

# NCCJ @ STL

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COMMUNITY AND JUSTICE OF METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014

### In This Issue

New Leadership

Youth Leadership Training  
Passing It On

Making Systems Change

Youth Voices

Adult Program  
Inclusion Institute  
for Healthcare

### SAVE THE DATE !

The 69th Annual  
Brotherhood Sisterhood  
Awards Celebration will  
be held on June 2nd at the  
Missouri History Museum.

*Come and  
Celebrate with us!*

### New Leadership

2013 was a year of growth for NCCJSTL—developing new programs with partners from across the state, bringing on new staff, moving to a new office downtown. We celebrated our 68th annual Brotherhood Sisterhood Award Honorees, individuals whose lives have impacted the community for the benefit of all of us. Leading NCCJSTL into 2014 and beyond, We are pleased to make two announcements regarding the leadership of the organization.

**Sharon Harvey Davis**, vice president and chief diversity officer at Ameren, has been elected to serve as Chair of the Board. She is replacing Nancy ParkerTice, who guided NCCJSTL through a pivotal few years.

**David Martineau** has been appointed to serve as Acting Executive Director. He has been the organization since 2009, and, as Program Director, has maintained and expanded upon NCCJSTL's legacy of strong programs. He will continue to grow NCCJSTL's program reach while expanding his role as an ambassador of the organization in the broader community.

As David and Sharon assume leadership of the organization, we are grateful for your continued support of NCCJSTL's programs, mission and vision of making real differences in families, schools, workplaces and communities.



### Our Mission

Since 1930, the National Conference for Community and Justice of Metropolitan St. Louis has been advancing diversity education and social justice. NCCJSTL delivers customizable diversity programs catered to the corporate, healthcare and education sectors. NCCJSTL's programs produce personal, organizational, and community-wide change. We envision a St. Louis community that is inclusive for all of us, not just some of us.

1405 Pine Street  
Suite 203  
St. Louis, MO 63130

(314)432-2525  
(314)432-2526(Fax)  
[www.nccjstl.org](http://www.nccjstl.org)

**Open Minds. Building Community. Igniting Change.**



## Training the Next Generation of Leaders

Anytown was recently cited as one of the “local groups making a difference with younger people” in a St. Louis Public Radio report on the Missouri Civic Health Index. Anytown has been working to motivate young people to be civically engaged for more than 20 years.

Anytown is often called a “life changing and amazing” experience. Participants and schools alike praise the impact Anytown has on graduates’ leadership skill and self-awareness lens development.

In 2013, Anytown graduated 41 diverse youth leaders, representing nearly two dozen schools, from the intensive eight-day experience.

Through experiential exercises and dialogue, the student delegates cultivated skills to take action for social justice. In line with NCCJSTL’s principle that we are all teachers and learners, delegates educated each other on how oppression has touched their lives and learned about how to be an ally to one another.

NCCJSTL is still recruiting high school youth for this summer’s Anytown, July 13-20, 2014. We are also looking for corporate partners to sponsor this powerful program.

For more information, please contact Emily Jones at [emily@nccjstl.org](mailto:emily@nccjstl.org).



## Passing It On

NCCJSTL’s Anytown graduates, involved in our year-round ALLY program, hosted 47 young people who serve on the Muhammad Ali Center Council of Students in Louisville, Kentucky. During their visit in St. Louis, ALLY student leaders conducted a daylong Building Inclusive Communities workshop at Washington University. The visit closed with a social event, held at the YMCA’s O’Fallon Park Rec Complex. Our visitors got to meet and mingle with NCCJSTL Anytown alumni as well as participants from other St. Louis social justice agencies. A highlight of the evening was a performance by St. Louis artist and youth arts advocate, Thelonius Kryptonite, whose 2013 release *The Anchor Punch LP* was a musical montage dedicated to the inspiring legacy of Muhammad Ali.

“The Muhammad Ali Center Council of Students (MACCS) was honored to have the opportunity to learn from NCCJSTL’s over 80 years of peace and justice work. Our students left the training with the tools to carry forth Muhammad Ali’s legacy in our community and beyond.”

