

**Toledo Community Coalition  
Update Annual Report**

**2020**



**2020**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Who Are We?	4
Target Areas of Interest	5
Economic Development Task Force	6
Education Task Force	8
Health Task Force	10
Housing Task Force	12
US Census Data – 2000 Census	16

## INTRODUCTION

In August 2011, a small group of pastors came together out of concern for issues in the African American Community. Several agencies were in financial straits and funding sources were drying up. Meetings were held with a major funder in the city to discuss issues in the African American community and it became obvious that there needed to be a unifying effort to bring about positive change in our city.

The group realized the need to call together other leaders in the community to assess the assets and gaps that affect our quality of life. As a result the Toledo Community Coalition was formed with the purpose of determining how we might meet the needs of the community and address the unwillingness of funders to invest.

Five areas have been identified for our focus. They are economic development, housing, education, health, and criminal justice. Each focus area has a task force, which is committed to developing strategies for the improvement of services and resources that will enhance the community. Based on the mission and vision of the coalition, a strategic plan is being developed which will be presented to the community. Our hope is that the community will embrace the effort and support the plan.

We are sensitive to the reality that the city of Toledo does not need another organization to bring people together to discuss issues. The Toledo Community Coalition is a catalyst for the process of improvement of the African American community and those underserved in Toledo. We are focused on being in partnerships and collaborations with other groups and individuals who have the same vision.

## Who Are We?

The Toledo Community Coalition is an organization that has a vested interest in serving the African American population. Our fundamental purpose is to serve in the areas of economic growth, health, education, housing and Racism and Cultural Bias. Our hope is to work in collaboration with other organizations who share common interests in improving the overall quality of life in the African American and other underserved population of the City of Toledo.

The Steering Committee is comprised of the following:

Mrs. Lenora Barry, Reentry Coalition

Rev. Beverly Bingle, Holy Spirit Catholic Community

Mr. Bernard Culp, First church of God

Bishop Robert A. Culp, First Church of God

Dr. Otis Gordon, Warren A.M.E. Church

Mr. Don Fothergill, Toledo Together

Mrs. Juanita Greene, First Church of God

Ms. Marriah Kornowa, Buckeye Health Plan

Ms. Marilyn Jacobs, State of Ohio

Mr. David Longacre, Multifaith Council

Mrs. Lisa McDuffie, YWCA

Ms. Doni Miller, Neighborhood Health Services

Mr. David Murray, retired, The Blade

Mrs. Gloria Smith, Toledo Lucas County Health Department

Mrs. Darlene Sweeney Newbern, O.C.R.C

Mr. George Thomas, The Fair Housing

Mr. Eric Williams, YMCA

Mr. Ray Wood, N.A.A.C.P.

Ms. Kim Toles, Toledo Lucas County Minority Health

## **Our Mission**

To educate, empower, and act as a support base to the African American community and other underserved of Toledo, in the areas of education, health, employment, and cultural awareness in order to improve the overall quality of life.

## **Our Vision**

Toledo's African-American community will be a dynamic and safe model of a collaborative community where open communication, partnership, love, and second and third chances are no longer the dream but the reality of life.

## **Our Projected Outcomes**

- To provide a document that outlines the prioritized needs in the African American Community and the best solutions to meet them.
- To utilize this document to assist funders in making decisions about future investments.
- To reflect the opinions and experiences of both African-American organizations and individuals.
- Prepare an analysis of the capacity of existing African-American organizations and recommendations for capacity building.
- Provide a list of recommendations for future follow-up of this endeavor.

**Target Areas of Interest**

**Economic Development**

**Education**

**Health**

**Housing**

**Racism and Cultural Bias**

Economic Development Task Force

Strategic Plan

***Mission: To create collaboration that will create job opportunities and businesses for people of color.***

***Objective I: Placing people of color in the upper echelon of businesses located in this region.***

***Strategy:*** Have a meeting with the Regional Growth Partnership Board members via a forum with Ruby Payne in order to create a culture of acceptance for these positions. Also, expose the board to the Dialogue to Change process.

