BREAKING WHITE SILENCE:

How did we get here and what actions can we take to effect positive change for racial justice?

Notes and Resources from the Women's March Contra Costa Special Speaker Edition

Facilitator: Laura Haplin, Founder of Growing Health and host of Cradle Conversations

www.womensmarchcontracosta.org
LAUREN BABB

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Planned Parenthood Northern California Action Fund (Public Affairs Director); AFL-CIO; Emerge California; Economic Opportunity Council; Contra Costa 2020 Census Complete Count Committee; Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice team with the Women’s Policy Institute, a project of the Women’s Foundation of California; Girls Leadership; Contra Costa Young Dems, Contra Costa NOW, and Ensuring Opportunity

SHANELLE SCALES-PRESTON

PITTSBURG CITY COUNCILWOMAN

U.S. Congressman Mark DeSaulnier; Pittsburgh Youth Development Center

GIGI CROWDER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND FAITHNET COORDINATOR, NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) CONTRA COSTA

California Mental Health and Spirituality Initiative; Mental Health Friendly Communities; Justice for Miles Hall; Elder at Church4Me
**LAUREN BABB**
is an appointed commissioner of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, the Economic Opportunity Council and Contra Costa 2020 Census Complete Count Committee. She is also a board member for Girls Leadership, Contra Costa Young Dems, Contra Costa NOW, and Ensuring Opportunity, as well as the Public Affairs Director for Planned Parenthood Northern California Action Fund. Lauren is a 2019-2020 fellow on the Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice team with the Women's Policy Institute. She is a fierce advocate for women's equality and has worked to defend the rights of several labor groups across the country. In 2016 she led AFL-CIO labor-run campaigns in support of Hillary Clinton in Iowa, Florida, and Nevada. Lauren is a graduate of American University, the George Washington University School of Political Management and the 2019 Class of Emerge California.

**GIGI CROWDER**
has worked in the Behavioral Health Care field for more than 26 years. As a family member of several loved ones who have received private and public mental health services, she is a strong advocate for promoting culturally responsive behavioral health services for all consumers and family members. Gigi is the Executive Director and FaithNet Coordinator for NAMI Contra Costa, she Chairs the California Mental Health and Spirituality Initiative, and she is a Co-Founder of Mental Health Friendly Communities, a faith-based, community defined, mental health education and stigma reduction curriculum. She advocates for all to receive more honoring and culturally responsive mental health services by utilizing natural resources such as those found in their respective faith/spiritual communities. Gigi also works hard to promote the use of community defined strategies for all unserved, underserved and inappropriately served ethnic and cultural communities.

**SHANELLE SCALES-PRESTON**
is a lifelong public servant and tireless advocate for the Pittsburg community. She has over 20 years of public service experience, working for both Congressman George Miller and Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, as well as serving as an elected member of the Pittsburg City Council. She is active in her church and is a founding board member of the Pittsburg Youth Development Center. Throughout her career, Shanelle has been a fearless advocate for everyday people who have fallen on hard times. In the wake of the national mortgage crisis, she advocated on behalf of hundreds of local families to keep their homes. She has also been an advocate for local veterans to ensure they get the services they deserve. She is a proud graduate of Pittsburg schools and California State University East Bay. Currently, she and her husband are raising their two boys in Pittsburg.
RESOURCES

- Bail funds for protestors: https://bailfunds.github.io/
- National Alliance on Mental Illness, Contra Costa (NAMICC): https://www.namiccontracosta.org/
- 8 Can’t Wait: Policies to Decrease Police Violence: https://8cantwait.org/
- Contra Costa County Racial Justice Task Force:

BOOKSTORES
- Mahogany Books
- Refinery29 List of Black Owned Bookstores to Support by State
- Ashay By the Bay
- Flashlight Books in Walnut Creek
- Instead of Amazon, use: www.Bookshop.org

BOOKS
- The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander
- Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson
- White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo
- First Five recommended reading list to read with children: https://www.first5la.org/parenting/articles/first-5-las-resources-for-books-for-children-on-race-and-discrimination/
WHAT TO DO NEXT

DONATE TO BLACK OR POC ORGANIZATIONS (i.e. The National Bailout Fund, Oakland People’s Breakfast, or Equal Justice Initiative)

FURTHER THIS CONVERSATION WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS (especially that Aunt that made that weird post….)

