



IN THE LOOP

RACINE INTERFAITH COALITION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER SPECIAL



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Racine Interfaith Coalition is happy to continue our quarterly newsletter. Our goal is to expand our reach to current and new members by sharing the work our task force leaders and many other volunteers are doing with continued strength through faith and power through community.

Here, you can expect to receive important updates about our upcoming meetings and events, ongoing advocacy, and collaborative impact throughout southeastern Wisconsin and across the state.

For updates in between e-news, join us on social media and don't forget to check out our new website! Take a look at what's new at Racine Interfaith Coalition this quarter!

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS, LINDA BOYLE & TAMERIN HAYWARD

The Annual RIC Banquet on December 5th was smaller than usual due to Covid, but a delight to those of us who were able to attend. It felt so good to be together after so long, and we enjoyed a great meal along with a visual update on the year's work by some of our task force members. We are excited for our Annual Public Meeting which is January 13. All are welcome to attend that meeting. Check on our website for registration information. Our public meeting will present updates on our Immigrant Law Project and a presentation about WISDOM's Transformational Justice Initiative as it is being reset after a decade of work. RIC, too, is redeveloping our local Transformational Justice work in line with WISDOM and in support of helping local individuals.

We will begin a new Ad Book/Annual Report this month, so please be thinking of any business you interact with that might be interested in taking out an ad to support our work. Our most exciting news is about our newly hired organizer who is introduced later on in this newsletter. Welcome Angela!

We received good news from Pastor Prentiss who is now residing in Charlotte, North Carolina, for his health during our Wisconsin winter. He reported that he feels better in the warmer air and is able to get out more. We keep him in our prayers along with so many others affected by Covid-19. We hope to see you online at our Public Meeting and remember our Love and Justice Breakfast is coming up Saturday, February 12th! So mark your calendars and watch for more information soon.

Best, Linda Boyle & Tamerin Hayward

FROM OUR TASK FORCE

advocating and supporting the beloved community

EDUCATION



The Education Task Force has continued to work on its “Leadfree Racine” project to educate families, educators, healthcare workers and the community about the effects of lead poisoning on the mental and physical health and educational success of children. A flyer that will be distributed early in 2022 to local retail and community locations has been created in Spanish and English. Work has also begun on a website that will contain general information with links to other websites, including those of local agencies that provide funding for lead abatement. A general community presentation has also been developed and task

force members are in discussions with RUSD curriculum specialists about adding a lesson on lead in the early grades. Perhaps most exciting, RIC has applied for and been accepted as an affiliate of the Coalition on Lead Emergency, a Milwaukee-based group with extensive experience in this area. This will allow us to use their excellent resources and expertise. If you would like to become involved in this important project, email Education Task Force Chair Nikki Fisher at efisher@wi.rr.com.

EX-INCARCERATED PERSONS ORGANIZING (EXPO)

Through the Transformational Justice work, WISDOM is asking the community to contact their State Senator and State Representative. LRB 1886/I and 5532/I are being proposed by Rep. Stopwell and Sen. Stroebel to prevent formerly incarcerated persons from regaining the right to vote until they have fully paid any restitution that the court assigned to them at the time of sentencing. Call or email your State Representative and State Senator and ask them not to co-sponsor LRB 1886/I and 5532/I and to oppose their passage should they come to a vote.



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IMMIGRATION

Our Immigrant Law Project, which involves completing paperwork for immigrants, is still waiting to be accredited by the Department of Justice. After this happens, we will be able to begin our mini clinics at the RIC Office. Currently, RIC and CUSH (The WISDOM Affiliate in Kenosha) have combined their immigration task force meetings and are focusing on the resettlement of Afghan refugees in the community. The groups are focused on three priorities - housing,

collecting funds and co-sponsorship. With member congregations joining forces and volunteering, RIC has been able to successfully locate co-sponsors which will work alongside Lutheran Social Services (LSS). In addition, members of the task force have been able to find three houses for refugees which are ready for when they arrive in Racine. They have also created a Facebook Group, "Immigrant and Refugee Supporters" that posts frequent information about supporting immigrants and refugees in this area. If you would like to attend the immigration task force meetings or want to support in any way, please email Amanda Ali at aali@wisdomwisconsin.org.

RESTORING OUR COMMUNITIES (ROC)

Restoring Our Communities continues to work on practical solutions for disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline in Racine through one-to-one conversations with support from the education task force. ROC is currently undergoing a reset process through the statewide organization, WISDOM. Please stay connected with us to learn more about this process.



