

STATEMENT

Lanon Baccam Participated In A Far-Left Conference Hosted By Extremists Who Are Working To Defund The Police And Eliminate Cash Bail, Like They've Done In Chicago, Where Violent Criminals Are Quickly Released Back On The Streets.

Verification

Netroots Nation

In 2018, Baccam Sat On A Panel Titled “Rural Is Not White” At Netroots Nation, The Nation’s Largest Gathering Of Progressives, Which Featured “Rural Leaders Of Color Across The Country Working To Pass Progressive Reforms”

In 2018, Baccam Was Featured On A Panel Titled “Rural ≠ White” At Netroots Nation’s Annual Gathering, Which Featured “Rural Leaders Of Color Across The Country Working To Pass Progressive Reforms At The State, Local And Federal Level.” “Since the election of Donald Trump, many pundits and professional Democrats have ‘white washed’ rural America. But the fact is, immigrants are revitalizing small towns and rural communities across the country while African African [sic] voters across the rural south and Native American voters in the Great Plains have long been critical members of the Democratic coalition. This panel will feature rural leaders of color across the country working to pass progressive reforms at the state, local and federal level.” (“RURAL ≠ WHITE,” [Netroots Nation](#), Accessed 4/11/24)

Netroots Nation Is The “Largest Annual Gathering Of Progressives In The Country.” “Netroots, the largest annual gathering of progressives in the country, got underway in New Orleans on Thursday, with delegates looking both near and far across a stormy political horizon.” (Lauren Gambino, “Netroots Nation: Progressive Activists Look Ahead To 2020 At Annual Event,” [The Guardian](#), 8/3/18)

In 2023, Sharyln Grace Spoke In An Online Panel Titled “How Illinois Ended Money Bail.” “Sharlyn Grace, Senior Policy advisor for the Cook County Public Defender’s Office, reasoned that simply demanding judges set bonds at affordable amounts is not enough because that was already required by law. ‘There was no enforcement and there was no accountability,’ Grace said in an online Netroots Nation panel titled ‘How Illinois Ended Money Bail’ on September 18. In addition to her role as Senior Policy Advisor, Grace is also a founding member and former executive director of the Chicago Community Bond Fund, a group that has been advocating for the end of money bail since 2015.” (Michaela Brant, “Cash Bail Ends in Illinois, How Will Things Change?,” [Progressive Magazine](#), 10/4/23)

Grace Has Been Advocating For Ending Cash Bail Since 2015. “Sharlyn Grace, Senior Policy advisor for the Cook County Public Defender’s Office, reasoned that simply demanding judges set bonds at affordable amounts is not enough because that was already required by law. ‘There was no enforcement and there was no accountability,’ Grace said in an online Netroots Nation panel titled ‘How Illinois Ended Money Bail’ on September 18. In addition to her role as Senior Policy Advisor, Grace is also a founding member and former executive director of the Chicago Community Bond Fund, a group that has been advocating for the end of money bail since 2015.” (Michaela Brant, “Cash Bail Ends in Illinois, How Will Things Change?,” [Progressive Magazine](#), 10/4/23)

In 2020, Netroots Had A Panel Titled “What We Mean When We Say Defund The Police (And How We Plan To Do It).” (“Netroots Nation: Speaker/Trainer Profile,” [Netroots Nation](#), Accessed 8/28/24)

Netroots Nation: Speaker/Trainer Profile

The below profile is for an individual who spoke at a Netroots Nation event. Their views are their own and may not represent the view of the Netroots Nation organization or its staff, volunteers or board members. Note: Speakers cannot be contacted through Netroots Nation. Please contact the individual directly through their website, email or social media.

NETWORK .



Network has undertaken local, national and international movement building for Black lives for 2 decades. She builds Pan African and environmental education programmes and creates innovative digital tools for mobilization, mass engagement and social transformation for Black liberation.

NETROOTS NATION PARTICIPATION

- Netroots Nation 2020
 - [What We Mean When We Say Defund the Police \(and How We Plan to Do It\)](#)

(“Netroots Nation: Speaker/Trainer Profile,” [Netroots Nation](#), Accessed 8/28/24)

Chicago Community Bond Fund

Sharyln Grace Was The Executive Director Of The Chicago Community Bond Fund.

“Sharlyn Grace, Senior Policy advisor for the Cook County Public Defender’s Office, reasoned that simply demanding judges set bonds at affordable amounts is not enough because that was already required by law. ‘There was no enforcement and there was no accountability,’ Grace said in an online Netroots Nation panel titled ‘How Illinois Ended Money Bail’ on September 18. In addition to her role as Senior Policy Advisor, Grace is also a founding member and former executive director of the Chicago Community Bond Fund, a group that has been advocating for the end of money bail since 2015.” (Michaela Brant, “Cash Bail Ends in Illinois, How Will Things Change?,” [Progressive Magazine](#), 10/4/23)

The Chicago Community Bond Fund Was Founded To Bond Out Of Jail “People Who Were Arrested At Protests.” “In 2023, less than ten years after the Chicago Community Bond Fund (CCBF) was founded, its primary function—bonding people out of jail—will become obsolete. That is the year that the Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) will go into full effect, making Illinois the first state to fully abolish cash bail...From the beginning, CCBF saw themselves not as a charity, but as a tool for organizing. The founders of CCBF initially considered limiting the fund to political arrests, such as those that occurred [sic] at protests. Ultimately, they decided to expand their criteria, but to still prioritize freeing people who were arrested at protests.” (Anna Attie, “What’s Next For The Chicago Community Bond Fund?,” [South Side Weekly](#), 5/28/21)

Illinois Cashless Bail

Sharyln Grace, Who Served As The Senior Policy Advisor For The Cook County Public Defender’s Office Advocated For Cashless Bail In Illinois.

“Sharlyn Grace, Senior Policy advisor for the Cook County Public Defender’s Office, reasoned that simply demanding judges set bonds at affordable amounts is not enough because that was already required by law. ‘There was no enforcement and there was no accountability,’ Grace said in an online Netroots Nation panel titled ‘How Illinois Ended Money Bail’ on September 18. In addition to her role as Senior Policy Advisor, Grace is also a founding member and former executive director of the Chicago Community Bond Fund, a group that has been advocating for the end of money bail since 2015.” (Michaela Brant, “Cash Bail Ends in Illinois, How Will Things Change?,” [Progressive Magazine](#), 10/4/23)

“CWB Chicago Has Reported Two People Were Charged With Murder, Attempted Murder, Or Trying To Shoot Someone This Year While On Felony Pretrial Release.” (Ben Bradley And Andrew Schroedter, “Has The Move To Cashless Bond Impacted Safety?,” [WGN 9](#), 2/13/24)

“Ultimately, They Decided To Expand Their Criteria” And Focused On Ending Cash Bail In Illinois. “In 2023, less than ten years after the Chicago Community Bond Fund (CCBF) was founded, its primary function—bonding people out of jail—will become obsolete. That is the year that the Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) will go into full effect, making Illinois the first state to fully abolish cash bail...From the beginning, CCBF saw themselves not as a charity, but as a tool for organizing. The founders of CCBF initially considered limiting the fund to political arrests, such as those that occurred [sic] at protests. Ultimately, they decided to expand their criteria, but to still prioritize freeing people who were arrested at protests.” (Anna Attie, “What’s Next For The Chicago Community Bond Fund?,” [South Side Weekly](#), 5/28/21)