

Newsletter

September 2018

MICHIGAN
ROUNDTABLE
FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



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From the desk of the CEO Continuing The Journey



Since our last newsletter (May 2018) we have been busy standing against hate and marginalization experienced by our neighbors and coworkers because of their race, religion or other identities. One of the ways we accomplish this work is through leadership development of young people aged 16 to 19 who participate in our fourteen month Regional Youth Internship. In June we welcomed 17 new interns, who were led for six weeks this summer by our 12 senior youth interns who graduated in August. I hope you have an opportunity to meet these exceptional young people at a First Friday Forum or another Roundtable event.

September 7th we kicked off our 7th year of First Friday Forums which provide opportunities for community members to engage in deep discussions about the various dimensions of spatial racism. This year's theme is "Race, Class and Community Development". We are grateful to the Kellogg Foundation for their support of these important conversations and pleased to announce Bank of America is a partner in this year's series. I hope to see you at our October 5th forum at 6 p.m. at Jam Handy located at 2900 W. Grand Blvd. in Detroit.

We are looking forward to our 71st Annual Humanitarian Tribute luncheon which will be held on Wednesday, November 7th at the MGM Grand Detroit Hotel Ballroom at 12 p.m. This year we are honoring a Detroit neighborhood legend, Delores Bennett, who passed away last year after a life time of transformational service. Our second Humanitarian Award will go to the ten Michigan CEOs who took the CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion: Ally, APTIVE, Consumers Energy, DTE Energy, Dow, Flagstar, GM, Henry Ford Health System, Kellogg Cereal & MASCO. Their leadership has helped the companies they serve continue to honor their employees by advancing inclusion. This year's William H. Beckham Community Service Award will go to Martin Luther King, Jr. High School in Detroit, Michigan. Under the leadership of principal Dr. Deborah Jenkins, students have worked with the Roundtable staff and youth interns to utilize our exhibit on Housing Segregation to better understand the racialized history of our region as part of their path to becoming leaders in the work for racial justice. Finally, our Distinguished Past Board Member honor will go to David R. Nelson, president of Nelson Companies, Inc. David is an emeritus board member who continues to serve on several committees and actively supports the work of the Roundtable.

Thanks for your support which allows us to continue our efforts to help make the places we work and live become places where all people are welcome and treated fairly.

Steve Spreitzer
President & CEO

Welcoming Sam and leadership team and Thanking Karl

The Michigan Roundtable welcomes Sam Fogleman, a partner with KPMG as our new board chairman. Sam replaces Karl Bell, Managing Director of GAA New Ventures who has served as chair the past two-years. Sam will be joined on the leadership team by Vice Chair Cassandra Alston Childs, Chief Operating Officer of Bridgewater Interiors, Treasurer LaKeisha Florence, Audit Senior Manager of Deloitte and Kathy Hickey, Member of Bodman Law. We also thank Mike Juchno, Partner in Advisory Services with EY who served as our Vice Chair for the past two years and Sue Brueckman, Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Chief of Staff for Huntington Bank for having served as our Treasurer for the past four years.



Cassandra Alston-Childs

Board Chair Sam Fogleman offers the following remarks:

I would like to begin my chairmanship of the Roundtable with a "thank you". Thank you to Karl Bell for his dedicated service as our chairman for these last two years. His, indeed, will be big shoes to fill; and I will continue to look to him as a source of guidance and inspiration.



Sam Fogleman

As we enter our 77th year, the need for the Roundtable has not diminished, rather it is as apparent as ever. At this juncture in our nation's history we need to actively reach out to each other in our businesses, in our communities, and across the aisle to create an environment that will invoke "the better angels of our nature". We need organizations like the Roundtable to help us understand and ensure the promises made at our nation's declaration – that all are created equal.

I look forward to working with my amazing executive leadership team of Cassandra Alston-Childs, Kathy Hickey, and LaKeisha Florence, and my fellow board members, to solidify the funding for the Roundtable, and to expand our programming and their impact on our communities as we seek to further our vision of inclusion, equity, and opportunity for all.

www.miroundtable.org

Welcoming New Board Members



Brad Coulter
President and CEO
Matrix Human Services



Mary Mbiya
Vice President of Diversity
& Inclusion and Program
Manager for
Diversity and Inclusion
Flagstar



Paula Roman
Senior Vice President
Detroit Market Sales &
Client Experience Manager
PNC Bank



Erin Swartout
Director of Talent
and Organizational
Development
MASCO

Board Spotlight



Rasul M. Raheem
Senior Attorney



Earlier this summer board Member Rasul Raheem was selected as one of honorees for the 25th Annual D. Augustus Straker Bar Association's Trailblazers Award. A 20-year veteran of the banking industry, Raheem works in the firm's Bloomfield Hills office as senior attorney in the Banking, Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights Practice Group.

