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School of Law

Transitional Justice Report

International Criminal Law and Transitional Justice (Spring 2023)

Howard University School of Law

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INTRODUCTION

This inaugural report on Transitional Justice Mechanisms in the United States summarizes truth and reconciliation commissions and reparations initiatives proposed or undertaken in the United States as of the date of the report. The research has revealed that truth and reconciliation commissions and reparations initiatives are now underway throughout the United States at the national, state, local and community level. These initiatives have been initiated by legislators as well as by private actors. All of the initiatives reflect a desire by proponents to bring attention and healing to collective community harm. The nearly ninety proposals included in this report reflect a growing acknowledgement that transitional justice mechanisms can play an important role in addressing long-standing community harms. We expect that transitional justice initiatives will continue to proliferate in the United States as more Americans and communities come to understand the important role that these initiatives can play in truth telling, community reconciliation, reparative justice and preventing the recurrence of human rights violations.

The report was prepared by students in the Spring 2023 semester of my International Criminal Law and Transitional Justice seminar at Howard University School of Law. The report grew out of conversations that I held with members of the Office of Global Criminal Justice (GCJ) at the U.S. State Department. As a former State Department attorney, I was pleased to work with GCJ on ways to engage Howard Law students in work that aligns with GCJ's transitional justice mission. We decided that the preparation of a report on transitional justice mechanisms in the United States would be beneficial to GCJ and the students. The report would provide GCJ with a better understanding of the range of transitional justice mechanisms being undertaken in the United States. The preparation of the report would provide students with an opportunity to learn about how transitional justice processes are being applied in the United States and to share those findings with the public. As students began to research the growing number of transitional justice mechanisms in the United States, it became clear that the report would be most effective as a "living document". We plan to periodically update the report to track updates in transitional justice mechanisms around the country. This and future reports will be available to the public on the Howard University School of Law Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center website.

I would like to thank all of the students in my seminar for their painstaking research throughout the semester which contributed to the report. Kamal Apatira, Angelique Ball, Autumn Hooker, Corenza Jean, Mike Lynn, Jay Lord, Demetrian Miles, Aminah Ortiz, and Jamayne Potts, and Imani Stokley researched truth and reconciliation commissions in the United States. Karaz Axam, Benjamin Baker, Lela Johnson, Sarah Nwankwo, Ryan Prendergast, Rodney Smith, Sage Stewart, Brandon Watts and Kiara Williams researched reparations initiatives in the United States. A special thanks to my Research Assistant Fedel Estefanos who helped to compile the research into report format and to create graphs which visually reflect the information contained within the report. Thank you to Fedel Estefanos and Rodney Smith for helping to draft the executive summary based upon feedback from the entire class. I would like to thank Ambassador Beth Van Schaack, the United States Ambassador-At-Large for Global Criminal Justice, her Deputy David Mandel-Anthony, and Lucia Seyfarth for contacting me to discuss

ways to engage with Howard Law students. Our discussions ultimately culminated in this report. Finally, thank you to Thurgood Marshall Center Executive Director Justin Hansford and Managing Director Bilqis Wilkerson for providing a permanent home for the US transitional justice mechanisms project on the Howard University School of Law Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center website.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Johnson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States displays a long history of actions taken by activists, lawyers, public officials, and private organizations to assert the need for reparative justice for African Americans, Japanese Americans, Italian Americans, Native Americans, Mexican Americans, and other communities that have faced racial or other forms of injustice in the United States. Truth Commissions have been utilized to investigate and to provide an accurate record of the scope of the harm perpetrated against particular communities and to make recommendations for reparative justice. Reparations initiatives and proposals include but are not limited to the financial transfer of funds from government resources and private organizations to families and descendants of victims and to institutions that serve the interest of those communities directly. Truth commissions and reparations initiatives have taken place most significantly at the local level and have been initiated and led by NGOs and academicians more frequently than by legislators. (See **Figure 1.1**).