- Erin Herbert, Education Manager  
Muhammad Ali Center



## Making Systems Change with Columbia Public Schools

What would you do if you heard someone at school say, “Oh, the black girl got it right”, or maybe, “Oh, she got it right,” when a female student did the same in a classroom full of male students? Sometimes people make such comments unconsciously, but after receiving training by NCCJSTL, the Equity Team of Columbia Public Schools is responding—in word and in deed— that this is not right!

In 2011, the Columbia Public School district enlisted NCCJSTL in a partnership to support its equity and inclusion efforts. So far, 16 employees have completed the FaciliTrainer Certification Program, while 10 youth leaders attended Anytown Youth Leadership Institute. NCCJSTL led all of these folks in a joint retreat to strategize for next steps they can take to achieve equity and inclusion.

So far, the certified FaciliTrainers have been able to reach more than 400 school district employees with training workshops, including the cabinet, the principals and assistant principals, and the counseling staff. And this summer, the district plans to send 12 more students to Anytown and to build its pool of FaciliTrainers in the fall cohort of the FTCP.



## Our Voices: ALLY Poetry Slam

On April 4th, the students of ALLY—NCCJSTL’s Anytown alumni program—organized a poetry slam for all those interested in social justice and spoken word. Young people from around St. Louis gathered on Washington University’s campus to showcase their experiences and worldview through NCCJSTL’s SpeakOut event. People of all ages attended, but only those 20 and under were eligible to perform.

ALLY brings graduates of Anytown together every other weekend to work on leadership and facilitation skill development. Participants of the program are encouraged to develop community engagement activities that align with their individual passions and interests. The SpeakOut event was a powerful example of these student-led initiatives, and a great avenue to hear from the youth of St. Louis.



## Building Capacity to Create Inclusive Communities

Meaningfully addressing diversity and inclusion doesn't happen by accident; it requires commitment, courage and skills that organizations have counted on NCCJSTL to cultivate in their leaders and employees for 25 years. In 2013, NCCJSTL has provided quality workshops, dialogues, and training institutes to nearly 1000 people, in various corners of the community,

including academia, healthcare, school districts, non-profits, and corporations.

The 2013 FaciliTrainer Certification Program brought 16 candidates together. The FTCP builds capacity within organizations, equipping their candidates to develop and deliver effective diversity and inclusion programs back in their corner of the community.

In the past year, the 8 NCCJSTL- certified FaciliTrainers at Columbia Public Schools reached 225 people within their school district. One participant remarked about the experience, "the session was not only eye opening but rewarding on so many levels. I left these sessions rejuvenated..."

Registration is open for the next FTCP cohort. For information about the FTCP or BIC Workshops, contact David Martineau at [david@nccjstl.org](mailto:david@nccjstl.org).



## Bringing the Inclusion Institute for Healthcare (IIH) to Chicago

Our newest partner in the health care arena is the University of Chicago's School of Medicine, Biological Sciences, and Medical Center. In December 2013, 25 leaders immersed themselves in training for diversity leadership at the Inclusion Institute for Healthcare (IIH) retreat. The IIH helps us better understand how diverse identities shape us so that they do not impact our work with patients, coworkers, employees and managers in the healthcare sector.

The IIH begins with a unique, 3-day community-building retreat, in which participants talk openly about diversity, oppression, and their experiences, developing trust with each other and preparing to work together to make change with a more comprehensive understanding of these dynamics. The retreat is followed by additional workshops

that build on this shared understanding and engage people in learning skills for inclusion interpersonal communication and for changing oppressive policies and practices in their corner of the healthcare community. The University of Chicago follows Washington University School of Medicine and the University of Missouri Health System in engaging NCCJSTL's training in support of their internal diversity initiatives.

For information about Inclusion Institute for Healthcare, or to schedule one for your organization, contact David Martineau at [david@nccjstl.org](mailto:david@nccjstl.org).

