MEETING THE MOMENT

Community Conversations on Healing, Organizing, and Building the Future We Want

September 22, 2021

Event Program



ABOUT MEETING THE MOMENT

Thank you for joining us for Communities of Opportunities' *Meeting the Moment*. The event intends to elevate the work happening in communities across King County that is building critical connections and spaces for healing, relationship, and innovation, that supports the systemic changes needed to create greater equity and justice in health, housing, and economic well-being. *Meeting the Moment* features three tracks focused on: 1) Connection & Healing, 2) Organizing & Advocacy, and 3) Future Visions, and an opening keynote and grounding from Autumn Brown.

Throughout all sessions, the event seeks to uplift three key values:



Lifting up and sharing the incredible work of COO community partners

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY



Addressing anti-Blackness

Anti-Blackness pervades every aspect of our society. Dismantling anti-Blackness is key to solidarity work and true liberation.



Creating a Community of Belonging

Meeting the Moment, the title of today's event, is in response to the current and complex moment of time we exist in. This specific moment in time is shaped by 18 months of a global pandemic with ongoing economic and social impacts; the protests for racial justice during the Spring and Summer of 2020 that connect to a long lineage of civil rights movement actions; the deepening ideological divides between communities; and the impacts of ongoing climate disasters. COO's community partners and the broader community continue to respond, resist, and reshape the current system and communities that we live in. As a planning team we are inspired by the models of mutual aid, solidarity, and care that have arisen during this last year and half. We see and honor the work that you are doing, the personal impacts of this moment, and the opportunities for transformation that you are leading.

These complex and challenging times have required many of us to shift our work to respond and to clarify what commitments we center in order to deepen our progress toward collective and transformative change. We know that central to our commitments to equity and strengthening anti-racist work we must center Black leadership and Black-led solutions; equally we must participate in the on-going reflection and practice to address and dismantle anti-Blackness. This work is on-going and continual and today we hope that we plant seeds that will continue to grow over time.

This moment has also reminded us that our relationships are central to our survival and ability to create change. The Community Advisory Committee for this event centered the topics of addressing anti-Blackness and building community throughout the planning of this event. We are grateful for their co-creation of this event and willingness to share their time and expertise with us.

Relationship is a continual journey and the planning team is also inspired by national thought leaders such as **adrienne maree brown**, who reminds us that we are interdependent upon each other and the earth; **Ejeris Dixon**, who reminds us that conflict has the potential to create and generate deeper relationship and

alignment; and **john a. powell**, who inspires us to build a more just and inclusive society; and today's keynote speaker **Autumn Brown**, who shows us the power of liberatory facilitation to strengthen our work for systemic change.

The planning team also drew inspiration and guidance from our work together with so many of you – our community partners -- by the knowledge, wisdom, and learnings shared with generosity, and the myriad ways you are creating new paths, and returning to practices, that bring us together for mutual well-being. We hope that the conversations held today will continue to build opportunities for us all to work in greater partnership to create more equitable, just, and loving communities.

Sarah Tran

Capacity Building Consultant Sama Praxis

Kalayaan Domingo

Project Manager Public Health Seattle & King County, Communities of Opportunity

Whitney Johnson

Project Manager
Public Health Seattle & King County, Communities of Opportunity

Caroline Burney

Learning Community Administrator Cascadia Consulting Group

ABOUT COO

Communities of Opportunity (COO) is a public-private-community initiative, funded by King County through Best Starts for Kids and the Seattle Foundation, that works through community-driven partnerships to create greater racial, economic, and health equity so that all youth, families and communities in King County thrive and prosper. The COO Learning Community leverages the power of collective knowledge to accelerate change, focusing on providing resources for shared learning opportunities, building critical connections, supporting capacity building, and the creation of equity tools, models and conditions that actualize the thriving communities we envision.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Shared with permission by Seattle Urban Native Nonprofit (SUNN).

We acknowledge that we are in the homeland of the First Peoples of this land, Duwamish, Muckleshoot, Puyallup, Snoqualmie, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, and Tulalip Tribes. We raise our hands to honor all of the descendants of the Coast Salish people. We thank them for their hospitality as the First people of this land, and for our continuing use of the natural resources of their Ancestral Homeland. We honor the immense, immeasurable, and often unrecognized contributions and sacrifices of the Coast Salish and Indigenous People, and we acknowledge the ongoing disparities, racism, and political invisibility experienced by Coast Salish and Indigenous Peoples of this land.

Meeting the Moment was produced by Sama Praxis, Communities Rise, and Cascadia Consulting Group in partnership with the COO Learning Community.



MEETING THE MOMENT

Community Conversations on Healing, Organizing, and Building the Future We Want

A Virtual Gathering on Wednesday, September 22 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

9:30 - 10:00 am (30 mins)	WELCOMING & STORYTELLING
10:00 - 10:15 am (15 mins)	GROUNDING & INTRODUCTION TO COO
10:15- 11:15 am (60 mins)	AUTUMN BROWN: KEYNOTE & AUDIENCE Q&A
11:15 - 11:25 am (10 mins)	TRANSITION TIME / BREAK
11:25 - 12:20 pm (55 mins)	SESSION #1: CONNECTION AND HEALING Each training will include time for breakout discussions and relationship building. Attendees may self-select which training to attend from four options below.
	Partnerships, Connections, and Relationships— Local Examples of Solidarity
	An Abundance of Grace
	Centering Black Healing, Joy, and Resistance
	Practices for Healing, Reflection, and Resilience in Racial Justice Work
12:20 - 12:30 pm (10 mins)	REFLECTION AND TRANSITION TIME
12:30 - 1:00 pm	LUNCH / BREAK

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(30 mins)

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1:00 - 1:55 pm (55 mins)	SESSION #2: ORGANIZING AND ADVOCACY Each training will include time for breakout discussions and relationship building. Attendees may self-select which training to attend from three options below.
	Participatory and Democratic Organizing Examples
	(Re)Inventando Una Transición Colectiva: Antes, Durante Y Después De COVID-19
	Indigenous Policy Frameworks
1:55 – 2:00 pm (5 mins)	REFLECTION AND TRANSITION TIME
2:00 - 2:55 pm (55 mins)	SESSION #3: FUTURE VISIONS Each training will include time for breakout discussions and relationship building. Attendees may self-select which training to attend from three options below.
	Climate Justice—Implementing a Just Transition
	Collective Ownership and Anti-Displacement Models
	Grassroots Finance and Equitable Investment Models
2:55 – 3:05 pm (10 mins)	REFLECTION AND TRANSITION TIME
3:05 - 3:30 pm (25 mins)	CLOSING SESSION: ARTS AND STORYTELLING

BONUS SESSIONS

Wednesday evening, September 22

6:00 – 7:00 pm

ARTS AND STORYTELLING

(60 mins)

Friday morning, September 24

10:00 – 11:00 am (60 mins)

FACILITATED RESULT AREA BREAKOUT GROUPS: Connect with others doing aligned work to improve health, housing, economic opportunity, and community connections.



