



***ALLIANCE FOR INTERRACIAL
DIGNITY UPDATE***

1

October 2016

MISSION

We, The Alliance, are bringing the community together by learning from our collective past, challenging the racial status quo, and building a stronger community.



VISION

The Alliance for Interracial Dignity is committed to building a socially just community.

The Alliance will initially address issues of racial equity with the belief that making progress in this critical area will open the door to addressing other forms of oppression.

CORE BELIEF

Equity requires that everyone has a voice and that diverse voices inform what our community looks and feels like across all aspects of life. This is particularly true of opportunities for employment, education, housing, entertainment and recreation, etc.

THE WHY OF THE ALLIANCE FOR INTERRACIAL DIGNITY

Overarching Goals:

- Coming Together as a Community and Growing Together as a Community
- Building community alliances with government, cultural/racial, and faith-based groups to create a sustained social justice partnership.

You can become involved by simply coming to one of the learning events.



TIMELINE FOR THE ALLIANCE

April 2012 First Community Meeting

2012-13 Community Leaders Meeting and planning and learning session with the community

2013-14 Focus on Cracking the Codes

2014-15 Learning and planning sessions

2015-16 Learning sessions and committees formed and some actions taken



PREVIOUS FOCUS AREAS FOR COMMITTEES

- Policing
- Voter Registration
- Learning Together
- Building Social Relationships



POLICING



- Worked with Webster Groves and Shrewsbury Police Departments to offer 6 weeks of Citizens Policing Academy
- Worked with Webster Groves Police Department to re-institute ride-along program
- Subcommittee continues to meet to explore additional actions
- Hosted Black and Blue Presentation

LEARNING TOGETHER



- 9-17-15 Courageous Conversations for 63119
- 11-3-15 Bobby Norfolk: The Ville and the Hill
- 1-17-16 Martin Luther King Community Celebration
- 2-3-16 Brian Owens, IN UNISON Artist Event
- 4-28-16 Students involved in Gateway 2 Change
- 5-22-16 The play: Black and Blue
- 8-13-16 Picnic
- 8-18-16 Racial Disparities
- 10-5-16 For the Sake of All

BUILDING SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

10-4-15 Webster Rock Hill Ministries Open House

May 2016 Start of Connect as Friends Groups

8-13- 16 Picnic



ALLIANCE FINANCES

- Fundraiser with Lucky's Market
- \$1532.21

CHANGES FOR THE FUTURE

- Meetings on every 2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.
- Committees meet as part of the regular monthly meetings
- Programs & discussion groups part of monthly meetings
- Time to socialize included in meetings
- Leadership team will be composed of at least one representative from each committee and additional representatives will be determined based on the need for the Alliance to represent the entire community and have influence.

EXPLANATION OF OUR CITY'S NAME

“Grove is very common in southern place names, and it usually indicates a spot where a camp meeting has taken place. I have always enjoyed driving through the piney woods of the South and coming across some little handmade sign pointing down a narrow, sandy road among the trees that says *Shady Grove Methodist Church* or *Pleasant Grove Camp Meeting*, and so on. I believe that the word is most often related to the Methodist church, whose camp meetings before the Civil War were the only ones open to blacks. In any case, we are reminded of its original meaning in such names as Pacific Grove, California; Webster Grove, Missouri; Hamilton Grove, Massachusetts; Ocean Grove, New Jersey; all of which were originally camp-meeting places.”

Reprinted in John Brickerhoff Jackson's Landscape in Sign Haven: Yale University Press, 1997, 145-146.

WHAT WE NEED

- You!
- Help advertise our events
- Assistance on the Leadership and Planning Teams
- Help maintain website and Facebook presence
- Actively joining a committee will really help us keep going and make a positive difference



NOW LETS START WORKING TOGETHER

- Community Building/Communication
- The Ward System/Influencing Policy
- Program and Presentations (including meeting content and structure)
- Policing
- Community Event



ALLIANCE FOR INTERRACIAL DIGNITY

Talk-Heal-Change

We can do this!