***Objective II: Utilize and manage programs such as HUD 108, Ohio Unemployment Program, Port Authority's Neighborhood Program, Etc., to assist inner city initiatives.***

***Objective III: Develop strategies and initiatives that involve training and placement of unemployed residents into relevant jobs.***

***Objective IV: Create and work with Economic Development Agencies to create one Community Development Council for (Warren-Sherman, Onyx, and Totco) areas.***

***Objective V: Create a Financial Opportunity Center to improve citizens' capacity in financial agility, employment and increase credit, integrated services, earned income credit.***

***Objective VI: Create a transportation system that addresses adult conditions and youth driving skills.***

Education Task Force Summary

# Toledo Community Coalition Proposed Education Task Force Action Plan

*Education is a precondition for survival in America today.  
~Marion Wright Edeleman, Founder, CEO, Children's Defense Fund~*

**Mission:**

To perform critical analysis and examine the implications as to the state of primary to post-secondary education of African American children, adolescents and adults. To identify strategies to promote and support enhanced learning transitions for a 21<sup>st</sup> century educational environment.

**Vision Statement:**

To see all youth have the best access to resources, information and opportunity to be empowered prepared through quality education.

**Objectives:**

- . To engage in strategic planning with educators and other youth serving professionals to understand processes in closing achievement gaps.
- . To initiate and support creative, ambitious support programs for families that will focus on and encourage academic achievement.
- . To consider environmental, cultural and socioeconomic factors in order to better understand the obstacles students face in achieving educational goals.
- . To recognize barriers to minority student participation and achievement.
- . To consider academic preparation a deficiency on college campuses for minority students and those urban schools face dilemmas in adequately preparing students for college coursework.
- . To recognize nonacademic factors that influence performance – low self-esteem, fear of failure, isolation, and marginal participation in school and community involvement.
- . To look at the role of educators and understand that faculty's values, beliefs and responses are what shift the organizational structure to provide a more inclusive and productive academic environment.

Goals to consider in implementing an ACTION PLAN for educational achievement:

These goals can be achieved through programming.

Helping students to:

1. **Accept Self-Responsibility**, seeing themselves as the primary cause of their outcomes and experiences.
2. **Gain Self-Awareness**, consciously employing behaviors beliefs and attitudes that keep them on course.



3. **Mastering Self-Management**, consistently planning and taking purposeful actions in pursuit of their educational goals.

***Cultural Enrichment:***

Empirical evidence supports the importance of cultural integrity by illuminating how racial/ethnic minority youth benefit from being secure in their cultural heritages. The educational processes should include functioning in spaces that provide vehicles for cultural expression and advocacy, encouraging cultural validation.

***Raising Expectations:***

The problem of teachers and guidance counselors discouraging students from believing that they can succeed is very real for minority students and must be addressed. Such a climate makes it difficult for changes that will increase academic achievement. Attempts that emphasize accountability and that are more goal oriented should be made.

***Collaborations:***

Collaborations with youth serving organizations and agencies, public schools, charter schools, colleges and universities and others will increase accountability efforts and create opportunities.

***Parent Initiatives and Involvement:***

There must be a powerful parent component that will encourage families to be proactive about their child's education and progress.

## **Proposed Action Plan**

### **Primary Focus includes:**

- 1. Black/White Achievement Gap**
- 2. Preparation for Post- Secondary Education and Training**
- 3. Parent Involvement/Community Engagement**
- 4. Adult Continuing Education**

### **Focusing on Educational Achievement Gaps**

#### **Secondary Education: Framing African American Students' Success and Failure: A Typology for Change**

#### **Post-Secondary Education and Training: Making African American Student Success a Priority.**

1. First, we revisit national data and research literature that illustrate the ongoing urban Black–White achievement gap. Second, we track African American student achievement paradigms that affect our local area in an attempt to advance the conversation on African American student achievement with educators, administrators, families, community, stakeholders, and policymakers. We focus on projections in educational transitions and trends and look at models of success.

#### **References:**

- The Schott Foundation for Public Education, which has tracked graduation rates of black males from public schools since 2004.
- The Graduation Rate Watch, which tracks graduation rates of public and private colleges and universities all over the U.S. including the University of Toledo.

- U.S. Department of Education
- Institute of Education Sciences
- National Center for Educational Statistics
- NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress)
- Journal of Blacks in Higher Education

### ***Secondary Education***

#### ***The causations of the Black–White achievement gap***

Thompson et al. (2005) urban education is further characterized by:

1. Low student-performance outcomes
2. Student discipline problems
3. Poor student health
4. Limited access to supplemental learning resources.

The national urban mathematics and reading results of fourth and eighth grade

Students suggest that a lack of resources may be one of a number of issues to affect learners, some of which have far-reaching and systemic implications for the test score gap.

Last year, I put together a vision and purpose that contributed to the Coalition’s executive summary and helped define what work the education task force would do. As we look at educational attainment and the state of Black children preparing for a 21st Century workforce, what do we see? Should we be Optimistic or Concerned?

