



REDRESS NC CIRCLING UP FOR JUSTICE

Restorative Justice Conference



Saturday, June 27, 2026



9:00 am – 2:00 pm



Myers Park Baptist Church
1900 Queens Rd, Charlotte, NC 28207



Welcome to

CIRCLING UP FOR JUSTICE

Prioritizing Public Safety,
Accountability, and the
Trauma of Survivors –
Community-led solutions
beyond retribution and fear

REDRESSNC

REDRESSNC is a volunteer led non-profit, founded by Henderson Hill and Cindy Adcock. Our mission is to reflect a community-wide determination to unwind decades of retributive policies and to refocus criminal justice administration to prioritize public safety, accountability, racial equity, and restoration of community.

CHARLOTTE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The Charlotte Restorative Justice Initiative's mission is to transform local practices that result in the mass incarceration of people of color by creating alternatives to arrest and incarceration that promote healing and non-punitive responses to harm at the personal, neighborhood and systemic levels. Located within REDRESSNC, the CRJI was developed through a discernment process by staff and members of the following partners.

PARTNERS



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

A faith community on a journey seeking
a welcoming, loving, and just world.



csjr

Center for Social Justice
and Reconciliation



REIMAGINING AMERICA PROJECT



AGENDA

SATURDAY
JUNE 27, 2026
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

9:00 am

COFFEE

Enjoy social time with leaders and other participants.

9:15 am

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

WHY CIRCLING UP

9:45 am

KEYNOTE

The Honorable Justice Anita Earls, North Carolina Supreme Court

10:15 am

MORNING PANEL DISCUSSION

How overreliance on prisons fails to meet the needs of survivors of community violence and undermines public safety.

- Lisa Crawford, MOM-O
 - Nichel Dunlap, Former County Commissioner Candidate
 - Impacted Community Members
 - Garry McFadden, Mecklenburg County Sheriff
 - Henderson Hill, REDRESSNC
-

12:00 pm

LUNCH

12:30 pm

AFTERNOON PANEL DISCUSSION

How a restorative justice option in cases of violence can make a difference in our community.

- Ben Finholt, Director, Second Chances and Legal Advocacy, Wilson Center for Science and Justice at Duke Law
 - Travis Claybrooks, Founder/CEO, RAPHAH Institute, Nashville, TN
 - Cindy Adcock, REDRESSNC
-

1:45 pm

CLOSING COMMUNITY CIRCLE



SPEAKERS

Justice Anita Earls Keynote

Justice Anita Earls is the Senior Associate Justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court. As the daughter of a mixed-race couple, Justice Earls saw firsthand how the law shaped her family's life. Her parents met in Missouri in the 1950s, a decade in which interracial marriage was illegal in the state and most of the country. Those unjust laws forced her parents to move to Seattle, Washington, where they could legally marry and start a family. After graduating from Yale Law School, Justice Earls began a 30-year career as a civil rights attorney guided by a strong pursuit of equal justice under the law for all. Justice Earls joined the North Carolina Supreme Court in 2018 and continues that work, fighting every day for the rights and freedoms of all North Carolinians.



MORNING PANEL



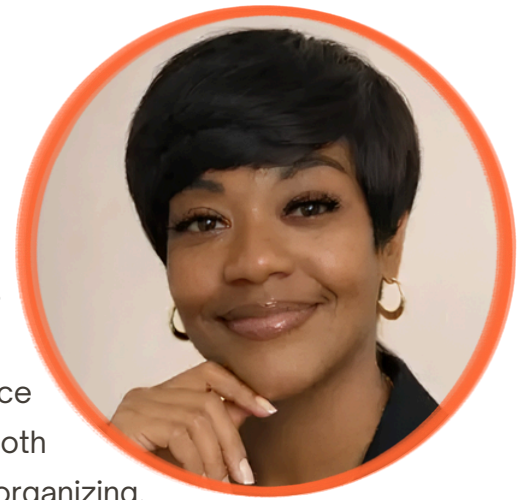
Lisa Crawford Mothers of Murdered Offspring (MOM-O)