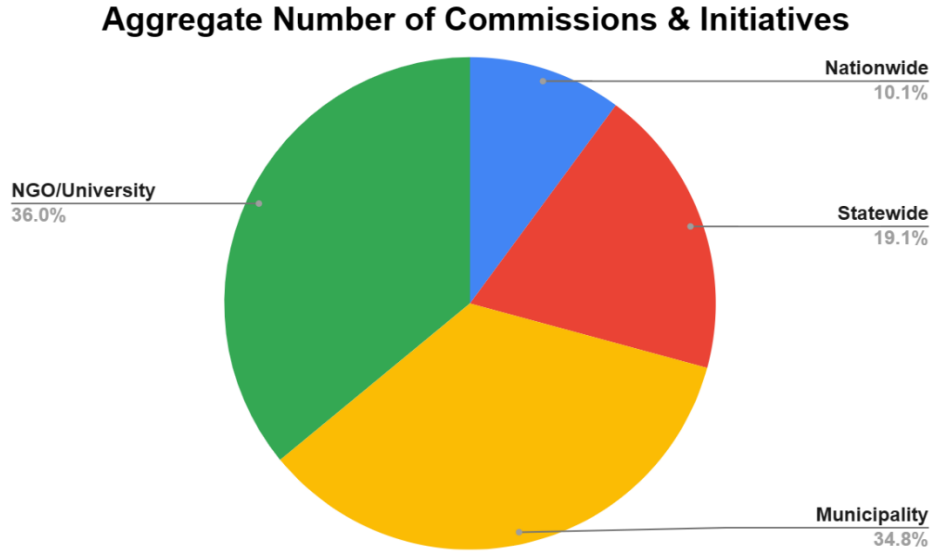


Figure 1.1

When truth commissions and reparations initiatives in the United States are examined by the level of government at which the claims are presented, it becomes apparent that activities occur most frequently at the municipal level. Contextually, there are multiple grassroots organizations and educators (lawyers working with historians and other researchers) presenting most reparations cases wherever the research concludes and supports the claim for commissions engaged at the municipal level. These organizations of direct descendants, community activists, legal scholars, and historians prove essential to advocacy. Additionally, local representatives from council members to mayors in areas that are politically left-leaning continue in 2023 to bring resolutions for truth commissions and reparations initiatives at the municipal and county level.

Research reveals a resurgence in focus on racial justice-oriented truth commissions and reparations initiatives since the murder of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, by police in broad daylight. The national interest in legal redress of police brutality and other crimes against humanity since 2020 has led to the rise of truth and reconciliation commissions, as well as reparation initiatives, at a more local grass-roots level. The overwhelming majority of the truth commissions have been undertaken at the local level by municipalities or NGOs and academic institutions. (See **Figure 2.1**).

Aggregate Number of Truth Commissions

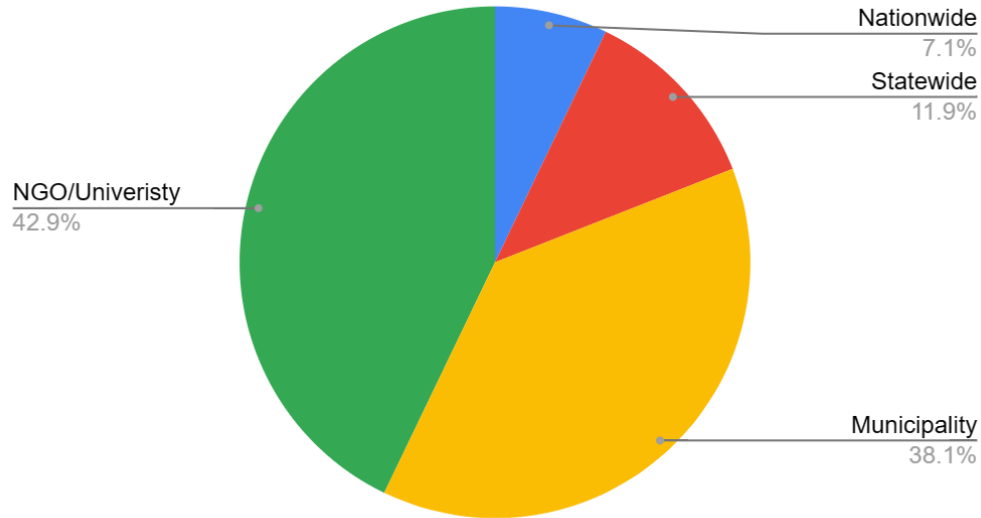


Figure 2.1

Some truth commission proposals that have sought to address nationwide practices targeted at specific communities such as the boarding of Native American children, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, or the impact and legacy of slavery, segregation and discriminatory practices against African-Americans. Other proposals have sought to address similar issues at the state-wide level, such as the Maryland Truth Commission on lynching or the California Truth Commission on the treatment of Indigenous communities in California. Still other truth commissions have sought to reveal the truth about specific incidents of racial violence such as the Tulsa and Greensboro Massacres. The vast majority of commissions are organized at the local and community level and are tasked with exploring harms directed at communities within a local area. This is unsurprising, as the bulk of truth commissions are proposed by NGO’s and academicians who have had success organizing truth commissions at the community level, with or without the support of government actors. Organizations such as the W.K. Kellogg Foundation have developed truth commission process frameworks that have been implemented in over a dozen communities.

