

YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Center for Race and Gender Equity

ACTION CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

April 21st, 2021

2021 STAND AGAINST RACISM

Addressing Racism as A Public Health Crisis

PANELISTS

- **Lovie J.J. Foster, PhD, MSW**
Wellness Practitioner
Learn more about Lovie on [LinkedIn](#)
- **Chantele Mitchell-Miland, PhD, MPH**
Epidemiologist, Health Disparities and Health Equity
Learn more about Chantele at chanteledreams.wixsite.com/daretodream-1
- **Dr. Cathy Sigmund, PhD, CWM**
Director, Behavioral Health & Community Wellness, Northside Christian Health Center
Director, Refugee/Immigrant Ministries, Allegheny Center Alliance Church
Learn more about Cathy at cccpg.org/about/cathy-sigmund/

[Read more about our panelists here.](#)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION & RESOURCES

Our speakers spotlighted the following resources as important in addressing racism as a public health crisis.

- COVID-19 and Racial Disparities:
 - pittsburghcurrent.com/author/cemmdm123
- Resources for talking about race and trauma:
 - Dr Joy DeGruy: joydegruy.com/post-traumatic-slave-syndrome
 - Dr. Camara Jones [youtube.com/watch?v=to7YrI50iHI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=to7YrI50iHI)

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Greater Pittsburgh

- Local government response to racism and public health:
 - nonprofitquarterly.org/racism-as-a-public-health-crisis
 - essence.com/news/makiyah-bryant-fatally-shot-by-blue-lives-matter-police
- Local organizations addressing racism and its impact on regional well-being and health:
 - Welcoming Pittsburgh: pittsburghpa.gov/wp/index.html
 - One PA/environmental justice: onepa.org/our-story
 - Steel Smiling/stress and mental health support: steelsmilingpgh.org/about_us
 - Brown Mamas/women's health: brownmamas.com
- Racially inclusive media and news:
 - The Soul Pitt: thesoulpitt.com/main and twitter.com/thesoulpitt
 - The Root: theroot.com
 - Pittsburgh Courier: newpittsburghcourier.com

TAKE ACTION TO STAND AGAINST RACISM!

- **Take the 1st Step: [Tell Congress it's time to declare racism a public health crisis!](#)**
But calling for passage of this resolution is only the first step in a series of advocacy efforts targeted at uprooting racism. We urge you to take your advocacy one step further by writing your elected officials on one or more of the following issues targeted at breaking down barriers of racism, marshalling resources, and opening pathways to health, well-being and opportunities for marginalized communities:
- **STEP 2: [End Maternal Mortality: Cosponsor the Black Maternal Health Omnibus Act \(S. 346/H.R. 959\)](#)**
- **STEP 3: [Stand Against Racism: Pass the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act \(S. 937\)](#)**
- **STEP 4: [Demand Safety, Accountability, and Justice for All: Strengthen and Pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act \(H.R. 1280\)](#)**

Missed April's Action Conversation?

You can find recordings of all our previous Action Conversations at youtube.com/ywcapgh
