



James Woodson, Senior Policy Manager

James Woodson is currently the Senior Policy and Strategic Projects Manager at California Calls. He manages California Calls' legislative endorsement strategy, as well as policy work around the 2020 census, redistricting, and the Voters Choice Act. James is also on the leadership team of the Black Census and Redistricting Hub, a project of California Calls. James began at California Calls in 2016 as an Organizing Coordinator on the African American Civic Engagement Project, coordinating civic engagement programs and providing support and assistance to the founding cohort. Previously, James served as the Director of Programs for the Boys & Girls Club of Newark, NJ and in a variety of capacities within the Obama For America, Organizing For America, and NJ Health Care for America Now campaigns. James is also a licensed attorney in the states of New Jersey and New York and a proud alum of Rutgers Law School. He served as co-Counsel for the New Jersey Congressional Redistricting Commission in 2011 and 2012. In addition, James was the Founding Director of the Friendship Development Corporation, where he led the effort to create an outreach center that provides food, clothing, and other services to thousands of low-income families in the Baltimore metropolitan area. He currently resides in the Los Angeles area.



Kevin Cosney, Organizing Director

Kevin Cosney is an Associate Director of Integrated Voter Engagement at California Calls. He currently manages Coalition Building, Outreach and Public Education for California Calls' statewide Black Census & Redistricting Hub. Prior to launching the Black Census & Redistricting Hub, Kevin was managing the African American Civic Engagement Project, a project launched in 2016, focused on strengthening and scaling up the leadership, civic engagement and base building capacities of Black-led, grassroots organizations in California. Kevin has also worked as an Organizing Coordinator for California Calls, working with regional anchor groups to build grassroots power and transform the California electorate in order to win systemic policy reforms. He helped launch and manage a collaborative project with California Calls, PICO CA and The California Endowment to develop the civic engagement capacities of members of The California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities network. Before California Calls, Kevin spent 4 years working in communities throughout San Bernardino as an Organizer, a College Access Mentor & Advocate, a Case Manager & a Youth Program Coordinator. Kevin graduated from UC Riverside with a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Ethnic Studies and Sociology and a B.S. in Business Administration & Marketing. He currently resides in Long Beach, California, spending his free time with his wife and two daughters, enjoying the arts, music, spoken word, laughing and traveling.



Lanae Norwood, Strategic Communications Lead

Lanae Norwood is the Principal Consultant of Lanae Norwood & Associates, a boutique consulting firm that includes a diverse group of professionals of color from a broad variety of cultural and technical backgrounds. Their services range from organizing strategy, training and electoral campaigns to communications and digital marketing. Lanae Norwood & Associates specializes in nonprofit, political, and issue campaigns that empower Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPoC) in key political elections, policies, and issues that impact their quality of life. Lanae's prism of culture and community commitment drives her passion to create, build teams, innovate campaigns and serve as a beacon for communities to experience progressive change, both nationally and locally. Shaped by the experience of overcoming her own challenges as a system impacted youth, Lanae believes that the people who are impacted by harmful systems and practices should share the power to dismantle them. Lanae is proudest of her leadership in campaigns such as, #SchoolsNotPrisons, AB 392- Stephon's Clark Law (#LetUsLive Coalition), Voting While Black (Color of Change/ PAC), Amendment 4 (2018 Florida Second Chances campaign), the Rethink Public Safety coalition, #EndPoverty (Working Hero Action), My Black Counts, and Yes on Proposition 16 (Opportunity for All.) Lanae is currently completing her Masters of Business Science at Pepperdine University in between running her firm and her mommy duties. She is the proud mother of 2, a clarinetist, loves hosting family and friends, and in her free time is an outdoor enthusiast.