WELCOMING AND KEYNOTE







Grounding & Introduction to COO



Keynote: Autumn Brown

WELCOMING & STORYTELLING

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM



Roger Fernandes (he/him)

Roger Fernandes is a Native American artist, storyteller, and educator. His work focuses on the local tribal cultures of the Coast Salish tribes of western Washington. He is an enrolled member of the Lower Elwha S'Klallam Tribe. He has a bachelors degree in Native American studies from The Evergreen State College and a Masters Degree in Whole systems Design for Antioch University. He has worked in the fields of American Indian Education, social services, higher education, and legal services.



Fern Naomi Renville (she/her)

Fern Naomi Renville (she/her) is a Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota, Omaha, and Seneca-Cayuga storyteller, theatre director, and playwright. She is the great-granddaughter of Melinda Cayuga, a Seneca matriarch who exemplified the loving strength of the clan mothers.



GROUNDING & INTRODUCTION TO COO

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM



Sarah Tran (she/her), Sama Praxis

Sarah Tran (she/her) provides leadership coaching, facilitation, training, and consultation to community organizations, philanthropic foundations, businesses, and government entities committed to advancing racial justice and equity. Drawing on her roots as a daughter of Vietnamese refugees, a survivor of violence, a former Executive Director of color, and organizer - she is committed to supporting leaders of color as they mobilize their communities and transform systems to support collective liberation.



Kalayaan Domingo (she/her), Public Health Seattle & King County, Communities of Opportunity

Kalayaan Domingo grew up on Beacon Hill in South Seattle amongst a community of labor and community organizers. Kalayaan worked for 6 years at Cleveland High School in South Seattle building school partnerships, supporting student ledorganizing; and developing learning opportunities for students, staff and families. Building community and on-going learning is an important part of her personal and professional life, Kalayaan takes these skills with her in her current role with Communities of Opportunity as a Project Manager and Lead for the Learning Community. Through this work Kalayaan partners with community-based consultants to create engaging learning and community building opportunities to strength our collective social justice work. In her commitment to building healthier communities Kalayaan believes that deep relationship are key to systemic transformation; and works to create authentic spaces within government to center relationship and community in decision making. Kalayaan came to government in 2015 after being mentored and encouraged by Women of Color within the Public Health field. She currently lives in the Rainer Valley with her husband René and two sons René and Raúl.



KEYNOTE: AUTUMN BROWN

10:15 AM - 12:15 AM



Autumn Brown (she/her)

Autumn Brown is a mother, organizer, theologian, artist, and facilitator. The youngest child of an interracial marriage, rooted in the complex lineages of counter-culturalism and the military industrial complex, Autumn is a queer, mixed-race Black woman who identifies closely with her African and European lineages, and a gifted facilitator who grounds her work in healing from the trauma of oppression.

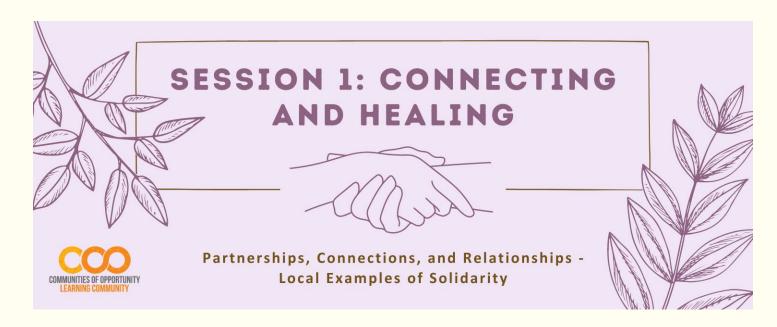
She was a founding member of the Rock Dove Collective, a radical community health exchange active in New York City from 2006-2012, and she currently serves on the Board of Directors of Voices for Racial Justice and the Common Fire Foundation. Autumn brings over 15 years of experience facilitating movement strategy, organizational and strategic development with community-based and social justice organizations, and training organizers in consensus process, facilitation, and racial justice. She has taught and presented in many places across the country, as well as internationally. She has worked with Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the Kairos Fellows, the American Civil Liberties Union, MPD150, and the Black Visions Collective, among many others.

Autumn is a facilitator with the Anti-Oppression Resource & Training Alliance (AORTA), a worker-owned cooperative devoted to strengthening movements for social justice and a solidarity economy through political education, training, and planning. Prior to joining AORTA, Autumn served as the Executive Director of RECLAIM!, a non-profit that works to increase access to mental health support so that gueer and trans youth may reclaim their lives from oppression in all its forms.

Autumn is a 2020 Auburn Seminary Lives of Commitment Honoree. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, Autumn has also completed specialized study in Theology at Oxford University and the General Theological Seminary of New York. She is a speculative fiction and creative non-fiction writer, and her work has been published in Pleasure Activism: The Politics of Feeling Good (AK Press 2019), the Procyon Science Fiction Anthology (Tayen Lane Press, 2016), Revolutionary Mothering: Love on the Front Lines (PM Press, 2016), Octavia's Brood: Science Fiction Stories from Social Justice Movements (AK Press, 2015) and Stay Solid!: A Radical Handbook for Youth (AK Press, 2013).

Autumn co-hosts the podcast "How to Survive the End of the World" with her sister, adrienne maree brown. She lives in Minneapolis with her three brilliant children.





