

June 2022

# the scoop FORCE MULTIPLIER NEWS

YOU X ME = DEMOCRACY people talking to people is a powerful thing!

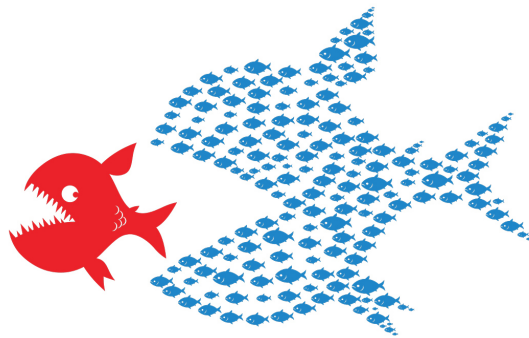
## LOOK WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

# \$10 MILLION!

## Force Multiplier is in the fight for the Midterms!

There is **POWER IN MANY!**

- Over 11,000 people have donated to our candidates + ve groups since our inception.
- So far we've raised 2.3 times as much money as we did at this same point in the last *presidential cycle*.
- We've held 50% more Zoom house parties in this cycle than last.
- Collectively our donations are defending Democracy + building a better future for America.



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## New Democracy in Action Slate

- **Arizona Center for Empowerment**
- **You Can Vote North Carolina**
- **New Georgia Project**
- **Make the Road PA**
- **Asian Community Development Council (NV)**

Further Information about these groups, click [here](#).

**You can hear from 3 of these groups in our event >>>>>>>>>>**

To win in November it's critical that voters can and do vote. By CAN vote, we mean that they're registered and understand how to vote in the face of voter suppression laws - by mail, where to sign the ballot, ID needed, etc. And, voters need to understand the importance of the mid-term elections. Happily, there are grassroots groups in our battleground states that are doing this educational work year-round to prepare specific constituencies for the midterms.

Force Multiplier has carefully vetted each one of them. We met with their leaders, reviewed 2020 + 2021 outcomes + 2022 goal + work plans. All have excellent leadership + strong financial management + budgets that enable them to fulfill their work plan + all need financial support. We have strong relationships with leaders of all these groups.

These organizations are non-partisan and therefore can access voters that partisan groups cannot - in high schools, detention centers, community colleges, etc. Donations to them are tax-deductible + they can accept funds from RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions), family foundations + Donor Advised Funds. You can give to the entire slate or customize your donation to one or more groups. For more information about this form of donation, contact Co-Chair Laura Weisel [here](#).

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## Autocracy Revealed:

*Lessons from Jan 6 Committee so far!*

**Autocracy: a form of government in which a country is ruled by a person or group with total power.** The Britannica Dictionary

- Our most basic democratic values of free + fair elections + a peaceful transition of power were under siege + still are.
- The former President willfully planned, orchestrated + instigated an insurrection in the interest of maintaining power. This unprecedented coup was an attack on our constitution + our democratic values, an effort to illegally seize power following a lawful election.
- Despite extraordinary evidence to the contrary + despite what he was told by his most senior advisors (including the Attorney General) + political allies, the former President knowingly spread + continues to spread the totally unsubstantiated message of "stop the steal" + falsehoods about his overwhelming victory.
- Commission Chairman Rep. Bennie Thompson, (D-MS) best encapsulated what we know in his opening statement: "January 6 was the culmination of an attempted coup, a brazen attempt to

• The evidence presented depicts a President as the ultimate grifter - using the Big Lie as a premise for fundraising that arguably has defrauded his supporters while enriching the Trump enterprise.

**What can we do in the face of the Big Lie?** How do we counter efforts to illegitimately seize power?

**Nearly six in ten Republicans believe Trump bears no responsibility for January 6th.** A similar number believe that the election was stolen from him. If we are to hold Trump accountable + if the corrosive impact of Trump's autocratic nature is to be checked, we need to trust the democratic process through the electoral system—beginning with the midterm elections.

Without a Democratic majority in the House, these hearings never would have happened. Without these hearings, the full truth would never have come out.

Simply put, we need to hold + expand our majorities in Congress. This is our only goal at Force Multiplier.

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## Meet Two **NEW** Challengers



**Greg Landsman**  
Ohio 01



**Hillary Scholten**  
Michigan 03

### **GREG LANDSMAN** Ohio 01

Landsman has degrees in Economics/Political Science from Ohio University + Theology from Harvard Divinity School. He worked on Sen. Bill Bradley's Presidential Campaign in 2000 + Nancy Pelosi's campaign the same year. He attended Harvard Divinity School after 9/11 + was Director of the Ohio Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives from 2007 to 2010. In this role, Landsman was Chair of the Governor's Anti-Poverty Task Force. He then served as Executive Director of STRIVE Partnership Knowledge Foundation, an education + advocacy group.