Municipal resolutions on reparations often request the federal government to enact reparations at the federal level. In support of this request for national involvement, the municipal resolutions establish and finance reparations task forces to collect and analyze historical data and to substantiate claims for reparations with recommendations on implementation strategies in their region of the United States. The data clearly shows that state and national level reparations initiatives have been far outpaced by nongovernmental organizations and municipalities. Again, emphasizing the local nature and character of these initiatives. (See Figure 3.1).

Aggregate Number of Reparations Initiatives

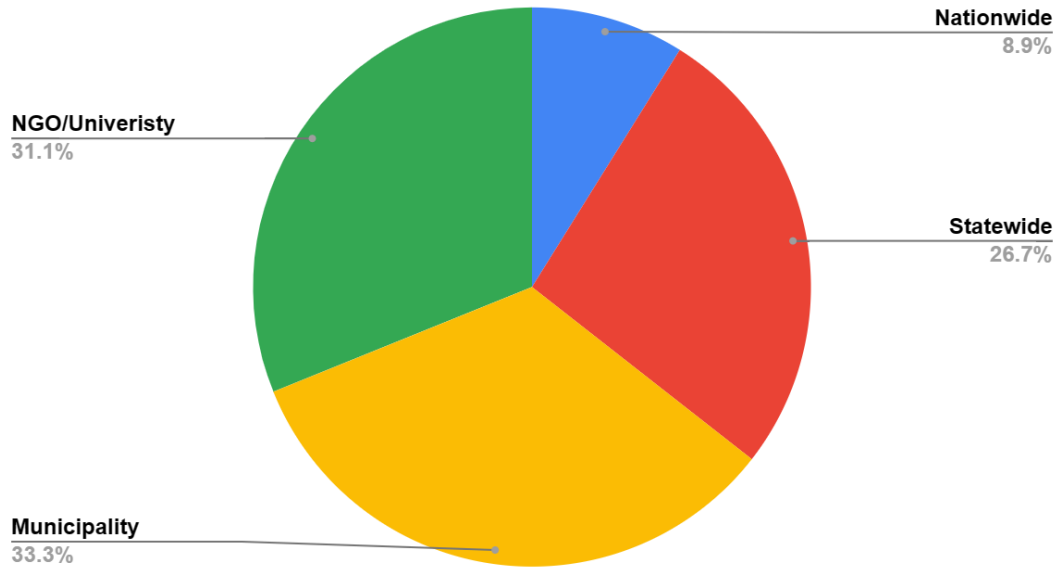


Figure 3.1

Twentieth and twenty-first century reparations claims place a priority on broader adjustments that repair harm and direct funds toward housing, education, and provision of adequate health care for the communities that experienced injustice, stating that a one-time payment will in most cases fail to meet the comprehensive monetary demand calculated collaboratively by economists, historians, and lawyers from universities and think tanks across the country. Many initiatives share a request that reparations from the federal government of the United States be included. Religious institutions and universities have pledged the most sizable financial allocations toward the cause of reparative justice, but they demonstrate difficulty in allocating or raising the capital pledged initially. While multiple iterations of formal legislative approaches and lawsuits are brought forward throughout the nation, there are very few concrete examples in which cash flows, land, or property have been conferred upon the victims or families of victims of racial injustice.

A majority of truth commissions and reparations initiatives are located within the “blue states” of the northeastern and midwestern US and in municipalities that are blue within red states in the Southeast. (Figure 4.1).

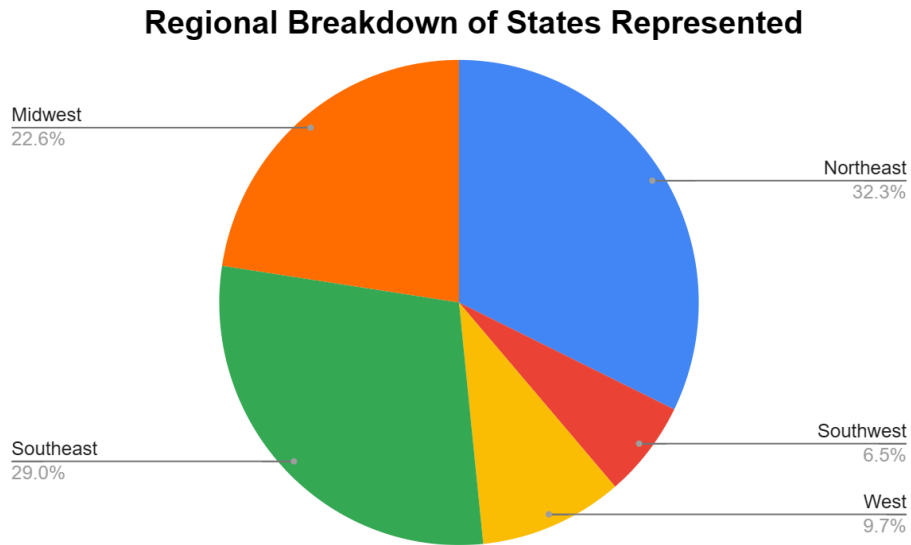


Figure 4.1

Data suggests that urban areas serve as catalysts for political action more than rural areas. (Figure 4.2).¹