PARTNERSHIPS, CONNECTIONS, & RELATIONSHIPS: LOCAL EXAMPLES OF SOLIDARITY

11:25 AM - 12:20 PM

In this panel, hear from community leaders on how we can continue to hold relationships and build new connections to build community power and support each other's work. Panelists will include Rebecca Berry from Skyway Coalition, Ryan Quigtar from the Renton Innovation Zone Partnership, and Alejandra Tres from Comunidad Latina de Vashon. The panel will be moderated by Yasmeen Perez.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Rebecca Berry (she/her), Skyway Coalition

Rebecca Berry (she/her) is a Black, White, Alaskan Native, Mexican, and Filipino woman, born and raised mostly in South Seattle. Her lifelong passion for advocacy was born after she entered the foster care system in adolescence. She later served as a court appointed special advocate, supporting youth in similar positions, which cemented her desire to serve in advocacy and to help empower those most impacted, yet furthest from power. Her work experience included private, public and nonprofit sectors and helped guide her way through community college classes to earning a Master's degree in Public Administration, which enhanced her passion for advocacy. She was recently hired as the Skyway Coalition Manager, which is a dream job for Rebecca! Building on the work and expertise of leaders before her, she is excited to help shape this organization to serve the community she lives in. At the core, the Coalition aims to champion the voices of their primarily black and brown community with regard to anti-displacement efforts, affordable housing, and economic development.





Ryan Quigtar (he/him), Renton Innovation Zone Partnership

Ryan is the Executive Director of the Renton Innovation Zone Partnership, a non-profit convening over 30 organizations to improve academic outcomes for students and families through a racial equity lens. He recently graduated with his Master's degree from the Communication Leadership program at University of Washington. Ryan's personal mission is to empower communities of color, change systems, and increase generational wealth for Black and Brown people.



Alejandra Tres (she/her), Comunidad Latina de Vashon

Alejandra Tres (she/her) immigrated to the US from Argentina after her own country's democracy crumbled. She has since devoted her life to finding and developing leaders to build power that propels the common good for their community and by extension for our entire region. Alejandra is thrilled to work alongside committed, talented, and tenacious community leaders and organizers. She believes that the best solutions are community-led solutions and that anyone, regardless of the details of their background, can be a changemaker. She is a cofounder of Comunidad Latina de Vashon where she helps craft organizing campaigns based on the brilliance of local leaders -especially youth, who always remind her to make the work fun. She is also thrilled to be a co-founder of the Unincorporated BIPOC Economic Alliance with Skyway and White Center where hundreds of youth, business owners, and community leaders wrote, called, testified, and handwrote their stories to our legislators of a better economic future they know they can achieve. This year Alejandra was given the American Society of Public Administration Call to Service Award for relentlessly recruiting people to join in her in the fun fierce work of remaking the world as it should be.

PANEL MODERATOR



Yasmeen Perez (she/her & he/him), King County

Yasmeen Perez (she/her & he/him) is an Equitable Development Program Manager in King County's Department of Community and Human Services. Yasmeen collaborates with BIPOC communities, and communities at high risk for displacement, to advance equitable community-driven development and BIPOC stewardship and ownership of land and housing. Yasmeen has 20 years of experience in community organizing and social justice movement work through roles at Seattle Young People's Project, FIERCE, Right to the City Alliance, Social Justice Fund Northwest, and Puget Sound Sage. Yasmeen believes in investing in community-led solutions to create strong communities that can thrive in place. Outside of work, you can find Yasmeen hanging out with his nephews, kayaking, and canoeing on various lakes, and making fruit leather this time of year.





AN ABUNDANCE OF GRACE

11:25 AM - 12:20 PM

In this session, Sean Goode, CHOOSE 180, will be in conversation with Leonie Smith, East Point Peace Academy, to explore our how movement actions can support healing. They'll discuss what grace looks like in the context of restorative justice work and healing from the trauma of systemic racism. This session will be facilitated by Jackie St. Louis.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Sean Goode (he/him), CHOOSE 180

Sean Goode (he/him) is a leader driven by possibility who works through the non-profit CHOOSE 180 to decriminalize youthful behavior by elevating the transformative power of grace and through the creation of alternatives to the criminal legal system. Prior to serving the community in this capacity he served as a chaplain at Juvenile Detention, championed gang intervention efforts, created employment opportunities for youth in at-risk communities and worked in educational advocacy to implement programing that supported young people's readiness for Kindergarten, High School and College. Sean Goode is considered a national expert on justice reform and is frequently sharing the work of CHOOSE 180 and the transformative power of restorative practices throughout the country. He has been appointed by the governor to the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice where he serves as the vice-chair addressing statewide issues of the criminalization of adolescent behavior.





Leonie Smith (she/her), East Point Peace Academy

P. Leonie Smith is a first-generation Canadian of Jamaican heritage and is the founder of The Thoughtful Workplace, a consultancy that uses a relational and skillbuilding approach to coaching, training, and mediation. Her work and life are centered around sharing people-centered modalities such as Nonviolent Communication, Restorative and Transformative Justice practices, and Sociocracy to support people who are traditionally marginalized to show up in their full humanity. She is also founder and Executive Director of People of Color for Nonviolent Communication (POC4NVC), an international network for Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) who are connected to principles of nonviolence. She is also a trainer and core team member for East Point Peace Academy, a nonviolence training and consulting organization based in Oakland, California. Through the use of these and other tools, she supports groups and teams to find ways of working that reduce harm by understanding and sharing practical skills to address the impact of systemic racism and oppression. She has over 20 years of experience in senior management positions in nonprofit organizations in communications, fundraising and human resources. She is based in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Links:

- Web: www.thethoughtfulworkplace.com
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/ThoughtfulWork/
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/ThoughtfulWork

PANEL MODERATOR



Jackie St. Louis (he/him), Tender Tongues Counseling

Jackie St. Louis (he/him) is the founder of Tender Tongues Counseling and principal of D-Fine Concepts Consulting. Jackie's history in behavioral health includes working with youth in the Philadelphia Public School system, as a forensic evaluator in the Philadelphia correctional system and as a co-occurring therapist. Jackie is passionate about seeing communities thrive and has deep affiliations with marginalized groups, including people of African descent, other persons of color, immigrant, and refugees. In his private counseling practice, Jackie employs a holistic, outcomes-based approach that focuses on helping individuals attain and embrace the best versions of themselves through a process of reflection, perspective-making, reconciliation, and acceptance. Jackie's work as a consultant exists at the intersection of racial equity, social issues, and public policy. He has designed and regularly teaches a course on racial equity as it applies to place management, urban design, public safety, and law enforcement. Jackie is a community engagement innovator who works as an ally to community in mutually beneficial efforts to elevate an amplify voices of those with lived experience in change-making initiatives.