Landsman was first elected to the Cincinnati City Council in 2017 + again in 2021. On Council, he has enacted eviction prevention reform + led creation of the Children + Families Cabinet. In 2021, he led the passage of a Balanced Development Plan which assesses the effects of new development. He pushed for funding for Cincinnati's "Level-Up: Launch your Career" program, providing young people with access to well-paying jobs.

## HILLARY SCHOLTEN MI 03

Scholten graduated from Gordon College and the University of Maryland's School of Law. She was a judicial law clerk + attorney adviser for the U.S. Department of Justice Board of Immigration Appeals + a staff attorney for the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, where she worked on the growing immigration crisis. She volunteered for Times Up Legal Defense Fund, providing legal services to women facing sexual harassment in the workplace. Since 2021 Scholten has been Senior Counsel at Miller Johnson in Grand Rapids.

Scholten is running for Congress because: "we need a leader who is committed to putting forth common-sense solutions to the pressing problems facing West Michigan... who will roll up her sleeves to help working families + who will do what's right, not what's easy."

## DONATE TO HILLARY SCHOLTEN

Let's hold the House !

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*"To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. ...If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act ... and to live, in defiance of all that is bad around us ... itself a marvelous victory." Howard Zinn, "You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train"*

We're so glad you are with us!

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## MAKING THE CASE:

### Why support grassroots efforts in other states?

Multiplier Cindy Baratta, Cambridge, MA

Many people, including me, have wondered why someone in Massachusetts should support grassroots organizing in other states. Put simply, the answer is that EVERY Congressional and Senatorial race in EVERY state matters. And we have seen that some races, especially in "battleground" states, can be decided by fewer than 1,000 votes.

Some wonder if we are interfering with local politics by supporting grassroots organizing in other states. The answer is no. We are helping people in Nevada talk to people in Nevada about

A few years ago, I was canvassing in New Hampshire when a resident asked why I would come from Massachusetts to knock on doors there. In hindsight it may have been more effective to donate to a reputable NH-led organization. But I believe that both canvassing and donating are important ways to affect the bigger national picture. Force Multiplier has done volumes of research on impressive organizations throughout the country that are worthy of our support. As an American, **I plan to do whatever I can to help.**

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## 5 Positive TALKING POINTS

### 1. It's not the time to give up

Elections are still 5 months away. At this point in the last 3 election cycles, the outcome was not clear. Anything can happen— the supreme court rulings + the Jan 6th hearings + the economy are all in play + will influence how the people vote.

### 2. We need to re-ignite the surge

In the past two elections Democrats added 25 million new voters who rose up to repudiate Trumpism. If we ignite those blue surge voters we have a huge advantage for the midterms. Our Voter Empowerment groups are doing that work every day.

### 3. Another element of hope

Many Republican nominees are just too extreme for the general elections. MAGA candidates + extremists of all flavors do not have broad appeal.

### 4. There is good news

Despite low Presidential approval ratings, new voter suppression laws + a tough economy, Democrats did well in 2021 municipal elections in places like GA + NH.

### 5. This is a time like no other

Generic indicators such as Presidential approval ratings + historical trends can not be accurate ways of predicting outcomes when there is no normal. We're in new territory + we need to seize the moment!

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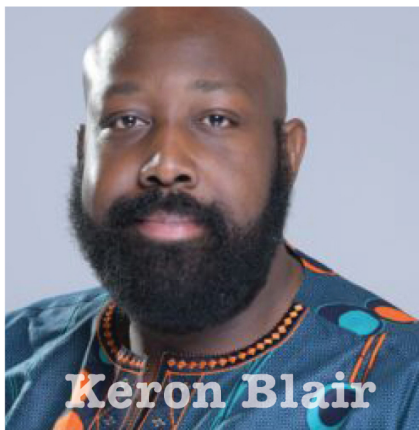
## GREAT NEWS for your mood!

