



“Economic Policies Impact on Communities of Color”

Virtual Conference
July 20th and August XX, 2020

1st Virtual Session

One of the six major NAACP Game Changers is economic inequality and stability facing African Americans and is a major focus of the NAACP's work. NAACP's dream for every person is to have equal opportunity to achieve economic success, sustainability, and financial security.

Our lives are constantly being influenced by economic policy. Panelists will acquaint you with multiple perspectives on economic policies that influence our everyday undertakings and social vitality, health, and longevity of economically disadvantage communities of color. A subsequent panel will suggest actionable economic development actions to improve social, economic, physical, and environmental well-being concepts for meaningful change while preserving valuable aspects of the culture in these communities of color.

Agenda (35 minutes overall 45 minutes with questions)

- I. Moderators (6:45 to 6:52 PM)**
 - A. Overview of Topic (6:45)**
 - B. Purpose**
 - C. Goals**
 - D. Introduction of President Dayton Unit NAACP**
- II. Panelists Discussion (6:53 to 7:35)**
 - A. Introduction of Panelists (3 to 7 minutes per panelist)**
 - B. Organization Overview of Panelist**
 - C. Views of Panelist (6:53 to 7:35)**
 - D. Policies of importance primer for what's to be discussed in subsequent session**
- III. Questions (7:35 to 7:45) from Chat Box**



National Office of the NAACP: The ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

The [NAACP Economic Department](#) recognizes the importance of the economy and economic issues in advancing an equal opportunity society and aims to address the challenging economic realities facing our country including poverty, lack of jobs and disproportionate high unemployment, lack of affordable housing, foreclosures, etc. The NAACP Economic Department's work enhances the capacity of African Americans and other underserved groups through financial economic education; individual and community asset building initiatives; diversity and inclusion in business hiring, career advancement and procurement; and monitoring financial banking practices.

Economic Department Goals

1. **Empower** local communities with the necessary education, resources, and partnerships to develop sustainable economic models that advance diversity and equity.
2. **Ensure** that government and industry are knowledgeable, and committed to bridging racial inequality particularly as it relates to employment, wealth, lending and business ownership.
3. **Grow** a movement of concerned citizens and organization who work together to produce an inclusive and strong middle-class economy for the 21st century.

Economic Opportunity Game Changer

A chance to live the American Dream for all. Every person will have an equal opportunity to achieve economic success, sustainability, and security.

The six **NAACP Game Changers** address the major areas of inequality facing African Americans

1. Economic Sustainability: A chance to live the American Dream for all
2. Education: A free, high-quality, public education for all
3. Health: Health equality for all Americans including a healthy life and high-quality health care.
4. Public Safety and Criminal Justice: Equitable dispensation of justice for all.
5. Voting Rights and Political Representation: Protect and enhance voting rights and fair representation
6. Expanding Youth and Young Adult Engagement





6:53

Sen. Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senate



6:58

Rep. Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House of Representatives
Minority Leader



7:05

Dr. Menna Demessie, CBCF, Inc.
Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research



7:12

Wendy Patton, Policy Matters
Senior Project Dr., St. Fiscal Project



7:19

Gregory L. Brown, Exec. Dir.
Policy Bridge



7:26

Rep. Fred Strahorn
Ohio House of Representatives



End of Presentation

Chat Questions

7:35 to 7:45 PM





**Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President
Dayton Unit NAACP**

Dr. Derrick Lee Foward, a native of Dayton, Ohio, has been a successful businessman in the community for more than 30 years. He is currently employed by Speedway LLC with more than 27 years of service.

Dr. Foward has also been a strong advocate for Civil and Human Rights for more than 17 years locally, statewide and nationally with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Under his leadership as President of the Dayton Unit NAACP, the organization adopted the vision to ***“Fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*** by capitalizing on the ***2nd “A”*** of the NAACP, which stands for ***Advancement***.

Dr. Foward provided the Dayton Unit NAACP with 3 strategic goals which are to better ***Inform*** the community on what the NAACP is doing. To proactively ***Educate*** the community on issues that affects all Americans. Once you have informed and educated the community on issues that affect all Americans, this will ultimately ***Empower*** more of us to become Entrepreneurs; Educators; Community Leaders; and Corporate Leaders and it will also empower us to make better well-informed decisions on the daily journey that we call life. The Dayton Unit NAACP adopted these 3 strategic goals to lead us into the 21st Century which will ultimately lead to ***Advancement***. As a result, the organization has over 5,540 online activists following their work. Dr. Foward implemented a ***Proactive Civil Rights Agenda*** through monthly Educational Community-Based Workshops and Seminars to educate Citizens on the front-end of Civil Rights Issues.