CENTERING BLACK HEALING, JOY, AND RESISTANCE

11:25 AM - 12:20 PM

Artist Natasha Marin will present her conceptual art exhibition BLACK IMAGINATION, a community-based, ongoing exhibit that seeks to amplify, center, and hold sacred a diverse sample of Black voices.

ABOUT THE PANELIST

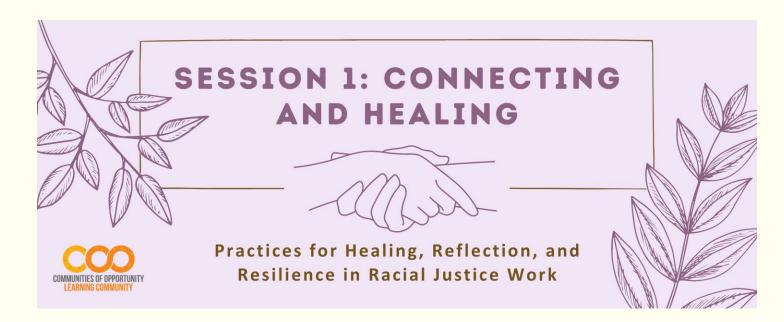


Natasha Marin (she/her), Artist

Natasha Marin (she/her) is a conceptual artist whose people-centered projects have circled the globe and have been recognized and acknowledged by Art Forum, the New York Times, the Washington Post, the LA Times, and others. In 2018, Marin manifested BLACK IMAGINATION: The States of Matter, The (g)Listening, and Ritual Objects– a triptych of audio-based, conceptual art exhibitions in and around Seattle, WA. BLACK IMAGINATION is community-based, ongoing and continues to amplify, center, and hold sacred a diverse sample of Black voices including LGBTQIA+ black youth, incarcerated black women, black folks with disabilities, unsheltered black folks, and black children. Marin's viral web-based project, Reparations, engaged a quarter of a million people worldwide in the practice of "leveraging privilege," and earned Marin, a mother of two, death threats by the dozens.

www.black-imagination.com





PRACTICES FOR HEALING, REFLECTION, AND RESILIENCE IN RACIAL JUSTICE WORK

11:25 AM - 12:20 PM

In this session, **Jéhan Òsanyìn** (they/them), a somatic abolitionist and futurist facilitator will guide participants through practices for healing, reflection, and resilience in racial justice work.

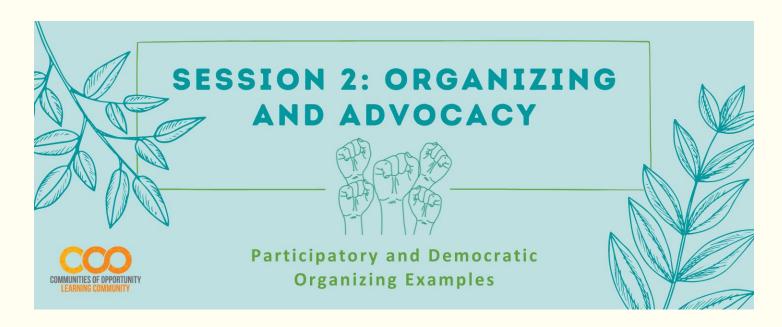
ABOUT THE PANELIST



Jéhan Òsanyìn (they/them), earthseed

Jéhan Òsanyìn (they/them) is a somatic abolitionist and futurist facilitator who is also an Equity actor and Gregory Award nominated playwright. They hold an undergraduate degree in Theatre Arts from Point Park University's Conservatory of Performing Arts. They studied theatre in Japan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil and Venezuela. Jéhan produces their art through their experimental experiential art studio, earthseed, where studio research and performance explores the stories our bodies tell with and without our consent. Earthseed offers individual coaching, workshops, and lots of opportunities to investigate racialized identity development through experiential education.





PARTICIPATORY AND DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZING

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

In this session, panelists from SURGE Reproductive Justice and FEEST will explore organizing models that are rooted in dismantling anti-Blackness and centering healing within ourselves, our relationships, and our communities.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Elle Jennings (she/her), SURGE Reproductive Justice

Elle (she/her) is an active member of the PNW BIPOC community and serves as several organizations, including Surge, Lavender Rights Project, and is a member of The Royal House of Noir (one of Seattle's premiere ballroom houses). A born and raised Texan, she moved to Washington after graduation from the University of North Texas. Upon landing in Seattle, Elle fell in love with the Black queer community, and its rich cultural solidarity. It's this solidarity that has aided shaping her into the Black trans woman she is today. Elle is our Decriminalize WA Organizer. She works with SURGE Reproductive Justice's policy table partners on building a powerful campaign to decriminalize sex work statewide. Elle thinks of herself as spontaneous, fun, and bright in social spaces. In her free time, she can be found hunting for the next spectacular place to eat, or out supporting queer nightlife.





Arista Burwell-Chen (she/they), FEEST

Arista Burwell-Chen (she/they) is a mixed-race organizer, born and raised in Seattle's Central District. Her experiences growing up in the Central District drive her desire to build power with communities of color for systemic change, particularly around more just and equitable school, food, and housing systems. Arista is passionate about organizing sustainably and loves to bring a strong ethic of social generosity and light-heartedness to organizing spaces. She deeply believes in youth power and decision making, and feels lucky to get to support FEEST youth leaders' creative brilliance and joyful movement building. Collective visioning and strategizing with FEEST youth, staff, board, and community members are some of her favorite parts of the job. Outside of FEEST, you can find Arista learning new songs on the ukulele, Konmari-ing friends' closets, and listening to Prentis Hemphill's Finding Our Way.