In the past year, the proposed report and analysis focused in four areas – attempting to understand the causations of our area’s most pressing educational issues. So the report overall is more descriptive than prescriptive. However, in order to develop an action plan for these issues, we must first understand what they are. We do that by looking at research and data and maintaining relationships with schools and educational entities to know what their theory and practices are. It allows us as a committee to be informed so we may help facilitate thinking about potential policy directions, economic patterns, educational trends, etc... Also supporting and working with projects, initiatives and programs that are effective in combating disparities, graduation gaps and retention issues.

**5. Black/White Achievement Gap – Framing African American student success and failure – Ohio has the fourth lowest African American High School graduation rate in the country. If they are not graduating then other problems are being created as a result.**

**6. Preparation for Post- Secondary Education and Training – By 2020, 75% of all U.S. jobs will require a two, four year degree or higher or some specialized training. In 2010, only 33% of high school graduates were prepared for post-secondary education and training, for Latinos, its 21%, for African Americans, it is 19%.**

**7. Parent Involvement/Community Engagement – In this preparation process, we can no longer see the youth as an individual student but we must consider the entire family unit and the**

**environment in which the youth has been influenced, which includes immediate and extended family and community.**

**8. Adult Continuing Education – By 2015, 1 in 3 adults will be enrolled in a post-secondary program, bringing the number of adult students to 20.4 million.**

**In addition racial differences in upward mobility within the workforce, the Racial wage gap widens after labor market entry. Studies based on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth show that while no black-white wage gap exists at Labor force entry, a racial wage gap develops as experience accumulates primarily Because blacks reap smaller gains from job mobility (Oettinger1996Tomaskovic-Devey ET al.2005). The black wage disadvantage persists due to a lack of education, experience, hours worked, occupation, region, and city size (Smith1997). Furthermore, there is little evidence that this income gap declined over the last quarter century. \_**

Education Task Force Committee Member List

Tracee Ellis, Chairperson

William Pierce

Dr. Hope Bland

Dr. Romulus Durant

Alicia Smith

Lance Ellis

Washington Mohammad

Dr. Charlene Gilbert

Dr. Willie Mckether

Karen Ellis

Cathy Smith

Val Virag

James Jackson \_

## Health Care Task Force

### **Report of the TCC Health Tasks Force Plans, Goals & Projects for 2015**

The Health Tasks Force believes that efforts to eradicate disparities in health care systems and delivery of health care services, and health care job opportunism will continue to be the focal point of our advocacy for year 2015. Therefore, we have rewritten of mission statement, vision statement and goals statement for the coming years of our platform to approve the aforementioned disparities existing in our communities of color.

We shall continue to collaborate with establish healthcare providers in Northwestern Ohio and seek out new partnerships and collaborations were possible. There are several projects, which will be overtaken by the Task Force in 2015 that include but are not limited to the following:

1. Complete position paper of Lead Paint Ordinance in cooperation with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Dept., Minority Health Division.  
Partner with ProMedica, St. Luke's Hospital, the Herkimer Lecture Series (April 25, 2015) which we will be an exhibitor, and continued partnership with AOA.
2. Continuation the Girl Talk series headed my Ms. Michelle McCaster, CRNA
3. Promote job and training opportunities through STNA training.
4. Support and partnership with the African-American Man's Walk
5. Development programs and partnership for suicide prevention programs geared toward African-American Youth and Young Adults.
6. Sustain or reaffirm working agreements with Physician advisors who practice family medicine and who have been targeted for cooperative covenants.
7. Solidify members of the Task Force and recruit new members with diverse credentials and expertise.
8. Appoint member Erika White as fitness, nutrition coordinator of the Task Force.
9. Coordinate and Prepare Community Health Forums, Health Screening and Community Health Workshops
10. Update Community Resource Guide
11. Identify and address persistent health disparities by collaborating with other health system agencies.

### **Spiritual Position Statement on Health Inequity**

Spiritual, health equity is often thought of in terms of wholeness, mind, body and spirit, when Jesus healed someone He would often say words of his effect “That you might be whole.” In Proverbs, it is said, “a cheerful spirit can act as good medicine against sickness.”

When there are inequities and disparities in healthcare and the delivery of such services , it means we as a community are counterproductive to the tenants of love, compassion, and caring for the least, the lost and the left behind. (Psalms 41:1-13)(Matt: 25:34-40). Had there not been health inequities, disparities and exploitation of American men of African descent, the tragic results of the Tuskegee experiment would not have happened.