Congratulations

7th Annual Humanitarian Tribute

Celebrating Leaders in Diversity & Inclusion

Wednesday | November 7, 2018

12 O'clock Noon Luncheon

MGM Grand Detroit Hotel Ballroom

1777 3rd Ave. | Detroit, MI 48226

2018 Humanitarian Tribute Honorees



Jeffrey Brown



Kevin P. Clark



Patricia Poppe



Jim Fitterling



Gerry Anderson



Sandro DiNello



Mary Barra



Wright L. Lassiter II



Steve Cahillane



Keith J. Allman



Honoring the CEOs from the ten Michigan Companies who signed the CEO Action Pledge for Diversity and Inclusion.



2018 Humanitarian Tribute Honoree

Delores Bennett

Community Leader (Posthumously)



Distinguished Past Board Member

David R. Nelson

President, The Nelson Companies, Inc.



William H. Beckham Community Service Award

Martin Luther King, Jr. High School, Detroit
Deborah Jenkins, Principal



Emcee for the afternoon:

Murray Feldman, WWJ News Radio 950

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION

Special panel discussion with two signers of the CEO Action Pledge for Diversity and Inclusion: Patricia K. Poppe, CEO and President of Consumers Energy and Keith Allman, CEO and President of MASCO Corporation, along with additional local leaders. The panel will be moderated by Ray Telang, Market Managing Partner of PWC.

Seating is very limited. For more information contact Steve Spreitzer of the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion at (313)-870-1500 x102.

Regional Youth Intern Graduation and Summer Showcase



On August 8, 2018 the Michigan Roundtable celebrated the graduation of the 8th cohort of the Regional Youth Internship. Twelve young adults from Metro Detroit graduated from a program building their skills to be the leaders of today and tomorrow. They learned how to organize other youth to learn about social justice, how to facilitate multiracial dialogue, and how to advocate for youth voice in all aspects of social activism work. In the 14-month program this cohort created a process that hired the next cohort. During the summer, the graduating cohort trained the new cohort in topics relevant to youth such as gentrification, sexism, racism, LGBTQ issues, and more. They created workshops and simulations that

generated much dialogue with the issues that intersect the interns lives.

The Summer Showcase highlighted the work and new learnings of the new cohort. The Showcase included the parents, support allies and friends of the interns coming to see and learn the new issues they are exploring in the Regional Youth Internship. We were fortunate to have sponsorship from University of Michigan Detroit Center for hosting space for the Graduation and Showcase and from First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham for providing funds to support the summer program.



Graduates: Crystal Bernard, Fatima Bhatti, Ron Crawley, Shoumik Das, Jozlyn Lanzar, Alquien Owens III, Albi Taipi, Kennedy Taylor. Sitting: Ayisha Ashford, Maddi Carpenter-Crawford, Eboni Thomas
Not Pictured: Manpreet Kaur



Statewide Convening of the Racial Equity Coalition

On August 3-4 Hub attendees from Benton Harbor, Flint and Detroit came together in Detroit to begin shaping the Statewide Racial Equity Coalition. This work funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation involves working with grassroots leaders across Michigan to building a community of leaders rooted in working for racial equity in their communities. This work supports the already day to day work of these leaders and organizers in the local communities of Flint, Benton Harbor and Detroit.

At our two-day gathering we worked to explore who we are as individuals, as a hub and as a statewide coalition. We worked with the Kirwan Center of Ohio State to learn how to build a transformative evaluation process that reflects the values of those doing the work for racial equity and justice. On day two of the gathering we worked with Restoring the Neighbor Back to the 'Hood to bring an annual community festival and backpack event to a neighborhood in Detroit that is often left behind. This event showed the statewide leaders what is possible to build when we talk about building ground up equity work. It was truly an inspired gathering and was the beginning of taking us through to the next stage of this work: Building the Coalition and Building the Message.



First Friday Forums

September kicked off our 7th season of Race2Equity's First Friday Forums, an ongoing community conversation centered on the intersection of race. This season's them will be centered around Race, Class and Community Development, and started with a twist to a community tradition of "BYOD" (Bring Your Own Discussion Topic). Participants discussed a couple topics selected by 2 regional youth interns, the impact of disparities between schools and in the education system across the region and the impact of systems on community. The evening closed around a campfire with the sharing of critical thoughts related to the strengths that can come from the continued resistance of systemic oppression.

This season's First Friday Forums continue to be supported by the WK Kellogg Foundation and, new sponsor, the Detroit Area Bank of America.



Upcoming Events

“We Dont Want Them” Traveling Exhibit

Plymouth Library
223 S Main St, Plymouth, MI 48170
September 16 - October 3
Open to the public during library hours

First Friday Forum

October 5, 2018 | 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Jam Handy
2900 E Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202

71st Annual Humanitarian Tribute Luncheon

November 7, 2018
MGM Grand Detroit Hotel

www.miroundtable.org



Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion
525 New Center One
3031 West Grand Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48202-3025
PH: (313)870-1500 | FAX: (313)870-1501

*Background image Restoring The Neighbor
Back To The Hood Event 2018*

*Photo by Dammon Riddick
Fundamental Media*

Serving as a catalyst for change, we develop, organize, and empower individuals and communities to advance equity and opportunity for all.



525 New Center One
3031 W. Grand Blvd
Detroit, MI 48202

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