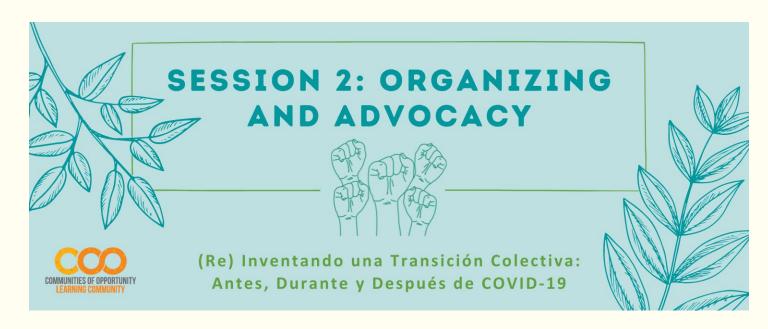
PANEL MODERATOR



Matthew Echohawk-Hayashi (he/him), Headwater People Consulting

Matthew Hayashi (he/him) is the principal organization development and leadership consultant for Headwater People. He offers organizations a variety of strategic consulting services such as organization design, strategic planning, change management, process improvement, retreat planning and facilitation, and executive coaching. His passion is to help connect groups to the core mission of their work through collaborative and innovative learning and whole organizational health. Additionally, Matthew has significant experience in facilitating empowering and productive experiences in emotionally charged and relationally challenging circumstances. Relevant bodies of work include facilitating discussion between Seattle Public Schools and Seattle's urban native community over failed efforts to close achievement gaps for Native learners; leading a project to partner IHS and a Montana Tribe to find equitable solutions over water disputes; and facilitating teamperformance workshops for a physician partnership at Swedish hospitals. Very recent clients include the Environmental Protection Agency, Indian Health Services, UW College of Education, Washington State Department of Commerce, the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota, and the Urban Native Educational Alliance. Matthew has a particular interest in supporting community-led projects that improve systems in Native American organizations and agencies. Matthew grew up in indigenous communities in Kaneohe, Hawaii and continues to be grounded in the perspective and gifts of traditional cultures.





(RE)INVENTANDO UNA TRANSICIÓN COLECTIVA: ANTES, DURANTE Y DESPUÉS DE COVID-19

(Re)Inventing a Collective Transition: Before, During and After COVID-19)

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

Esta sesión destacará historias de algunas mujeres y organizaciones que están respondiendo activamente a sus comunidades y reinventando una transición colectiva basada en las fortalezas, la autodeterminación y el bienestar de todas y todos. Representantes de WA Dream Coalition, Alimentando el Pueblo y Pueblos Originarios (ñuu savi) nos contaran acerca de los impactos que la pandemia ha tenido en sus comunidades y de sus esfuerzos para construir un futuro equitativo y justo en el que todos hacemos parte.

This session will highlight stories from women and organizations who are actively responding to their communities and reinventing a collective transition based on strengths, self-determination and welfare of all. Representatives from the WA Dream Coalition, Alimentando el Pueblo, and Pueblos Originarios (ñuu savi) will tell us about the impacts that the pandemic has had on their communities and their efforts to build an equitable and just future where we all belong. **Note that this Session will be in Spanish. English Interpretation will be available.**



ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Gloria Ramirez (she/her), Pueblos Originarios (ñuu savi)

Gloria is a proud indigenous leader from the Ñuu Savi ("people of the rain") community of Oaxaca. She migrated to the Coast Salish lands many years ago. Gloria has been tirelessly organizing with other indigenous folks from the diaspora. She continuously advocates for information to be translated into indigenous languages of the communities who live in the Pacific Northwest. Recently, she has worked with many organizations on promoting participation on the 2020 Census; educating both the communities and healthcare organizations about how to partner with Indigenous communities on distributing COVID-19 vaccines; and engaging south King County youth and adults who are from Indigenous communities of the P'urhepecha, Ñuu Savi and Kichwa Otavalo to tell stories of how they are responding to the pandemic.



Roxana Pardo Garcia (she/her), Alimentando al Pueblo

Roxana Pardo Garcia (she/her) aka La Roxay is a self-identifying Hood Intellectual Xingona who was born and raised on occupied Coast Salish Territory. Roxana is the Founder, Cultural Worker, and Certified Xingona of La Roxay Productions and Hood Intellectual Xingona. She is also the Co-Founder and Project Lead of Alimentando el Pueblo.



Larissa Reza (she/her), WA Dream Coalition

Larissa Reza has been organizing since 2014. She was first introduced to organizing through the immigrant rights movement. She has worked on various national and local campaigns that push for undocumented immigrants access to resources and rights. She has specifically worked within the education system and ensuring educators have the tools and resources to support undocumented students in Washington State.





Victoria Garcia Tomayo (she/her), Contacto Consulting

Victoria Garcia Tamayo is the owner and community consultant of Contacto Consulting. Victoria brings over 25 years of working in and with community through her experience in the consulting, nonprofit and public sectors. Her expertise is in capacity building, organizational development, communications, and community development and engagement—all centered in equity and belonging. She has partnered with dozens of organizations. Victoria holds a M.A. in community development with an emphasis in public policy and a B.A. in communications and journalism. Victoria is the coproducer of the Emmy award winning documentary *¡Sí Se Puede! Connecting Farmworker Communities.* She is a proud immigrant from Colombia.





INDIGENOUS POLICY FRAMEWORKS

1:00 PM - 1:55 PM

In this session, Seattle Urban Native Nonprofits (SUNN) and Against the Current Consulting will discuss their work to build community power and develop an indigenous policy framework, while engaging with participants on issues of policy and power.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Mary Kummer (she/her), Makah Tribe, Seattle Urban Native Nonprofits (SUNN)

Serving as Program Manager for both Seattle Urban Native Nonprofits (SUNN) Collaboration and Potlatch Fund, Mary Kummer is an enrolled member of the Makah Tribe. She who still works remote in the home territories of the Suquamish Tribal people, located in Bremerton, Washington. She brings over a decade of nontraditional experiential learning and community collaborations that support Native communities. She currently serves as the grantmaking program manager administering the management of the processes, databases, and creative partnerships with community and grant partners who reside throughout Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Montana. Additionally, Mary represents and supports SUNN 12 Native-led partner organizations that convene to raise visibility, prioritize the issues, and increase the well-being of the urban Native community in Seattle. She enjoys travelling to Port Angeles to visit and explore her new role in grandparenting.