Dr. Foward received a Bachelor of Science Degree with a dual major in Management and Marketing on June 17, 1990 from Central State University. He is a ***Life Member of the CSU GAA*** and a ***Member of the CSU Dayton Alumni Chapter***. He was inducted into the ***Central State University Alumni Achievement Hall of Fame*** on March 1, 2016. He received his Master Degree in Administration and Organization from International Apostolic University of Grace and Truth on July 13, 2002. He received a ***Doctorate of Humane Letters from International Apostolic University of Grace and Truth*** on September 30, 2018.

His personal motto: ***If I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with word or song, if I can show somebody he's traveling wrong, then my living will not be in vain.***



**Roland Winburn, Moderator
Chair Economic Development Comm.**

Roland Winburn is the Economic and Development Chair for the Dayton Unit of the NAACP.

Mr. Winburn began his life in public service at Montgomery County before becoming an elected official as Harrison Township Trustee. He served two full four-year terms before his election to become a member of the Ohio House of Representatives serving Ohio's 40th and the 43rd House District. He is a graduate of the Ohio Township Leadership Academy and the Midwest Council of State Governments prestigious Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development as a BILLD Fellow.

During his three terms as State Representative, Winburn served on the Manufacturing and Workforce Development and the Criminal Justice Committees, as Ranking Member; and, the Ways and Means, Judiciary, Insurance, Health, Brown and Green Field, and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committees. Winburn served on the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission, and the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood; the Ohio Sickle Cell Advisory Board, CSU Speed to Scale Advisory Board, and the WSU School of Professional Advisory Board. Winburn was also a member of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC) serving as their Second Vice President, Treasurer and Parliamentarian

Mr. Winburn was appointed as Trustee in 2017 and in the same year was elected to a four year term. Trustee Winburn is a member of the First Suburbs Consortium of Dayton, the Montgomery County Township Association (MCTA), and the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT). Winburn is currently a board member of the Area Agency on Aging, Ohio Public Works District Four Integrating Committee, and Miami Valley Disaster Recovery Leadership Board.

He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Central State University, and received certification in Mediation and Dispute Resolution from the Capital University Law School. He shouldered careers in mental health as a psychotherapist and as a fund development director. He joined the private practice of Mahajan and Associates and has successfully founded and owned a luxury ground transportation business for twenty years.

Winburn is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Knights of Saint Peter Claver. He was honored in 2018 as a Parity Inc. Top Ten African-American Male.



Brian O. Martin, Moderator
Executive Dir. MVRPC

Brian O. Martin, AICP, serves as MVRPC's Executive Director.

Martin oversees regional planning on air and water quality, transportation, land use and more. MVRPC is responsible for transportation planning in Greene, Miami and Montgomery Counties and parts of northern Warren County and has an operating budget of about \$4.6 million.

MVRPC advances the Region's economic vitality, enhanced quality of life, strong sense of place, and expanded opportunities that attract and retain talented individuals and organizations to the Miami Valley Region.

Martin brings a wealth of knowledge to the agency, especially in the field of transportation. His previous work has included economic and environmental planning, and public involvement. He has completed 20 plans over his career for large regions, cities, and villages. His ability to work with numerous communities prepared him for his position with MVRPC.

A Kentucky native, Brian is a graduate of Western Kentucky University with both a B.S. degree in Production/Operations Management (1987) and a M.S. degree in City and Regional Planning (1989). Martin's consulting/project management experience, in both the public and private sector, serves him well as he leads MVRPC into the future.



Sen. Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senate

A lifelong Ohioan, Senator Sherrod Brown has spent his career fighting for the Dignity of Work – the idea that hard work should pay off for everyone, no matter who you are, where you live, or what kind of work you do. He a champion of middle-class families in the Senate and he believes the best ideas don't come out of Washington – they come from conversations with Ohioans across our state.

Senator Brown has been a champion of middle-class families in the Senate. He serves on the following committees:

- Agriculture,
- Nutrition & Forestry Committee
- Banking,
- Housing & Urban Affairs Committee
- Finance Committee, and
- Veterans' Affairs Committee

Sherrod serves as the Ranking Member on the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committees.

Senator Brown created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and has established new consumer protections. He continues to fight for Ohio jobs and Ohio companies, he's fought against trade and tax policies that sell out workers, and he has taken on Wall Street greed.

