The last three years have challenged us and changed us. People have lost their jobs and their homes. So many lives have been lost unnecessarily to COVID-19, racist violence, and state-sanctioned murder. 2022 was a year of compounding challenges instead of the beginning of recovery that was expected. Emergency protections expired; rental assistance never materialized for many; evictions skyrocketed. Corporations took advantage of "economic recovery" to evade worker protections and increase profits. The ways we care for each other, stand together, and fight back—even amidst challenge and struggle—reinvigorate our commitments to justice and to building our community.

With partners and supporters like you, we proved that we continue to show up and win in the face of daunting obstacles.

2022 EBASE IMPACTS

We are organizing faith leaders to win a more just economy, building a powerful housing justice movement that is securing tenant protections, and fighting for workers to have a voice on the job and at City Hall.

Photos by Brooke Anderson, Colin Furlow, Ryan Sin, Rachita Rawal, & EBASE Staff
FAME's Housing Justice Workshop gathered faith leaders, tenants, community leaders, and city government in Contra Costa County to share stories of housing injustices and triumphs. Government leaders present at this event were able to hear firsthand some of the cruelties perpetrated by landlords taking advantage of limited protections.

FAME members supported the advancement of good jobs, affordable housing, and healthy environments in major development deals in Oakland.

In February, FAME mobilized a multiracial, interfaith healing event in Oakland in response to recent violence against elders, women, people with disabilities, queer and trans folks, and more. Faith leaders came together to call for alternatives to policing.

EBASE’s faith-rooted organizing initiative convenes committees of faith leaders in support of economic, gender, and racial justice. FAME calls on people of all faiths to walk in solidarity with workers and tenants and to call decision-makers into moral action.
EBASE convenes Raise the Roof, Contra Costa's only housing justice coalition, to bring together community residents, labor, and faith leaders to build power and advocate for renter protections and services.

This year, we oversaw a strong win that was over 6 years in the making. Our Residential Tenant Anti-Harassment Ordinance, which will serve as a tool to better enforce tenant protections and prevent evictions, passed Concord City Council in June with powerful language. This win shows Concord residents and City Council that we have built a powerful coalition of tenants, faith leaders, families, and community leaders who will fight for justice.

EBASE and Raise the Roof launched a Court Watch program, observing 56 unlawful detainers in Contra Costa courthouses between May and October. We observed a dramatic disparity between resources available to tenants and landlords, demonstrating a great need for increased legal services for tenants.

EBASE organizes Concord's citywide tenants' union, Todos Santos Tenants' Union (TSTU). TSTU provides space for tenants to build power and create community amidst the highest eviction rates in the Bay Area. TSTU members organized their neighbors in support of the anti-harassment ordinance and, once it was passed, began to raise awareness and share educational resources. TSTU's tenant organizing among Latinx, women-headed households is key to both helping residents stay in their homes as well as building power to shift Contra Costa's political landscape.
EBASE is increasing the voice of low-wage workers on the job and at City Hall in Oakland. Through our campaigns for workers' rights and equitable development, we are building on our long history of raising the floor on low-wage jobs and opening the door to good jobs. Today, we are working in partnership with elected leaders, community, and labor partners to institutionalize workers' rights within the city of Oakland.

EBASE and allies have worked together for many years to champion the creation of a city department dedicated to upholding workers' rights. The Department of Workplace & Employment Standards (DWES) was created in the City of Oakland to implement and enforce labor standards and innovative workforce policies. This year, EBASE wielded influence in the hiring of the new Director, Emylene Aspilla, who will play a critical role in shaping this department and fulfilling the vision of close collaboration with community and labor groups.

EBASE’s Oakland United Coalition is leveraging public land for public good to win affordable housing, local hire, fair chance hire, and environmental protections for Oakland residents with the A's massive ballpark development project at Howard Terminal and the redevelopment of the A's former ballpark at the Coliseum.