Eddie Sherman (he/him), Against the Current Consulting

Eddie Sherman, a member of the Navajo and Omaha Nations, is a nationally recognized fundraiser, strategist, nonprofit leader, and entrepreneur. Throughout his career, Eddie has committed his efforts to social justice, serving underserved communities, and improving the quality of life for Native Americans and communities of color. Before joining Hilltop Public Solutions, Eddie founded Against the Current Consulting. He held key leadership positions with the Oregon Native American Chamber (ONAC), Our Native American Business & Entrepreneurial Network (ONABEN), and the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA). He has had the honor of being appointed to the Portland Human Rights Commission and American Leadership Forum - Oregon. Eddie was nationally elected to participate in the 2010 German Marshall Memorial Fellowship, the AIO American Indian Ambassadors Program, and the El Pomar Foundation Fellowship. As a partner in the Washington office, Eddie brings invaluable experience to Hilltop's campaign, issue advocacy, and communications practices. He will guide our continued efforts to help important, underrepresented constituencies organize and maximize their influence on politics and policy. He completed his B.A. in International Political Economy at Colorado College.







CLIMATE JUSTICE: IMPLEMENTING A JUST TRANSITION

2:00 PM - 2:55 PM

Join panelists as they discuss how they work towards climate justice. Panelists from Community2Community, Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition, Puget Sound Sage, and the Kent Cultural Diversity Initiative Group will discuss how we build a just transition. The panel will be moderated by Jamie Stroble.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Rosalinda Guillen (she/her), Community2Community

Rosalinda Guillen (she/hers) is a widely recognized farm worker and rural justice leader. The oldest of eight, she was born in Texas and spent her first decade in Coahuila, Mexico. Her family emigrated to LaConner, Washington in 1960 and she began working as a farmworker in the fields in Skagit County at the age of ten. Ms. Guillen has worked within the labor movement with Caesar Chavez's United Farm Workers of America and has represented farmworkers in ongoing dialogues of immigration issues, labor rights, trade agreements, and strengthening the food sovereignty movement. She works to build a broader base of support for rural communities and sustainable agriculture policies that ensure equity and healthy communities for farmworkers.





Adrienne Hampton (she/her), Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC)

Like biodiverse systems, Adrienne Hampton (she/her) approaches her work with a sense of shared motivation inspired by ecologically rooted relationships and cultivated in streams, dirt, and air over the past 15 years. Her background and career are based on climate action, public health, equity, and racial justice in policy. Hampton resolves to work towards employing a cross-cultural understanding of human identity in conjunction with a loving of the land. Adrienne holds a Master's in Public Administration from the Evans School, University of Washington.



Debolina Banerjee (she/her), Puget Sound Sage

Debolina is the Climate Justice Policy Analyst at Puget Sound Sage. Her responsibilities include research-based analysis of climate policies, campaign support on climate justice issues, and building power within Sage's local and statewide climate coalitions. Debolina played a key role in some of Sage's major climate campaigns and policy-advocacy like Initiative 1631, Environmental Disparities mapping project, Green New Deal to name a few, and was the co-author of the latest community-based-research report Powering the Transition that highlights how the low-income communities of color in South Seattle and South King County perceive energy policies and are impacted by them. Her research experience spans across various climate issues, namely energy, transit-oriented development, displacement, and environmental impact on small-scale industries on low-income communities and communities of color. She is a current member of the King County Climate Equity Taskforce and recently completed her term at the City of Seattle Environmental Justice Committee where she was a member since 2017. An immigrant from India, Debolina is also a volunteer with Association for India's Development where she has been involved since 2009 at various chapters in India and the USA. She maintains strong ties with grassroots activists and marginalized communities in India through her work in organizing for social justice around food, sustainable agriculture, clean environment, community development and women's empowerment. She holds a Master's degree in Applied Environmental Studies in Planning from the University of Waterloo and a Master's Degree in City Planning from the Indian Institute of Technology.



Dinah Wilson (she/her), Founder and Facilitator for Kent Cultural Diversity Initiative Group

Dinah R. Wilson, a proud native of Virginia, is the founder and facilitator of the Kent Cultural Diversity Initiative Group (KC-DIG), which sponsored the first Refugee Employment Summit in King County. KCDIG is a past recipient of the South King Council of Human Services President's Award for bringing together local community programs to serve refugees. Dinah is also Senior Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coordinator for the City of Kent, where she has worked since 2001. Prior to that she was a private consultant, worked in non-profit legal services organizations to advance gender equity and combat interpersonal



violence against women, worked briefly in county government, and worked in federal government as a Ranger Naturalist in Shenandoah National Park. She graduated from a Historical Black University, Virginia Union, which was founded in 1865 to give newly emancipated freedmen an opportunity for education of the mind in an ethical, religious environment. In addition to managing the CDBG program, Dinah's focus areas include facilitating access to services and integration of New Americans into the community; racial equity and social justice, workforce, and microenterprise development; and climate change. She is a member of the King County Equity Community Task Force which developed the Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities section of the Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) and was just selected to serve on the core team of the 3C Initiative. 3C is a threeyear national initiative of the Center for Community Investment(CCI) that targets racial inequities at the core of the housing ecosystem. Civic Commons, an initiative of Seattle Foundation, is the convening organization for the 3C's Seattle site, which will focus on increasing homeownership in the Black community where the highest wealth gap exists. Dinah provides training and consultation on effective and culturally responsive community engagement and multicultural racial justice. Dinah also was appointed by County Executive Dow Constantine to serve on the King County Immigrant and Refugee Task Force which was the impetus for the creation of the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission. She helped the former mayor of Kent and Kent City Council select the first Kent Cultural Communities Board, which advices the City on welcoming and assisting Kent's multicultural residents. Dinah serves on the Seattle Foundation Neighbor to Neighbor Advisory Board and was a facilitator for the City of Seattle Race and Social Justice Initiative, which helped community groups hold meaningful and transformative conversations about race. She received a 2015 award from South King County Pride for promoting diversity and will receive the 2021 Spirit of Caring award from Catholic Community Services of Western Washington for her impact on Katherine's and Rita's House, transitional housing for homeless women in recovery from substance abuse. Finally, Dinah is a poet and playwright whose poems have been selected several times to be published in the Metro Poetry on Buses series. The first play she wrote, Sacrifices, was selected by the Seattle Playwright's Salon for a reading before local playwrights and critics.