Lisa Crawford is the Executive Director of Mothers of Murdered Offspring a 33-year-old Charlotte-based nonprofit dedicated to supporting families devastated by murder and helping prevent violence in the community. She has expanded MOM-O's services through programs such as MOM-O Men, MOM-O Kids, and MOM-O Meet-Ups, creating opportunities for healing, connection, support, and empowerment. Lisa is known for her survivor-centered approach and her

commitment to ensuring that families impacted by violence have access to the resources, advocacy, and community they need to heal, move forward, and thrive. In addition to her work with MOM-O, Lisa has spent more than 20 years as a men's relationship and conflict resolution coach, helping individuals strengthen communication, navigate challenges, and build healthier relationships. Her career has also included community organizing and statewide outreach efforts focused on education, advocacy, and community engagement.

Nichel Dunlap-Thompson

Circling Up Conference Program Manager



Nichel Dunlap-Thompson is a native Charlottean, raised on the West Side and a graduate of Myers Park High School. Her humble beginnings instilled in her a profound sense of purpose. Nichel earned a BA in Communications from Queen's University and recognizes the significance of ensuring that the voice of every resident of Mecklenburg County is both heard and duly valued. She has dedicated over 15 years to community organizing, notably spearheading the Cherry Community Connection Cookout for three consecutive years, in addition to leading efforts for enhanced safety implementations within the public transit system. As a former CATS operator, the tragic loss of Ethan Rivera to on-the-job violence was a pivotal moment that galvanized her campaign for safety. These efforts are continuous, and Ms. Dunlap-Thompson is committed to identifying sustainable solutions for individuals who rely on public transportation. Nichel was ordained into the ministry May 20, 2023, under Bishop Tyrone D. Brown, III of Restoration Ministries Worldwide of York, SC. Since answering the call, Nichel is dedicated to spreading the Gospel of Jesus and Justice, fighting for equitable rights and a just system that represents all those who enter in. She was a candidate for Mecklenburg County Commission At-Large 2026 and is currently the Program Manager for REDRESSNC's Circling Up Conference 2026.



Garry L. McFadden

Mecklenburg County Sheriff

Sheriff Garry L. McFadden is originally from Sumter, South Carolina but affectionally calls Elliott, SC home. He came to Charlotte in 1977 to attend Johnson C. Smith University of which he is a proud alumnus. Prior to being elected as Sheriff of Mecklenburg County in 2018, Garry had a distinguished 36-year law enforcement career with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department where he served for over 20 years as a legendary homicide detective. As a detective, Garry had one of the highest solve rates in police department history which led to him starring in his own television series, "I Am Homicide." The series highlights some of Garry's biggest cases and how the perpetrators were caught and can still be seen in the series "Homicide City" on the Investigation Discovery (ID) network. Garry has received numerous awards for his long standing and continuous work in Mecklenburg County communities with various organizations such as, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, NAACP, NBA Legends, Mother of Murdered Offspring, Cops & Barbers, Beauty After The Bars, Charlotte Black Mental Health, The Sons of The American Revolution; along being honored as Charlotte's Citizen of The Year 2015. In 2015, Garry was recognized by President Barack Obama for his work on the 21st Century Policing Initiative and his involvement in the development of an outstanding community program titled "Cops and Barbers."

