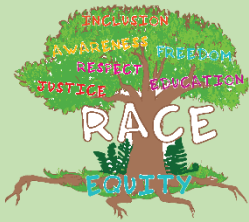


R.A.C.E 2019 Year in Review



Real Actions Create Equity We strive to educate ourselves and our community about effective responses to racial and ethnic biases. We raise awareness of the existence of systemic inequity. We create safe spaces for people impacted by these injustices.

Happy New Year to you and yours, wishing you all the best for the year 2020.



Racial Justice on South Whidbey

Members of a coalition of racial justice advocacy groups (that was initiated by R.A.C.E. in 2017) met twice since our last letter. Thanks to the **Unitarian Church Justice Awareness & Advocacy** group who hosted a spring meeting of about 45 people, we learned about upcoming opportunities for learning and action, and snacked on yummy desserts. In August, we were hosted by the **BIPOC Healing Circle** at a relaxed, fun family “Love-In”, held at **Readiness to Learn** at the South Whidbey Community Center. Many thanks to all these wonderful organizers for creating a space for deepening friendships and learning! **BIPOC, R.A.C.E., Whidbey Institute, Racial Justice Learning Group, and Whidbey Island Social Justice Solidarity Net [That] Works** were all represented. We were happy to see our youth and children

enjoying together. We’re grateful, too, that the coalition of groups has now formed an ad hoc committee that will meet regularly in order to keep each other updated and to plan together. “Because connection, community and justice go together.

Restorative Practices

We all know that conflict is part of the human experience! R.A.C.E. sponsored a lively four-day training in

Restorative Practices for twenty-two enthused learners, bringing us to a shared understanding of how to use conflict for personal and community growth. We were thrilled to have participants from all the groups

named above, as well as the **Whidbey Children’s Theatre, Whidbey Island Waldorf School, South Whidbey School District, South**

Whidbey Community Wellness Coalition, Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Calyx Community Arts School and some unaffiliated people. Restorative Practices uses a conscious approach to exploring what happened, its impact on all concerned, and what could happen next to make things right. We look forward to using these practices as we support each other to be a community of learners, growing in our understanding of racism, equity, and conflict resolution.





Readiness to Learn designates half time position for Cultural Programming

Thanks to the inspiring leadership of Kenesha Lewin and enthusiastic participation of you, our community, Readiness to Learn has allocated funds so that Kenesha can work on cultural issues and programming half of her time at Readiness to Learn!



Youth of Color Collective & Parent/Guardian Support

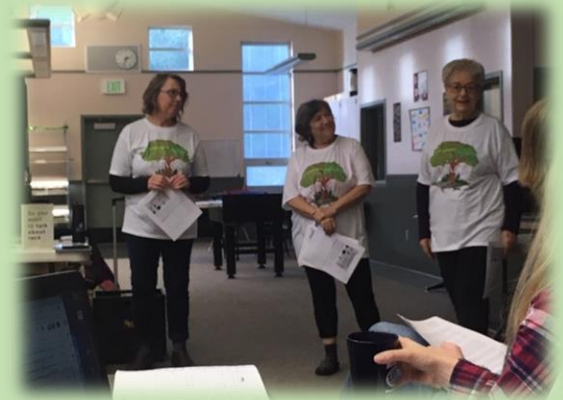


Research shows that feeling confident about who we are, and a sense of belonging is essential for learning. Research also shows that people of color living in majority white spaces can feel out of place and not fully seen. Gathering with other youth and elders who understand this experience is an antidote to feeling different and medicine for our souls.

That's why Readiness to Learn and R.A.C.E. initiated a weekly opportunity for youth of color to connect, celebrate and build community in a fun, safe and supportive environment every Wednesday from 1:30-5:00 PM at the South Whidbey Community Center.

Kids and youth of all ages are welcome!

We're happy to report robust attendance! In addition to social



activities each week, adults of color from the wider community will be visiting to share their experiences and expertise with our youth. Thanks to the great partnership with WIN the youths are given health snacks during our meetings. Parents and guardians of children of color on South Whidbey gathered in October to help launch the program and provide support to one another and will be meeting regularly. Please email Kenesha at kewin@readinesstolearn.org or let Kenesha know at 360- 221-6808 X 3143 if you would like your child to participate, or if you are a person of color and would like to be a guest presenter.

Past Event

- Ethnic Hair care 101
- How to implement diversity in your lessons, Workshop
 - Martin Luther King Assembly
 - Black History Assembly
 - K-4 Teacher Equity Workshop
 - Teacher Appreciation "Token of Love"
- Racial Justice Love-in partnership with BIPOC

Upcoming Events

- Bystander Training for youth
 - Implicit Bias Workshop
- "Let's Talk About" Race-Parents Guide to Talking to Kids About Race
 - Lots more stay tuned

Funds are needed to provide stipends for our guests, and to cover expenses for field trips and weekly materials for the Youth of Color Collective. Contributions may be made one of three ways:

On-line at <https://www.readinesstolearn.org/race>. Please choose the designation "R.A.C.E." Check to Readiness To Learn @ PO Box 280 Langley WA 98260. ("R.A.C.E." on memo) Credit card donations to R.A.C.E. can be taken over the phone by calling 360-221-0663