Today, we are advocating proposals before our city council to create comprehensive legislation to address Lead Paint Poisoning in the form of a Lead Paint Ordinance, to protect our children, I pray that it not be said that again a type of the aforementioned tragedy will be revisited upon the children of Toledo.

### **Mission**

Is the intentional integration of the practice of faith of with the practice of wellness so that African-American & the underserved of the community can achieve wholeness in, with and through the community in which they live, worship, and serve in partnership and collaboration with Health Providers of Northwest Ohio and it’s unlimited inventory of human resources and skills.

### **Goals**

To provide health and wellness programs for individuals & families in the targeted population to access equitable health & well-being through the coordination of resources that meets the needs of the church congregation, local service organizations and agencies located and servicing the African-American & underserved community of Northwest Ohio. To be the advocate to address health disparities that has a negative impact on the aforementioned community.

### **Philosophy**

Health and wellness is a dynamic process, which embodies the spiritual, psychological, physical, and social dimensions of the whole person. Spiritual health is central to well begin and influences a person’s entire being. We hold that all persons are scared and must be treated with respect and dignity. Compelled by these beliefs we of Toledo Community Coalition’s Health Task Force shall serve in faith, advocating with compassion, mercy and justice.

## **Membership roster TCC Health Task Force**

Rev. Lee Williams, BSA, MA/CSPE, BCC-CHM & Senior Advisor

Ms. Paula Joshua-Williams, Secretary, RN, BSN, MPH

Mr. Dennis Hicks, MPA

Ms. Michelle McCaster, CRNA

Ms. Erika White

Mr. John Edwards Sr., Exec. Dir., UMADAOP\*\*\*

Ms. Teresa Barnes, Ma, LISW-S

Mary M. Reed, RN

Ms. Tamala Smith, RN

Dr. Tony Atkins, MD\*\*\*

Dr. Michelle Boose, MD, MPH\*\*\*

Ms. Johnnetta McCollough, MPA

Ms. Doni Miller, Media Advisor\*\*\*

\*\*\*Committee Advisors-PRN

•

## **HOUSING TASK FORCE REPORT SUMMARY- 2016**

### **Lead Ordinance**

According to the Ohio Department of Health website, The City of Toledo is one of the three top cities in the State of Ohio for childhood lead poisoning. Currently there are over 20,337 children under the age of 6 years in the City of Toledo. In the past 17 years ( 1997-2013) 90, 168 children under 72 months of age have undergone lead screenings. A total of 6,167 (6.8%) children from the (1997-2013) time period has had results with an elevated blood level. (retrieved from [http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/cfhs/lead\\_ch/lead\\_data.aspx](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/cfhs/lead_ch/lead_data.aspx))

Efforts addressing lead based paint hazards are essential, especially when targeting rehabilitation projects in the central city neighborhoods.

TCC was an active member of the lead coalition and met regularly with the health department to get the health department to identify rental properties that continue to be occupied with lead and move to take the individual owner to court. The health department created a system through discussions about characteristics needing tracking in houses. The child may move but the structure stays in place. TCC is interested in the structure(s) needing to be addressed.

Robert Cole, ABLE drafted a lead ordinance that was passed by the City of Toledo this year. The real work on the implementation of this new ordinance will be ongoing for 2017.

The next step is to "find" the homes that are affected by this ordinance. In the Cherry St. Legacy neighborhood alone that amounts to about 500 houses. Methodical implementation will be key to the ordinance success.

### **Green & Healthy Homes**

The Northwest Ohio Hospital Council has come to realize that there is a strong relationship between housing and health. Because of this they are chairing meetings on this topic and have moved toward and secured funds for the implementation of Green and Healthy Homes Initiative. We were able to flow chart the process of the lead process in the city of Toledo and it clearly showed the flaws in the system. TCC will continue its involvement with Green and Healthy Homes.

### **Demolitions:**

Although the city does not have funding for the amount of demolitions of blighted structures needed, the Lucas County Revitalization Corps, AKA Land Bank has been awarded grants to address this need across the city with concentration being in our inner city neighborhoods.

In November, the Housing Task force was combined with other committees. The New committee is now referred to as Neighborhood/ Community Development Committee.

### **Goals for 2017:**

The first and foremost goal is reach out to other inner city neighborhoods to identify shared issues and create a forum to communicate and collaborate together on social and environmental justice issues including but not limited to housing, education, health and criminal justice.