PANEL MODERATOR



Jamie Stroble (she/her), Noio Pathways

Jamie 真理恵 Stroble (she/her) is a passionate environmental and climate justice leader, policy advocate, community organizer, and educator raised in Hawai'i and rooted in Seattle. She has over a decade of experience working in environmental justice-related fields, including community development, food justice, air quality & environmental health, youth programming, leadership development, and immigrants & refugee programs. As a movement builder, she is always looking for ways to support new leaders, and strategize around affecting change. She led the groundbreaking development of a first ever climate justice framework (Section II:



Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities) as part of King County's 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, and created the Climate Equity Community Task Force, to center frontline communities and BIPOC voices in community-driven climate policy-making. Jamie previously worked for a non-profit empowering Asian Pacific Islander (API) youth and immigrant elders around environmental justice and community development issues, in leadership development with youth & young professionals, in affordable housing, and with Northwest native tribes around traditional foods access and air quality impacts on environmental health. She was also a founding member of the City of Seattle's Environment & Equity Initiative Community Partners Steering Committee. Jamie currently serves as Co-Chair of the Seattle Planning Commission, on the UW EarthLab Advisory Board, the Healthy King County Coalition Built Environment Workgroup, the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition Advocating Together for Healthy Communities board, and the Got Green Climate Justice Committee. Some of Jamie's projects include consulting with various organizations on environmental justice, climate equity, and community engagement through her side project, Noio Pathways, and mentoring young women of color in public service and environmental fields.





COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP & ANTI-DISPLACEMENT MODELS

2:00 PM - 2:55 PM

This session will explore different scales of collective ownership, anti-displacement, and cultural preservation models from yəhaw Indigenous Creatives Collective, Wa Na Wari, and Africatown. Panelists will discuss community ownership of arts spaces, economic opportunity, and housing.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Inye Wokoma (he/him), Wa Na Wari

Inye Wokoma (he/him) is an award-winning journalist, filmmaker and visual artist who explores the intersections of our political economies and shared histories through the lens of personal narratives. His work is rooted in the neighborhood he grew up in, Seattle's Central District where his family has lived since the 1940s. For the past thirteen years he has been working on an evolving multi-disciplinary body of work entitled 'An Elegant Utility'. It includes film, photography, conceptual and social practice art, museum installations, and art-driven land and housing justice activism ('artivism'). Inye is a co-founder of the Seattle Black art center, Wa Na Wari. The Frank and Goldyne Green Cultural Land Conservancy is the latest iteration of this intersection of purpose-driven community 'artivism'.





Curtiss Calhoun (he/him), Africatown Community Land Trust/Black Dot

Curtiss R. Calhoun (he/him) is a Seattle native. He graduated from Grover Cleveland High School and attended Seattle Central College when it was still a Community College. Curtiss is a Project Manager with the Africatown Central District Preservation and Development Association, as well as a Community Manager at Black Dot Underground a small business incubator/co-working space in Seattle's historic Central District. Curtiss facilitates a weekly Business Mastermind group called Black Dot Mastermind Mondays. Curtiss is also a Certified Transformational Coach. He is the Head Coach and Founder Curtiss Calhoun Coaching & Consulting a Seattle based coaching and consulting firm.



Kimberly Deriana (she/her), yəhaw Indigenous Creatives Collective

Kimberly Corinne Deriana (she/her) is a Mandan and Hidatsa architectural designer and artist who specializes in sustainable, environmental, Indigenous architecture, housing, and planning. Her design methodologies focus on incorporating Indigenous lifestyle practices in relationship to past and present: design for seven generations. Deriana strives to achieve exceptional design by weaving together respect for individuality, honor for cultural identity, and appreciation for contemporary quality, manifested in the shape and structure of sustainable buildings and communities. Deriana created the Brings the Medicine Sundial at King Street Station in 2019, and joined the yəhaw board of directors in 2021.

PANEL MODERATOR



Patty Julio (she/her), Julio Consulting LLC

Patricia brings 20 years of experience in neighborhood planning and community development, with a focus on communities of color and affordable housing. She began her career as a LISC AmeriCorps Member and was a real estate developer and project manager with the King County Housing Authority and Southeast Effective Development, working on projects in the Rainier Valley, White Center and south King County. Patricia has held leadership roles in mission driven nonprofits such as the White Center Community Development Association and Habitat for Humanity Seattle-King County. Her career took her to the highlands of northern Ethiopia where she was as an urban planning lecturer at Mekelle University, and to the Caribbean jungle where she supported micro-entrepreneurs with Luker Chocolate, Colombia's oldest national chocolate production corporation.

Currently, Patricia is principal of her own community-driven development consulting practice. She holds a master's in urban planning and a Bachelor of Arts in community and environmental planning from the University of Washington.





GRASSROOTS FINANCE AND EQUITABLE INVESTMENT MODELS

2:00 PM - 2:55 PM

Panelists will discuss transformative economic models and financial and investment approaches that shift power to Black, Indigenous and People of Color and move away from an extractive economy.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS



Sandhya Nakhasi (she/her), Community Credit Lab

Sandhya (she/her) is the Chief Investment Officer of Community Credit Lab and supports managing Lending Programs designed by community-oriented partners. Prior to CCL, she was an Investment Manager at a private foundation where she led the design and implementation of both direct and indirect-investing strategies. In her career to date, she has worked at public, private and non-profit financial institutions including Freddie Mac, Capital One and Coastal Enterprises, Inc. where she developed her expertise in credit analysis, portfolio risk management and portfolio operations. She also used her expertise to build out underwriting and portfolio-management systems and processes that enabled data-driven decisions at Lighter Capital, a financial technology start-up focused on small business lending. Sandhya has a B.A. in Economics from New York University and a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Michigan.





Gavin Amos-Lopez (he/him), Central Area Collaborative/BIPOC Infrastructure Services/ Avole Coffee

Gavin Amos-Lopez (he/him) is originally from Bakersfield, California and loves how green Seattle is. Gavin is a Community Navigator with the Central Area Collaborative and is the founder of BIPOC Infrastructure Services. Additionally, he is a contributing writer to the Seattle Globalist and Co-Owner at Cafe Avole. He has a passion for learning and finding new opportunities to participate in.



Dion Cook (he/him), Denkyem Co-Op

Dion Cook (he/him) is the co-founder and CEO of Denkyem SPC, where he works to provide access to affordable loans for Black-owned businesses. He has a background in education, business, and community economic development. Dion values relationships and community. Originally from Los Angeles, he and his wife are setting their roots firmly in the greater Seattle area.

