

# Public Banking — Groups —



The **Public Banking Institute (PBI)** was founded by Ellen Brown in 2011 to promote public banking in the U.S. at all levels — local, regional, state, and national — as a sustainable alternative to the current high-risk centralized private banking system. PBI envisions banks functioning as public utilities, run transparently and democratically, and serving the public interest.

It is part of the New Economy movement.

Through its writing and website, national conference calls for public bank activists, webinars, blogs, public forum presentations, and consultations, PBI is an invaluable resource for the growing movement. Periodically, PBI hosts conferences such as the Funding the New Economy conference in San Rafael, California in June 2013, which attracted over 700 attendees, and featured presentations by Matt Taibbi, Gar Alperovitz, Birgitta Jónsdóttir, Michael Lerner, and other leading advocates of economic justice.

The list of public banking campaigns and contacts, which follow, are indicative of the amazing work PBI has done to inspire activists in just over two years. For more information about PBI, go to <http://publicbankinginstitute.org>

Inspired by the US Postal Service's recent proposal for postal banks, **BankACT** is a newly created non-profit, which complements the Public Banking Institute by focusing on the need for the working poor to have access to low-cost banking services. As a 501(c)(4) membership-based organization, BankAct will serve as a rallying point for organizations across America to demand that Congress and the USPS leadership establish postal banking. These include the National Association of Letter Carriers, the American Postal Workers Union, and organizations seeking economic justice for the working poor including, and especially, single working moms, immigrants, people of color and retirees.

**BANKACT** THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW.

In the span of a decade, postal banking could help low-income workers and families retain over \$1 trillion of their own hard-earned wages now taken by payday lenders and other financial predators. Thus postal banking would improve millions of lives and help many families rise out of poverty — at no cost to employers or taxpayers.

BankACT's campaign will unite rural and urban Americans demanding that the USPS offer postal banking at 30,000 post offices coast to coast. To learn more — or, better yet, leap into the fray! — visit [BankACT.org](http://BankACT.org) or e-mail Marc Armstrong at [marc@bankact.org](mailto:marc@bankact.org)

## Public Banking Campaigns Across the Country

**ARIZONA**  
Arizona Public Banking  
Coalition  
[www.arizonapublicbanking.org](http://www.arizonapublicbanking.org)  
Contact: James Hanley  
[jhannley2@msn.com](mailto:jhannley2@msn.com)

**BOSTON MA**  
Hub Public Banking  
[www.hubpublicbanking.org](http://www.hubpublicbanking.org)  
Contact: Stephen Snyder  
[asterix40@gmail.com](mailto:asterix40@gmail.com)

**CALIFORNIA**  
Contact: Susan Harmon  
[susanharman1@gmail.com](mailto:susanharman1@gmail.com)

**COLORADO**  
Colorado Public Banking  
Contact: Robert (Bob) Bows  
[robert.bows@gmail.com](mailto:robert.bows@gmail.com)

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
DC Public Banking Center  
[www.dcpublicbanking.org](http://www.dcpublicbanking.org)  
Contact: Ruth Caplan  
[rcaplan@igc.org](mailto:rcaplan@igc.org)

**LOS ANGELES CA**  
Contact: Lauren Steiner  
[laurensteiner57@gmail.com](mailto:laurensteiner57@gmail.com)

**MENDOCINO COUNTY CA**  
Mendocino Public Bank Coalition  
Contact: Mary Zellachild  
[maryzel@willitsonline.com](mailto:maryzel@willitsonline.com)

**MICHIGAN**  
Innovative Solutions for  
Prosperity  
Contact: Dan Osterman  
[drosterman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drosterman@sbcglobal.net)

**NEVADA COUNTY CA**  
Economic Liberty for Main Street  
[www.mainstreetforumnc.org/discussion-topics/publicbanks/](http://www.mainstreetforumnc.org/discussion-topics/publicbanks/)  
Contact: Rick Robins  
[rick.robins@mainstreetforumnc.org](mailto:rick.robins@mainstreetforumnc.org)

**NEW JERSEY**  
New Jersey Public Bank Campaign  
Contact: Joan Bartl  
[joanbartl@paymentmgmt.com](mailto:joanbartl@paymentmgmt.com)

**NEW MEXICO**  
WeArePeopleHere!  
—BankingOnNewMexico  
[www.WeArePeopleHere.org/actions](http://www.WeArePeopleHere.org/actions)  
Contact: Nichoe Lichen  
[BankingOnNewMexico@gmail.com](mailto:BankingOnNewMexico@gmail.com)

**NEW YORK**  
Contact: Scott Baker  
NYS Coordinator for PBI  
[ssbaker305@yahoo.com](mailto:ssbaker305@yahoo.com)

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Pennsylvania Project  
[www.publicbankingpa.org](http://www.publicbankingpa.org)  
Contact: Mike Krauss  
[mike@publicbankinginstitute.org](mailto:mike@publicbankinginstitute.org)

**SONOMA COUNTY, CA**  
Contact: Jack Wagner  
[jack@publicbankinginstitute.org](mailto:jack@publicbankinginstitute.org)

**VERMONT**  
Vermont Partnership Bank  
<http://vtpublicbank.com/>  
Contact: Gwen Hallsmith  
[gwenhs@gmail.com](mailto:gwenhs@gmail.com)

**VIRGINIA**  
Virginia Council  
[www.vacouncil.org](http://www.vacouncil.org)  
Contact: Marc Armstrong  
[marc@publicbankinginstitute.org](mailto:marc@publicbankinginstitute.org)

**WASHINGTON STATE**  
Washington Public Bank  
Coalition  
[www.washingtonpublicbankcoalition.org](http://www.washingtonpublicbankcoalition.org)  
Contact: Cindy Cole  
[cindy48@q.com](mailto:cindy48@q.com)