Dialogue to Change Toledo  
Working Plan

January 2015

**WHAT BRINGS US TOGETHER**

Dialogue to Change groups began in the fall of 2014 when the Toledo Community Coalition and *The Blade* partnered to sponsor a forum on racism entitled, “Changing Hearts, Changing Minds: Confronting Racism.” Facilitators were recruited and trained and dialogue groups formed at *The Blade*, Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority, and United Way of Greater Toledo followed the first forum. These were intended to be demonstration groups, which would spur on interest in the general public.

The purpose of the Dialogue to Change groups is to move people beyond the talking stages about racism into the action stage of working to eliminate it. At the end of the 6-7 week dialogue an action forum was held (not including the demonstration groups) in which groups presented their action plans and began working on them. More groups were formed after subsequent forums in the winter and spring of 2014.

The Dialogue groups were deemed important because there had been many forums, discussions, book studies and other gatherings to talk about racism in Toledo, but there had been no action beyond these events. There was concern about racial incidents that were happening in our country and there was a sense that in Toledo we wanted to be proactive rather than reactive.

The Dialogue process offers participants and others a chance engage in honest open dialogue with persons of other races and cultures and to actually do something to stop racism in our area and to engage in honest open dialogue with persons of other races and cultures. One of the purposes of the Toledo Community Coalition is to eliminate racism and to improve the quality of life of persons in the greater Toledo area, particularly in the central city.

People of color as well as whites have been talking about the need for race relations to improve. However, they have not found or developed ways to just talk to one another. The opportunity to have honest conversation without blame or guilt or accusations is welcomed, yet difficult to “schedule” or orchestrate. While the topic is compelling, the means of dealing with the topic have not been available in an organized fashion. The Dialogue to Change process brings together people from the northwest Ohio and southeastern Michigan area, people of various races and economic classes.

The forums on racism have been a great help in the recruitment of people. Individual testimonies have been the greatest asset in encouraging others to be a part of the process. Naming and framing it as a dialogue, not a presentation or a session to air differences seems to be the best way to frame it.

In the spring of 2014, the group of participants from the United Way Dialogue group approached the coordinator of the program in Toledo with the action plan they had developed to organize the Dialogue to Change process so that it would be ongoing and more organized than it had been. Contact was made with Everyday Democracy, the parent organization, and a consultant was assigned to us. A training event was held in the summer of 2014, to help us organize the Dialogue to Change process so that it could be sustained for the future. The Dialogue to Change Toledo Steering Committee now takes responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the dialogue groups.

## **GOALS OF THE PROGRAM**

Our goal in the beginning of the Dialogue to Change process was to reach 500 people in our first year, engaging them in the dialogue process. We fell short of that goal, but we are striving still to reach as many people as possible. Five hundred was a lofty goal in a year with no organization. It is not so seemingly impossible if our Steering Committee fulfills its goals.

At our organizing retreat in the summer of 2014, we set as our **goals: 1) to develop a system for continuing Dialogue to Change Toledo; and 2) to develop an organizational structure and direction.** Task forces were set up to accomplish those goals including: **Recruiting, training and support of facilitators, Evaluation and documentation, Logistics, Communications, and Recruitment of participants, Fundraising, and Action Forum.** Each of these Task Forces also set goals for their future work.

We still believe that the Dialogue to Change process is the best way to make a change in our community as we confront and eliminate racism. Lives have been changed through the discussions and revelations that come from the groups. This winter (2015) we have 80 people participating in groups who were recruited without the benefit of an area wide racism forum. Our challenge continues to be recruiting and retaining people of color to participate in our groups. We are working diligently on that aspect of recruitment.

We believe that success will be exhibited if the dialogue groups continue to be a part of the racism discussion in Toledo. More and more people are hearing about the process as we talk to organizations, city officials, churches and church leaders, and other individuals. Thus far we have reached over 200 people in the year we have been operating. Our goal is to sustain the program to reach as many people as possible. Success will be demonstrated when we can see a difference in the attitudes and behaviors of people across Northwest Ohio in regards to racism, and when people are willing to talk to each other about issues that arise pitting persons of color against the system and other individuals.

Michael Alexander

Vicki Ampia

Kerri Anthony

Emily Avery

Matt Baker

Barbara Coleman

Barbara Eikost

Frances Frazier

Kathryn Grayson

Janet Hales

Laura Harrison

Errol Lam

Faye Lam

Darlene Newbern

Karen Shepler

# **U.S. Census Bureau**

## **2000 Data**

### **Zip Codes**

**43602, 43604, 43606, 43607, 43608,  
43610, 43612**