He's fighting to end the corporate business model that puts short-term profits ahead of long-term investment in workers and communities, and to make it easier for everyone to find and afford a home. He also believes we need to broaden our definition of work – caring for children or an aging parent is work, and so is getting an education

Sherrod is committed to social and economic justice. Sherrod is fighting back against politicians and judges who erect more and more barriers to voting.



Rep. Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House of Representatives
Minority Leader

House Democratic Leader Emilia Strong Sykes, serves Ohio's 34th House of Representatives District. With a strong sense of responsibility for the well-being of those that she serves has tackled the challenges of her district with unmatched passion and dedication.

As a representative, Leader Sykes has pushed an aggressive job creation plan, fighting to keep local jobs for local workers and expand opportunities for middle and working class families in Akron. Leader Sykes understands the importance of a quality education and job training for people to get ahead. She has supported young leadership and mentorship programs to inspire young people to reach their goals.

Rep. Sykes has also worked with healthcare professionals and colleagues to improve public health, increase access to care, and combat Ohio's high infant mortality rate. Her passion for social justice extends to issues such as voter rights, criminal justice reform, a more efficient social safety net for struggling Ohioans, and an end to domestic violence. Sykes' work on domestic violence issues has earned bipartisan praise and resulted in her legislation to protect people in dating relationships, House Bill 1, becoming law.

Sykes previously served as Administrative Staff Advisor at the Summit County Fiscal Office, offered legal services at Community Legal Services in Akron, and served as Law Clerk to the Chief Judge of U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Northern District of Georgia.

Sykes attended Kent State University, graduating magna cum laude with a B.A. in Psychology. She later attended the University of Florida, where she earned a Juris Doctor with a Certificate in Family Law from the Levin College of Law and a Masters of Public Health from the College of Public Health and Health Professions.

Leader Sykes continues to place issues affecting girls and woman at the forefront of her policy agenda as she strives to improve the lives of Ohio's children, families, and workers by putting people first.



Dr. Menna Demessie, CBCF, Inc.
Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research

Dr. Menna Demessie is the Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. She leads the foundation's research and policy initiatives that affect African Americans and the global black community in areas including education, criminal justice, economic opportunity, voting and environmental sustainability, among many others. In her capacity, Dr. Demessie has spearheaded several partnerships with the White House, Congress, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and other nonprofit stakeholders to advance strategic efforts to influence and inform public policy. Prior to joining the CBCF, Dr. Demessie received the prestigious American Political Science Congressional Fellowship. Worked with Congresswoman Barbara Lee's team to work on federal unemployment legislation, antipoverty initiatives, and foreign affairs in the 112th Congress.

She is the founder and co-managing editor of the CBCF's *Journal of the Center for Policy Analysis and Research*, a journal on public policy issues related to black politics in the United States and abroad. Dr. Demessie is the founder of the CBCF's first editorial board, she has also worked on democratic governance and gender equality, published on the critical importance of mobilization and representation of African Americans, black immigrants, and the need for the U.S. government to recognize the value of working in partnership with diaspora communities in addressing domestic and international policy.

She received her joint Ph.D. in political science and public policy from the University of Michigan. She earned a Master of Arts in political science, and a certificate in African American, African, and Black Transnational Studies from the University of Michigan. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Law and Society with honors from Oberlin College.

Dr. Demessie is an adjunct professor for the University of Michigan and the University of California Washington Center. Currently serving her second elected term on the Alumni Board for the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, Dr. Demessie, **a proud Ohio native**, also serves on the Board of Visitors for her alma mater at Western Reserve Academy and on the Congressional Fellowship Program Advisory Committee for the American Political Science Association.



Wendy Patton, Policy Matters
Senior Project Dr., St. Fiscal Project

Wendy Patton is the team leader for the fiscal project of the State Priorities Partnership, which is affiliated with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Prior to joining Policy Matters Ohio in 2009, Wendy served as an executive assistant for economic development for Governor Ted Strickland, as a deputy director of business development for the Ohio Department of Development, as a vice president for the Columbus Urban Growth Corporation and as a program coordinator for the Ohio Employee Ownership Center. She worked with AFSCME international as an economic policy analyst, serving 13 states in tax and budget policy and forecasting revenues for collective bargaining. She has written*about public finance, regional development, workforce training, steel and automobile supply chain configuration. Wendy has a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of California at Berkeley and a bachelor's degree from Kent State University.