At our **May Connection: Be the Messenger**, we asked people to share how they felt at the beginning of the event + then again following our presentation. Check out the shift in mood in the graphics below! You will find 4 videos from the Connection presentation on the home page of our website that will inspire + inform. [Here](#)

## OUR MISSION

is to empower people and multiply their impact on democratic institutions + the electoral process by raising funds for **DEMOCRATIC** candidates for **FEDERAL OFFICE** + for groups that **DEFEND** + **EXPAND THE RIGHT TO VOTE.**

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**Speakers will include:**

- Keron Blair: Chief Field and Organizing Officer, **New Georgia Project**
- Diana Robinson: Civic Engagement Director, **Make the Road PA**
- Eric Jeng, Director of Outreach, **Asian Community Development Council (NV)**

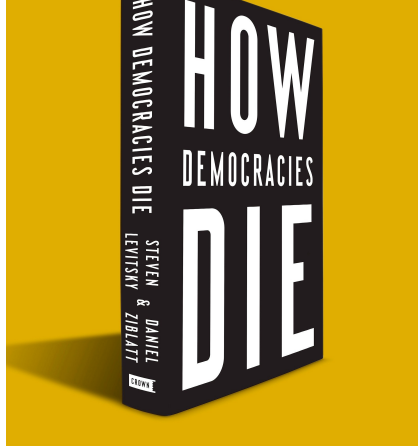
Your tax-deductible contribution to this event will support all 5 groups on Force Multiplier's Democracy in Action slate.

**Monday, June 20**

**7:00-8:00pm ET on Zoom**

**[REGISTER + DONATE](#)**

**support Democracy Action Slate**



## The State of Our Democracy on the Eve of the Midterms

Event with [Steven Levitsky](#) + [Daniel Ziblatt](#), authors of *How Democracies Die*. Let's talk about where we are as a country + where we go from here.

**Thursday, July 14**  
**7:00-8:00pm ET on Zoom**  
[REGISTER + DONATE](#)  
support the **FM House Slate**

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## Meet PA Democratic Senate Nominee John Fetterman + Help Build a Solid Democratic Senate majority!

**Wednesday, July 27**  
**7:00-8:00 pm ET on Zoom**  
[REGISTER + DONATE](#)  
support Fetterman's campaign

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# THANK YOU

For this great event!

June 8th Senate event: **269 donors** + **120 attended** + **\$60,305 was raised** for our Senate Slate of candidates.

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## FM INFO SESSION!

Stop by our FM Info session + talk with someone on our leadership team. These sessions are helpful to the curious + FM newbies + anyone in the FM community.

**Tuesday, June 28, 7:00-8:00pm ET**

[REGISTER for the LINK](#)

**Monday, July 11, 12:00-1:00pm ET**

[REGISTER for the LINK](#)

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## HELP FM GROW + have impact

Do you belong to a group, an association, a flock, a herd, a school, or a pack (not a PAC)? We'd like to introduce Force Multiplier to your organization + invite your members to our Zoom events. If you trust Force Multiplier to help you make strategic political investment decisions, then why not share us with your hive, clutch or gaggle? More information, [email Laura](#).

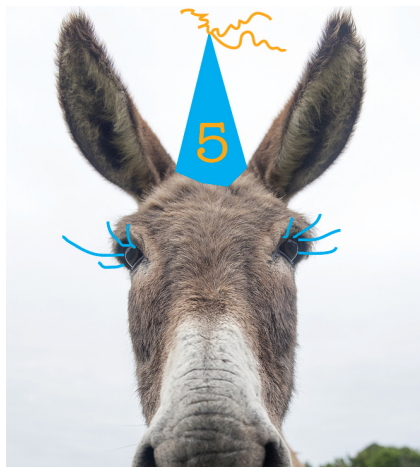
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## Spreading the word be a multiplier!

If you're interested in learning more + becoming a Multiplier, reach out to [Bill Petri](#).

If you're a Multiplier + need advice, or support reach out to [Steven Krugman](#).

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## How House Parties Work (it's simple multiplication)

If you've been thinking about doing a Force Multiplier Zoom House Party, now would be a great time to go for it. We need everyone's help to reach more people who want to keep Washington blue. Our Zoom House Parties are an effective way to let your friends + family know about this opportunity to do something strategic + impactful for the 2022 midterms. At this hour-long informational event, your guests will learn that prevailing over the Republicans in '22 is achievable + how they can participate in making it happen. **People appreciate hearing about something they can do to help protect Democracy at this crucial time.**

**Let's do it!** Talk to Fern + let's get your party started! Email [Fern Fisher](mailto:Fern.Fisher@forcemultiplier.org)

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**Help FM spread the word...that's how it works!**

Please pass this news on to friends who may be interested. The more the merrier!



YOU X ME = DEMOCRACY

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receive only our monthly newsletter and occasional announcements.

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).