

## **Racial Equity Work in Atlanta Friends Meeting 2019**

As Friends, we feel called to act on our testimony of equality at the personal, institutional, and societal levels. We recognize that undoing racism is spiritual work, and we actively commit to becoming a multiracial, multicultural, anti-racist spiritual home for all. This year, we increased participation in anti-racism work beyond those already involved in Quakers for Racial Equality (QRE) and Committee on Undoing Racism in Atlanta Friends Meeting (CURAFM). Collaborating with other committees, CURAFM and QRE offered 2 well-attended interactive workshops on “Becoming a Welcoming Anti-Racist Meeting”. CURAFM also offered conversation activities related to race and identity at 3 potlucks, met monthly to plan future workshops and projects, and offered a monthly Listening Ear for Concerns about Racism. Quakers for Racial Equality and Social Concerns sponsored 4 Quaker Voluntary Service Fellows to attend the White Privilege Conference, 1 Friend’s participation in a weekend “Undoing Racism” workshop, and other Friends in taking webinars related to racism or being a welcoming Meeting. Other QRE highlights included extensive Black History displays, a bulletin board on “People of Color Who Inspire us Now” a weekly literature table, and contributing books to the library. Another group that focuses on reading fiction and poetry by and about People of Color meets monthly. In addition, the Friends of Color in Atlanta Friends Meeting group met several times this year and contributed funds to the Fellowship for Friends of African Descent. The Defend Asylum Law project workshops offered at Atlanta Friends Meeting have helped dozens of asylum seekers have their cases heard and also obtain work permits while awaiting hearings. Social Concerns and QRE sponsored public film screenings of “Healing Justice” and “Breaking the Silence,” a film about white civil rights activist Lillian Smith. Atlanta Friends also participated in efforts to address white supremacy and structural racism through groups such as the DeKalb Remembrance Project, the End New Jim Crow Action Group, Restorative Justice Advocacy Group, Community Movement Builders, and Hate Free Decatur.

**Quakers for Racial Equality** meets on 4th Sundays at 11:45 a.m. in the AFM library to support anyone with leadings to work for racial equality on personal, institutional, and societal levels.

**Contact:** Susan Firestone

**The Committee on Undoing Racism in Atlanta Friends Meeting** meets on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom A & B. The committee offers a Listening Ear for Concerns about Racism once a month and develops learning opportunities such as forums.

**Contact:** Karen Morris or Lissa Place

**Atlanta Friends of Color** gather periodically and have started a new tradition of gathering for a meal and conversation on a regular basis. To speak with a Friend of Color and be added to the list,

**Contact:** Folami Adams or Aberta Guise

**You’re welcome to join us!**