WATCH WHERE YOU SPEND YOUR $$ AND USE IT TO SUPPORT SOCIAL JUSTICE
Your personal dollars, as well as your city’s budget

MOVE FORWARDS FROM BEING AN ALLEY TO BECOME AN ACCOMPlice
Standing alongside BIPOC in their battles will always be more effective than simply following their lead.

HOW IS YOUR CITY’S GOVERNANCE FUNDED? WHAT ARE THEIR PRIORITIES?
Speak out about it!

GO TO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
Advocate to keep our money in progressive programs

IF YOU WANT TO BE AN ALLEY - ASK THE PERSON YOU’D LIKE TO ENGAGE WITH, “WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP” AND LISTEN TO THEIR RESPONSE
You might get your feelings hurt, but just listen without being offended

AVOID “PERFORMATIVE ALLYSHIP”
Don’t express outrage without doing something tangible. Your actions don’t have to be visible. Allyship goes further than posting on social media

CONSIDER REPARATIONS
While you may not have the power to send out checks, think of ways you are able to increase opportunities such as access to higher education or low-interest home loans

PRIORITIZE “MOVEABLE ACTIONS”
Things that can do done easily/quickly, rather than huge goals. Look at 8 can’t wait as a starting point for police reform. Focus on specific goals and actions.

SUPPORT CONTRA COSTA’S NEW DISTRICT ATTORNEY, DIANA BECTON
She’s the first African-American and African-American woman DA in Contra Costa

RECOGNIZE DISPARITIES BETWEEN SCHOOL SYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY WITHIN OUR COUNTY. Affluent areas have parent organizations that raise funds for schools, but not all school districts do, perpetuating the inequalities of education. Look in other districts near you and contribute.
OUT OF CHAOS COMES OPPORTUNITY — A TIME FOR SELF REFLECTION AND THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE WE WANT TO CREATE

DO WHAT YOU CAN — THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU PUT YOUR MONEY

“JUSTICE IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE IN PUBLIC,” DR. CORNEL WEST

THE TIME FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE IS NOW

CALL YOUR STATE SENATOR AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN TO TELL THEM TO SUPPORT ACA 5

RUN FOR OFFICE
PROP 209 and ACA 5

We want to urge those watching this program to support ACA 5, which will create equal opportunities for all Californians and fight discrimination against women and people of color by restoring affirmative action in public contracting, public employment and public education.

ACA 5 puts up for a vote a proposition to repeal Prop 209. This will be voted on by the Assembly soon so please call your assembly member and it will come to the Senate soon, so call your State Senator too.

State Assembly Member Phone Numbers for Contra Costa County:
District 14: Timothy Grayson, Concord Office: (925) 521-1511
District 15: Buffy Wicks, Oakland Office: (510) 286-1400
District 16: Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, San Ramon Office: (925) 328-1515

State Senate Member Phone Numbers for Contra Costa County:
District 7: Steve Glazer, Orinda Office: (925) 258-1176
District 9: Nancy Skinner, Oakland Office: (510) 286-1333

Further information on Prop 209 and ACA 5:
• https://equaljusticesociety.org/2020/03/11/aca-5-introduced-to-repeal-proposition-209/
• https://opportunity4all.org/2020/06/03/aca-5-passes-appropriations-committee-next-vote-in-full-assembly/
Do the Bay updates + resources

Sign up for Nicole Lee's Inclusive Life Virtual Accelerator

An Equity Policy and Resolution is on the June 8 MDUSD board meeting agenda. There is also an equity advisory committee open to all, that looks at disproportionality and wields the power to bring forward restorative justice training.

Check out the slide deck on Standing United - The Fight Against Inequality

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