Henderson Hill

Co-Founder & Co-Director of REDRESSNC

Henderson Hill received his B.A. degree from Lehman College at the City University of New York and his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School. He then began a 40-year career in indigent criminal defense, death penalty defense in the South, civil rights litigation and criminal sentencing policy advocacy. In NC, he has headed organizations that include the NC [Death Penalty] Resource Center, the Center for Death Penalty Litigation, the Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina, and the 8th Amendment Project (the national campaign to abolish the death penalty). Henderson was also a partner with the nationally renowned civil rights law firm Ferguson, Stein, Chambers, Gresham & Sumter, P.A. During the last twenty years, Henderson has had substantial political and community involvement in advocating for transformative responses -- most notably trauma-informed responses-- to violence prevention. He has served as a member of the North Carolina Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice (2020-2024) and at the local level, community organizing in support of the NC Racial Justice Act investigation and litigation in Johnston County. Henderson co-founded The Charlotte Coalition for Moratorium Now, a grass roots organization that led the successful drive for a resolution supporting a Moratorium on executions by the Charlotte City Council. Currently, he is Co-Founder and Co-Director of REDRESSNC. Most recently, Henderson was part of a select group of community leaders to participate in a 10-month Practitioners Lab with Common Justice whose mission is to advance solutions to violence that transform the lives of those harmed and foster racial equity without relying on incarceration.



AFTERNOON PANEL



Travis Claybrooks

Founder & CEO of Raphah Institute

Travis Claybrooks is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Raphah Institute, a nonprofit organization advancing community safety by restoring access to housing, healthcare, education, economic opportunity, and social connection. A former police officer and United States Army veteran, Travis brings a rare combination of lived experience, spiritual grounding, and systems leadership to his work. He earned a Master of Divinity from Liberty University and is currently completing a Doctorate in

Strategic Leadership. Today, he leads one of the growing number of restorative justice initiatives in the country that partners directly with district attorneys to divert felony cases involving serious personal violence. He is also an associate minister at Jefferson Street Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville, where his faith continues to shape his vision for justice that restores and heals. A native of North Nashville, Travis lives in White House, Tennessee with his wife and children. He serves on multiple advisory boards and coalitions, including the Nashville Health Equity Coalition and the Nashville Early Education Collaborative.

Ben Finholt

Wilson Center Director of Second Chances & Legal Advocacy

Ben Finholt is the Director of the Second Chances and Legal Advocacy team at the Wilson Center, Duke Law School. Ben began his second chances work as a staff attorney at North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services, where he spent nine years litigating civil conditions of confinement and criminal post-conviction cases. The Second Chances team seeks to increase awareness of extreme sentencing, reduce long-term incarceration, and promote fair outcomes through data analysis, collaboration with stakeholders, and strategic litigation. Ben is one of two faculty supervisors for the Duke Decarceration Project (DDP), a law-student led initiative that works to reduce the number of North Carolinians in prisons and jails through advocacy and education. With both groups, Ben provides legal services to people who would otherwise not be entitled to them. Ben received his B.A. from Williams College and his J.D. from the University of Iowa. In a prior life, he was a high school math teacher.



Cindy Adcock

Co-Founder REDRESSNC

Cindy Adcock is a first-generation college graduate from Rome, Georgia. She earned her BA from Carson Newman College in East Tennessee, her MDiv from Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and her JD and MPP from Duke University. Cindy worked as a capital post-conviction attorney in North Carolina from 1993-2006. During this time, she witnessed the execution of four of five clients executed. With

the family of the fifth client, she created the Capital Restorative Justice Project in 2003. Cindy has one remaining client on death row and occasionally consults on other cases. In 1995, Cindy began teaching at Duke Law School. Legal education became her primary work in 1999, with a focus on teaching students the importance of pro bono and public interest work. Cindy moved to Charlotte in 2007 to join the inaugural faculty of the Charlotte School of Law as its Director of Experiential Education. In 2016, she became the Director of Residencies at Elon University School of Law, Greensboro. Cindy left legal education in 2019 to focus on family and community. She co-founded REDRESSNC and most recently was part of a select group of community leaders to participate in a 10-month Practitioners Lab with Common Justice whose mission is to advance solutions to violence that transform the lives of those harmed and foster racial equity without relying on incarceration. Cindy is an active member of Myers Park Baptist Church, the Reimagining America Project, and Mecklenburg County's Criminal Justice Advisory Group.

