been a trusted leader in Memphis, addressing the intersection of reproductive justice, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking. Through community education, policy advocacy, survivor-informed programming, and partnerships with local organizations, SisterReach has elevated awareness of how abuse and exploitation undermine bodily autonomy, health, and economic security. The organization has convened community conversations, trained advocates and healthcare providers, and advocated for equitable access to trauma-informed healthcare and support services for survivors.

Today, SisterReach continues its advocacy at the state level by working directly with Tennessee legislators and coalition partners to modernize the state's definition of domestic abuse. This effort seeks to ensure Tennessee law better reflects the realities of coercive control, emotional and psychological abuse, technology-facilitated abuse, and other non-physical forms of violence that often precede or accompany physical assault. By advocating for a more comprehensive legal definition, SisterReach is helping to strengthen protections for survivors, improve access to legal remedies and services, and create a more survivor-centered response across the state.

As Memphis continues developing coordinated strategies to reduce domestic violence and human trafficking, organizations like SisterReach remain essential in advancing prevention, promoting survivor leadership, and advocating for policies that address the root causes of violence. By combining legislative reform with community-based solutions, Memphis can move toward a future where every individual can live free from violence, exploitation, and abuse.





LISTENING SESSIONS

**Are you no longer seeing a doctor?
Are you no longer taking HIV medication (ART)?
Are you no longer engaged in HIV care?**

Join our virtual listening sessions to help us better understand the barriers that made it difficult to stay connected to HIV care.



When?

Nov 17, 18, 19 or 20



Virtual Start Time:

6:00pm - 8:00pm (CST)



Participant Stipend:

\$150 for each eligible participant.
Must identify as Black, African-American, and/or African descent.
Must be the age 18-65.
Received care in Memphis or Shelby County.

Sign Up Now!



For more information, please email us at  research@sisterreach.org

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH JUDGE MCMULLEN

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

GET EDUCATED ON OUR **CURRENT LAWS**, **IN OUR LANGUAGE**,
& HOW THEY EFFECT YOU!

OCT 29TH | NOV 19TH
6:30 PM TO 7:45 PM

BETHEL LA BELLE COMMUNITY CENTER

2698 LAROSE AVE, MEMPHIS, TN 38114





15
YEARS
2011 - 2026

One *Vision.*
Countless *Lives.*

**15 YEARS OF ADVOCACY.
15 YEARS OF IMPACT.
A FUTURE WORTH INVESTING IN.**



This October, SisterReach proudly celebrates 15 years of advancing reproductive and sexual justice, amplifying marginalized voices, and advocating for the dignity, autonomy, and well-being of our communities.

For 15 years, we've challenged systemic inequities, created spaces for education and empowerment, and worked to ensure that families and communities have the resources, information, and support they deserve.

As we recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we're reminded that protecting survivors, defending bodily autonomy, and creating pathways to safety and healing require more than awareness. They require sustained commitment, collective action, and investment. Our 15-year legacy is a testament to what's possible when community and commitment come together. But our work is far from finished.

As we celebrate this milestone, we invite you to invest in the next chapter of SisterReach. Your financial support helps sustain the advocacy, education, and community-centered initiatives that have defined our mission for 15 years.

Celebrate 15 years by investing in the next 15.

DONATE TODAY | SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT

[GIVE NOW](#)

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WE **SERVE**.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM OUR CEO



[GIVE NOW](#)

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**4,000 FAMILIES
SERVED**

**2025 marked a year of growth,
impact, and renewed
commitment to our community.**

**We served more than 4,000
families through Pearl's Pantry
and expanded harm-reduction
efforts by increasing distribution
of Narcan, HIV tests, emergency
contraception, and other essential
supplies.**

**We also completed a new
strategic plan to guide the next
three years of our work in an ever-
changing political and social
climate. Your continued support
makes this work possible and
moves us closer to a future where
healthcare, safety, and equity are
not privileges — but a right for all.**



Join The Reach Collective:

**Become a monthly donor
and double your impact
thanks to our \$150,000
Shelby County match.**

[Join Now»](#)

**VIEW OUR
2025 IMPACT**

[View Now»](#)