FROM OUR TASK FORCE

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BURLINGTON COALITION FOR DISMANTLING RACISM (BCDR)

The Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism (BCDR) brought back its successful Back to School initiative to donate boxes of Crayola’s “World of Colors” crayons as well as books featuring characters of color to Burlington schools. BCDR first started this effort

for the 2020-2021 school year and covered every primary and ELA classroom, grades 4K through 6th, within the Burlington Area School District (BASD). This year, BCDR expanded the program by nearly 40% - by including 7th and 8th grade classrooms as well as Burlington private schools - to have an even greater impact.

YOUTH

This past summer, RIC hosted a college readiness workshop series led by graduate student Lena Ali. She covered topics such as career assessments, college affordability, college planning and transition from high school to college. These sessions were offered virtually and some sessions aimed to include parent involvement and insight into the process as well to ensure youth are succeeding. We had about 8 students consistently participate and review the materials and take the quizzes. We hope to take on these sessions again in the future!



MEET OUR NEW ORGANIZER

Angela Haney



Racine Interfaith Coalition (RIC) is excited to announce the hiring of a new organizer, Angela Haney after their previous organizer, Pastor Prentiss Robbins resigned due to health complications from COVID-19. He sought out future endeavors that fit the best needs of him and his family and Racine Interfaith Coalition wishes him the best of luck.

Angela Haney is a woman who embodies resilience, hard work and dedication to the craft of empowering others. Angela is a first generation college graduate. She graduated with her Associate degree in Human Services and six corresponding certificates in 2020 from Gateway Technical College. She is currently a student at Alverno College in the Leadership Accelerate Program. Angela has served with Public Allies Wisconsin as an Ally and most recently a fellow.

"I'm excited to begin my journey at RIC as it provides me the opportunity to not only serve my community but marry together my faith and purpose" Angela says.

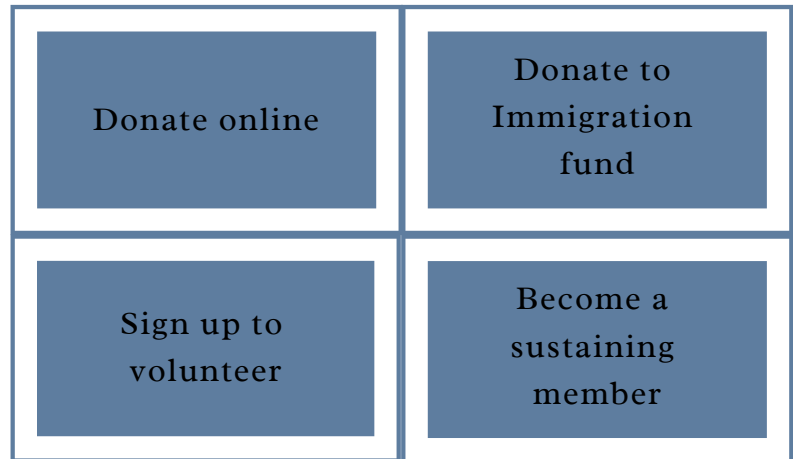
Support Us

Racine Interfaith Coalition is dedicated to promoting inclusion, racial, social and economic justice for all.

[click here >](#)

For mail donations you can send check to "Racine Interfaith Coalition" at 2302A Dekoven Ave.

For immigration fund donations please write "immigration" in notes



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Annual Public Meeting

- January 13 - 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Taking On Mass Incarceration in Wisconsin Training Series

- Every Thursday from Jan. 27- Feb. 24 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Register

wisdomwisconsin.org/events

Education Task Force

- Second Thursday of the month - 10:00 a.m.

Immigration Task Force

- Second Tuesday of the month - 6:00 p.m.

BCDR

- Every other Sunday - 6:00-8:00 p.m.

ROC/EXPO Task Force - varies

Youth Task Force - varies

Love & Justice Breakfast

- Saturday, February 12 - More information coming soon

For full calendar or details about events or registration information visit the RIC Website.



Get in Touch



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Check out our new website!
www.ricracine.org



[ricracine](https://www.facebook.com/ricracine)

Current Donor & Sustaining Member Highlights

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- Tom & Marcia Buhler
- Trevor Jung
- Quashana Foster
- Wally Herman
- Wayne Johnson & Marge Miller
- Wendy Wise
- William Garvey & Diane Lange
- Yeprem & Judy Kelegian

And thank you to the many supporters of our Racine Immigrant Support Initiative!

[Donate](#)



”

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.
From his book, *Strength to Love*, 1963

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