

June Newsletter



The History of Juneteenth

To many, Juneteenth marks our country's second Independence Day. Even following the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, black Americans living in Confederate territory did not receive immediate freedom. For years, enslaved people remained shackled by the chains of Confederate slavery until freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas.

Following this proclamation, formerly enslaved people immediately sought to reunify families, establish schools, run for political office, push radical legislation and even sue slaveholders for compensation. Given the 200+ years of enslavement, such changes were nothing short of amazing. Not even a generation out of slavery, African Americans were inspired and empowered to transform their lives and their country. This historical legacy of Juneteenth shows just how valuable it is to never give up hope in uncertain times.

In 1979, Texas became the first state to make Juneteenth an official holiday; several others followed suit over the years. In June 2021, Congress passed a resolution establishing Juneteenth as a national holiday; President Biden signed it into law on June 17, 2021.



Juneteenth

F R E E D O M D A Y

Women of Colors Recognized for Outcomes of Racial Justice Prevention Plus Wellness Program

The Prevention Plus Wellness group recently spotlighted Women of Colors for our work with local youth.

At posttest, most youth said they were "likely" or "very likely" to:

- Observe the racial makeup of the people in their environment (57%)
- Read, listen to or watch something to learn more about racial justice (63%)
- Combat racism in their school, community or online (51%)

Participants responded well to the program and specifically noted that they felt empowered to help stop racism and have more conversations as to why diversity is so important.

DARE TO DREAM

CALLING ALL YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS!
\$1,000 cash prize

ABOUT

In 2021, Duperon Education launched an exciting new program: Dare to Dream with Terry Duperon! We partnered with Kids Rule Now to create an opportunity for young local entrepreneurs to share their dream, get entrepreneurial coaching, present to a team of innovators, and the chance to win a **\$1,000 cash prize** to help them with the next step towards their dream!

PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES

To participate in the 2022 Dare to Dream competition, you must be 12 to 16 years old and live within the Great Lakes Bay Region. You will also need to be able to submit a video about a new idea you have, a business you want to start or a new idea for an already existing business!

JUNE 13, 2022	Application open
JULY 1, 2022	Application closed
JULY 13, 2022	Top 5 dreamers announced
JULY 23, 2022	The Boss Factor coaching
AUGUST 2, 2022	Present to Team of Innovators

For more information please check out our website and Facebook page!



STRONGER TOGETHER

Family & Friends: An Addiction Support Group

Your loved one is leading a destructive life...

—but that doesn't mean your life has to be destroyed as well.

Stronger Together is an addiction support group for family and friends of people struggling with addiction. You can find compassion, support, and healing by talking with others in similar circumstances.

Meetings center on a unique recovery plan designed to help you move from a life of despair to a life of hope and purpose.

Saginaw Area Meetings

Beginning April 19, 2022

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
6:30p-8:00p

1000 Tuscola St.
Saginaw, MI 48602



For More Information Contact Evelyn McGovern
(989) 737-9286 | ewmtoday@aol.com

www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/strongertogether

Offering a recovery plan for bringing help, healing, and hope to families impacted by addiction

Intersectionality and Pride Month



What is Intersectionality?

Intersectionality is the acknowledgement that everyone has their own unique experiences of discrimination and oppression and that in order to best respect and recognize others' lived experiences, we must consider everything and anything that can marginalize people – gender, race, class, sexual orientation, physical ability, etc. First introduced by Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989, intersectionality was added to the Oxford Dictionary in 2015 with its importance increasingly being recognized in the world of human rights.

Why is Intersectionality Important?

Intersectionality brings our understanding of systemic injustice and social inequality to the next level by attempting to untangle the lines that create the complex web of inequalities. It is also a practical tool that can be used to tackle intersectional discrimination through policies and laws.

An intersectional approach ensures that no one is left behind in the fight for justice and equality. It ensures that communities and movements are inclusive of differences and work together towards equality.

Intersectionality is particularly important during Pride Month, as it is crucial that advocates for racial justice also support justice for marginalized groups within the LGBTQ+ community.

What Can You Do to Better Acknowledge Intersectionality?

Celebrate diversity

Celebrating the triumphs of marginalized groups during Pride Month allows for members of the LGBTQ+ community to feel seen and supported. When marginalized groups receive widespread community support, their struggle with oppression becomes less and less.

Check your privilege

All of your social identities play into your 'privilege', even if you didn't ask for it. Look at how your race, gender, sexual orientation, etc. impacts the discriminations that you do and don't experience.

Listen and learn

At its very core, intersectionality is about learning and understanding differences. Listen to, include, and meaningfully collaborate with diverse groups of people in order to better understand their experiences. Remember, it's not the responsibility of marginalized groups to do all the work in educating people on their experiences. Be prepared to do your own research.

Make space

Ask yourself if you're the right person to take up space or speak on certain issues. Center stories and actions on those with the lived experiences. Don't speak for them, don't speak over them.

Choose your words wisely

So many of the words we use every day are ableist and exclusionary to marginalized communities. Accept criticism and call others out for unkind language. As we become more intersectional and better at understanding differences, our language will evolve to be more inclusive.

Member Spotlight

Women of Colors would like to recognize Lula Woodard, adjunct professor of English at Delta College, and longest acting member of WOC, for being named the 2022 recipient of the Spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Award.

When asked how she would encourage others to ignite their passion for helping the community, Lula noted that education and passion are vital for success. With an appreciation for educational resources and the motivation to always strive for personal growth, the ability to find a strong and meaningful voice used to help others is possible for anyone.

Lula has also recently received the Lynn Heatly Award for distinguished services of adjunct faculty of Delta College.

Thank you, Lula, for all that you do for WOC and the community. Congratulations on your awards.



Lula receiving the Spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Award

Do you have content for Amazon Prime TV, Apple TV, or Roku? WOC can spotlight your business, your book, your school, or your event

Download our free app

1. Go to the App Store
2. Type "Women of Colors"
3. Download free and stream the WOC Network!

A promotional graphic for the WOC Network. At the top, it says "Live Streaming & On-Demand Media" in white text on a blue background. Below that, it says "Upload and stream your event on Women Of Colors Network. Air on ROKU, Amazon Prime and more." in white text on a dark blue background. The center features a television screen displaying the WOC Network logo, which consists of the letters "WOC" in a stylized font with a globe icon, and the word "NETWORK" below it. Below the screen, it lists content types: "Movies • Exercise • Music Videos • Educational • Concerts • Christian Content • Talk Shows • The Word of God & More". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "For more information call (989)737-8179 or (989)737-9286".

President's Corner

Juneteenth marks an incredibly important moment in U.S. history that represents the end of slavery in 1865. This is a time for celebration, prayer, and reflection of freedom. African American history is American history, and we should better understand and appreciate Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities. I encourage non-black people to seek literature to be better informed about people of colors and have a conversation. Listen and let people of color talk about their barriers with race. You may make their day and learn something at the same time.



Evelyn McGovern
Co-Founder/President

WOC'S MISSION

To promote diversity, equity, and inclusiveness for the empowerment of families by providing services to strengthen communities and enhance collaborative relations in the Great Lakes Bay Region and beyond.