PANEL MODERATOR



Njuguna Gishuru (he/him), People's Economy Lab

Njuguna (he/him) is a Seattle-based community economic development leader who specializes in advancing economic models that shift power to Black, Indigenous and People of Color. He is passionately committed to building thriving communities by ending systems of white supremacy and the extractive economy. Njuguna serves as a Leader of the People's Economy Lab where he drives transformative change by supporting the development of initiatives, institutions and individuals that are leading the just transition to a regenerative economy. He is deeply committed to the legacy of leadership he has inherited from his parents, Njambi & Peter Gishuru, pioneering organizers in Seattle's African immigrant communities. His personal background and extensive experience in banking, government and community development make him uniquely suited for this work. Njuguna currently serves as a Director on the Boards of Urban Family, Nehemiah Initiative, African Chamber of Commerce, Seattle Metro Chamber of Commerce, and One Vibe Africa.





EVENING ART EVENT WITH MARI SHIBUYA

The intention of this event is to ground the themes of <u>Meeting the Moment</u> by inviting our creativities in the collective creation of a mural. The mural will ask participants to visualize the future we want by understanding **what is falling** away and **what is growing** as we create the systemic changes needed to build a community of belonging.

This free, virtual event will be facilitated and led by Seattle-based visual artist **Mari Shibuya**.



Mari Shibuya (she/her)

Mari Shibuya is an artist, muralist, and facilitator who creates community based, process oriented artwork. In her work as an organizer, she works as a lead facilitator for multiple organizations focusing on the Creative Empowerment of young people through the arts. In her work as a muralist, she creates public art that highlights people of color in positions of power fueled by a deep connection to the wisdom of nature and ancestors.





GRATITUDE!

Meeting the Moment was produced by Sama Praxis, Communities Rise, and Cascadia Consulting Group in partnership with the COO Learning Community.

We are grateful for the support of many community partners to develop the vision, themes, and agenda for Meeting the Moment. The following individuals served on our Community Advisory Committee over the last 6 months to support the program design and implementation.

Curtiss Calhoun, Africatown Community Riley Irish (he/him), Saint Vincent de **Land Trust & Black Dot**

Paul - Centro Rendu

Emijah Smith, King County Equity Now

Sarya Sos (she/her), Cham Refugees Community

Folake Oyebola (she/her), Kent **Community Development Collaborative**

Steven Sawyer (he/him), POCAAN

Gloria Ramirez (she/her), Comunidad Sahim Sau

Tepatasi Vaina (she/her), **UTOPIA Washington**

Larissa Reza (she/her), WA Dream Coalition

Violet Lavatai (she/her), Tenants Union of Washington





NEXT STEPS

Today's event builds on the powerful organizing happening in communities across King County and beyond. We are grateful to support ongoing work in community and recognize the need for ongoing conversation to continue to uplift the themes of dismantling anti-Blackness and creating a community of belonging. We invite you to continue the conversation with us at several upcoming events!

FACILITATED REFLECTION SESSION

Friday, September 24 from 10 am - 11:00 am

Join COO for a facilitated reflection session to explore how to build connections and capacity to continue the work. In the session, participants will be divided into breakout groups by COO result area (health, housing, economic opportunity, and community connections). **Sign up here!**

STRATEGY SESSIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S INSTITUTE FOR SURVIVAL AND BEYOND

Fall TBA

In addition to the Facilitated Reflection Session and the 2022 Speaker Series – we are currently exploring more opportunities to support community groups in forging deeper relationships and solidarity, build shared analysis, and coordinate collective action. If you are interested in being notified when these opportunities become available, please sign up here.

2022 SPEAKER SERIES

Today's themes will be elevated and continued through the Speaker Series in 2022. Stay tuned for more information in winter 2022!



OTHER UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Additionally, COO is proud to support several additional ongoing programs and efforts. Please join us for several upcoming events:

CREST COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP OF LAND

Friday, October 1, 9:30am - 11:30 am

Be the first to see our new web-based story of CSL in King County, learn about the latest in CSL policy campaigns, and celebrate two years of the Community Real Estate Stewardship Team (CREST)!

SPEAKER SERIES

The Speaker Series is designed to amplify and learn from the efforts of our community-driven partners. Journey with us as we explore community-led transformations and engage our imaginations to cultivate abundance, healing, and new possibilities.

Cultivating Community Abundance | October 8 from 12 - 1:30 pm

What does philanthropy mean to a society that has been deeply impacted by a global pandemic? Join us in part 4 of Cultivating Community as we delve into this topic with Communities that are leading the charge of imagining philanthropy as we continue to move through the impacts of COVID-19.

Cultivating Community Healing | October 28 time TBA

Communities transform, they imagine, they are abundant, and they also heal. What is a journey without healing? Join our panelists as they reflect, share, and offer the ways in which they have navigated and worked through conflict and the hard days.

Cultivating Community Possibilities | November 18 time TBA

Join us for part six - and the finale - of Cultivating Community! In our last event of the series our speakers will be looking to the future and sharing what is next in the world of Community driven partnerships.

COVID-19 COMMUNITY STORIES COHORT FINAL SHOWCASE

December TBA

The **COVID-19 Community Stories Cohort** will hold its final showcase in December. Throughout the cohort, community partners collected and analyze data and developed communications materials to share these stories with broader audiences. These stories illustrate how different policies and systems can work to dismantle the structural barriers and systemic harms that lead to inequities in health and well-being.

YOUTH SUMMIT

December TBA

A youth inspired and youth led Standing in Solidarity summit will be held in December 2021. This work builds on a breakout session that Korean Community Service Center and Living Well Kent youth led on April 29th,



2020 at the Best Starts for Kids Summit. The session was called Building Bridges of Belonging to Counter Racism and Create Transformative Change. Youth presenters shared how their work changed in the context of COVID-19, the murder of George Floyd and the demand for racial justice. Youth recognized that the murder of a Black man by police officers and anti-Asian sentiment during the pandemic are examples of systemic racism, that are baked into institutions, communities, and outcomes. These youth came together to facilitate conversations on systemic racism, its impacts and to envision a future where bridges of belonging create transformative change. A youth led Standing in Solidarity summit was dreamt up as a platform to partner and learn from other youth projects with the goal of deepening upstream Policy, Systems and Environmental (PSE) work by standing in solidarity to co-create strategies that will combat and dismantle racism. We are recruiting Healthy and Safe Environments, Communities of Opportunity, and Best Starts for Kids youth led projects that are doing PSE change work to support in the planning, and/or lead a breakout session. More info to come. Questions? Email Ninona.Boujrada@kingcounty.gov