Policy Matters a non-profit policy research institute. We create a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy. **We create an economy that works...for everyone.**

Policy Matters Ohio is focused on a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio. Our work falls into four major and related buckets:

- **A fair economy:** good jobs, worker rights, smart training, and opportunity for all.
- **A quality Ohio:** adequate and fair taxes to support the schools, neighborhoods and infrastructure we all need.
- **Sustainable communities:** investments in transit, renewable energy, conservation and other smart solutions that create jobs and support communities.
- **Pathways out of poverty:** reasonable regulations to help families earn and save, build assets, avoid unfair loans, and build a better future for themselves and their children.

Wendy believes “... local governments are responsible for keeping our family, friends and neighbors safe. Teachers in our public schools, people who make sure our water is clean to drink, and the people who respond to calls for emergency assistance all work for public institutions or local governments. We all pay taxes. We also have a responsibility and an opportunity to shape the future priorities of our city and all the institutions funded by our tax dollars and serving us and our community. “

Note: <https://www.policymattersohio.org/research-policy/browse/author/wendy-patton>



Gregory L. Brown, Exec. Dir.
Policy Bridge

PolicyBridge is a 501c (3) non-partisan public policy think tank based in Northeast Ohio with a legislative office in Washington DC. Our key objective is to monitor urban policy issues and inform regional public policy debates by framing issues of relevance to the minority community.

Policy Bridge's key objective is to monitor urban policy issues and inform regional public policy debates by framing issues of relevance to the minority community. Prior to November 2009, Mr. Brown was president of Brown & Associates Consulting Services which provided consulting services to philanthropic, public and nonprofit organizations in the areas of strategic planning, community building, youth development, organizational development, education policy, public policy, and program and project development.

Mr. Brown was executive director and president of The Center for Community Solutions. Under Mr. Brown's leadership, Community Solutions strategically sparked and promoted an understanding of the critical link between human services and economic development. Today, human capital development is on the lips of government officials, community leaders, funders and service providers around the state.

Mr. Brown served as associate director of the Cleveland Community-Building Initiative where he was responsible for operational and program-related activities in four Cleveland neighborhoods. Mr. Brown has also served as executive director of a non-profit neighborhood revitalization organization focusing on new home construction, home repair, commercial and economic development, and land usage. Mr. Brown was a member of the team that developed the City of Cleveland's federal Empowerment Zone proposal which successfully resulted in more than \$190 million being awarded to the City of Cleveland to revitalize existing housing and initiate new housing construction and economic development. he was employed as housing management director for the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. In his role as housing management director, Mr. Brown was responsible for the ongoing operation and day-to-day management of more than 20,000 public housing units throughout Cuyahoga County.

Mr. Brown has held numerous board positions for health and social service organizations. He currently serves on the Board of Directors Beech Brook, El Barrio, Global Cleveland Initiative, and the Center for Families and Children. Mr. Brown is a graduate of the 2006 class of Leadership Cleveland and the 2008 recipient of the Cleveland State University Levin College of Urban Affairs Distinguished Alumni Award. Mr. Brown is an adjunct professor at the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University and is an instructor for the Ohio Certified Public Management Program, the Cuyahoga County Career Executive Program, and the City of Cleveland's Cleveland Management Academy. Mr. Brown holds Master of Science in Urban Studies and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science degrees from Cleveland State University.



Rep. Fred Strahorn
Ohio House of Representatives

State Rep. Fred Strahorn returned to the Ohio House in 2013, after serving as State Senator for the 5th district from 2009 to 2011 and Senior Political Advisor to the Ohio Democratic party from 2011 to 2013.

He previously served the Ohio House as minority leader and the citizens of the greater Dayton area as state representative from 2001 to 2008, including two years as House Minority Whip, before term limits prevented him from seeking reelection.

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He previously served the Ohio House as minority leader and the citizens of the greater Dayton area as state representative from 2001 to 2008, including two years as House Minority Whip, before term limits prevented him from seeking reelection. Strahorn has served as vice president of government affairs for the Ohio United Way, in addition to managing residential properties and selling real estate.

His civic experiences have included serving on boards of Wright State University, Wesley Community Center, Mary Scott Nursing Home, Childcare Works, Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation, and he is a former member of the Southwest Dayton Business Association and the Dayton Area Board of Realtors.

Strahorn graduated from The Ohio State University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Aviation Management. He is a member of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church and his greatest joy in life is his daughter Morgan Allison Strahorn.

Representative Strahorn Serves In the Following Committees :

- Federalism
- Primary and Secondary Education
- State and Local Government