“Lighting the Path for the Road to Restoration.”
Hello!

A Brief Overview.

Founder
Robbie Atkinson

501(c)4:
FIER is an Atlanta-based organization dedicated to and operated as a nonprofit that promotes social welfare.

*Please consider this a digital introduction and overview of our organization.*

*Enjoy!*
• FIER is the acronym for the full name of our organization—Foundation for Inter-Ethnic Restoration.
• Organization Slogan: “Lighting the path for the road to restoration.”
• The emblem of our logo, commonly seen on our legal documents, SNS accounts and elsewhere is an abstraction of a blue candle and orange flame—intended as a play on words for the acronym and slogan.
• Blue candles are said to represent healing, clarity and calm communication.
• The fire represents our role as an organization, shedding light on areas of pain that require attention and constructive conversation.
Origins
The Catalyst.

• The Foundation for Inter-Ethnic Restoration (FIER) was founded amidst the uproar stemming from COVID-19 xenophobia and the demise of George Floyd in the USA.

• From that event, we recognized the power of communities coming forward, sharing their experiences and discussing how their awareness of racially-motivated encounters impacted them emotionally, and mentally.
Toppling The Stigma.

Why Talk about Race?

According to Dr. Monnica T. Williams’ research, there is a negative perception associated with discussing racial issues within America. She states,

“There are social costs...which include being perceived as less likeable, viewed as a complainer, and accused of attempting to avoid personal responsibility.” (Garcia, Reser, Amo, Redersdorff, & Branscombe, 2005; Stangor, Swim, Van Allen & Sechrist, 2002).

Robin DiAngelo also notes the same “social cost” that is often regarded as “so high that...people don’t risk pointing out discrimination.” (White Fragility 2018)
Racial Trauma
Explained.

“Racial Trauma” is a phrase coined by Dr. Williams.

“Assessing Racial Trauma Within a DSM–5 Framework: The UConn Racial/Ethnic Stress & Trauma Survey.”

It is postulated that prolonged encounters with racism can trigger higher rates of PTSD or “racial trauma” within communities of color (Butts, 2002; Comas-Díaz, 2016)

Includes cultural, cumulative, and inter-generational trauma. (Helms, Nicholas, & Green, 2012; SAMHSA, 2014), (Scott & Stradling, 1994)
Bridging The Gap.

Our Vision: Bringing communities together to foster difficult conversations regarding long-standing racial tension and racial trauma.

Our Objective: Invite people to an environment where they can share their experiences—allowing them to express their emotions in a cathartic way.

• Discuss possible ways to identify racial trauma and move past it with one of our experienced volunteer counselors in a one-on-one or group environment.
Our team is broken down to three tiers:

• **Tier One**: Professionals with extensive experience in the field of psychology, counselling and sociology.

• **Tier Two**: Volunteers with experience in event coordination, hosting and organization.

• **Tier Three**: Collaborators leading marketing and fundraising.

FIER does not provide therapists—rather, we facilitate conversations in a judgement-free environment for all communities.
Goals

Our Approach.

Objective #1
Facilitate dialogue around personal experiences and biases regarding race.

Objective #2
Create individual awareness designed to deconstruct trauma and/or prejudice.

Objective #3
Discuss personal accountability and action.
The Bigger Picture.

A
Cathartic Discussions

B
Individual/Community Awareness

C
Marketing/Outreach - part of the “accountability and action.”
Plans for Funding.

Fundraising Endeavors:

• GoFundMe Initiatives
• Online Marketing: Promotional Google, Facebook & Instagram ads
• SNS engagement: Donate Button campaigns & hashtag challenges
• [#fieratl, #racialtrauma, #lightingthepath]
Our Board of Directors.

President
Robbie J. Atkinson

Vice President
Robin Atkinson

Secretary
Christina Somphone

Treasurer
Louis Monbourne

*Board of Directors will vary based on the diverse experts that will serve as FIER grows - possibly counselors, psychologists, medical doctors, lawyers, accountants, etc.*
Find us online
Like, share, follow.
Our organization is easy to find and connect with via SNS platforms.

Facebook:
Fier-Atlanta

Twitter: @fier_atl

Instagram: @fier_atl
Thanks
For Your Time!

Together, let’s light the path of the road to restoration!
Please reach out to admin@fieratlanta.org for more information.