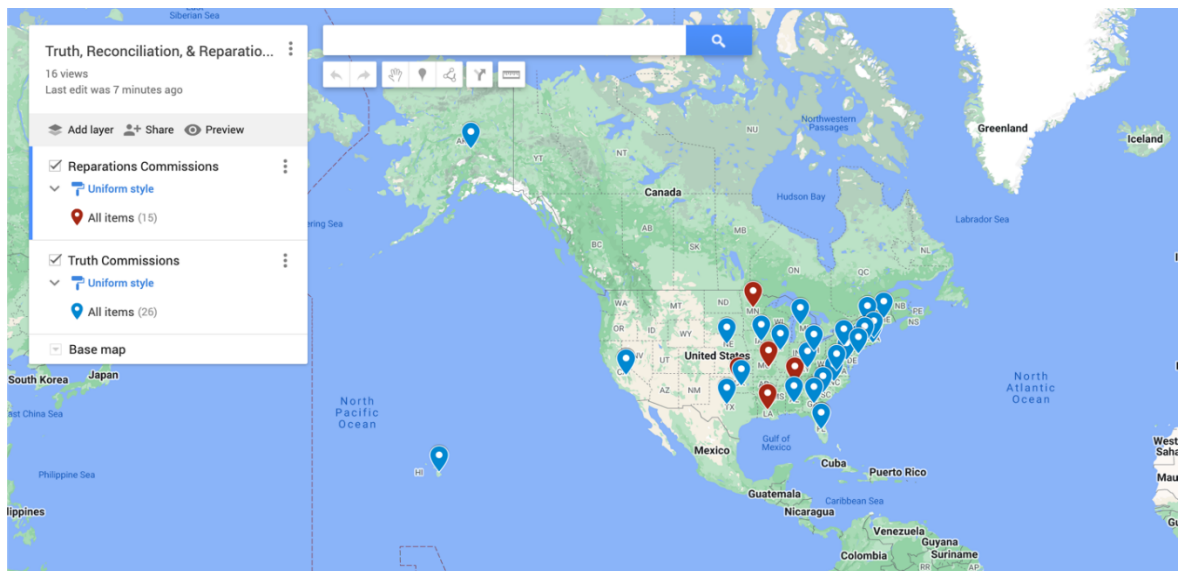


Figure 4.2

¹https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1mIcAl_RP6Mm5VYqP6_KhkbmAVwhs4xU&ll=15.097195287400417%2C-112.51412534999997&z=3

METHODOLOGY

International Criminal Law and Transitional Justice seminar students examined truth and reconciliation commissions and reparations initiatives in all fifty states by consulting publicly available materials located on federal, state and local government websites, as well as non-governmental organization (NGO) and academic institution websites. Secondary sources were also consulted. Two reparations scholars were consulted for helpful background reference materials.

The compilation of federal, state, local, NGO and academic institution truth and reconciliation commissions and reparation initiatives are reflected in the report below.

A number of the more recent commissions and reparation initiatives are at the proposal or initial stages, so the outcomes of those commissions or initiatives will be reflected in future reports.

I. TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

National

The Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies

The name of the organization is the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the US Act. This initiative is a truth commission and was created in 2020. It is important to note that this bill was introduced, but has not been enacted. The commission is composed of 13 members of the House of Representatives who introduced the bill. The mechanism for its creation was legislation. The purpose of the commission is to investigate the experience and impacts of the Indian Boarding School Policy and examine the ongoing effects of the intergenerational trauma inflicted on American Indian and Alaska Native families, including physical, psychological, sexual, and spiritual violence. In addition, the commission obtains accurate records and oral accounts of the events that took place at the boarding schools.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8420/text>

Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians

The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) was a federal government-appointed commission established in 1980 to investigate and assess the World War II forced relocation and internment of Japanese Americans by the United States government. The commission was composed of seven members appointed by the President, the Senate Majority Leader, and the Speaker of the House. The purpose of the commission was to evaluate the evidence, review the historical record, and conduct interviews with individuals who had been affected by the relocation and internment. The CWRIC held hearings across the United States, receiving testimony from over 750 witnesses, and ultimately concluded that the relocation and internment were the result of "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." They issued five recommendations: (1) that Congress pass a joint resolution offering a public apology; (2) that the President pardon those convicted of curfew violations and review other wartime convictions based on discrimination due to race or ethnicity; (3) that Congress direct agencies to review applications for restitution of positions, status or entitlements lost as a result of wartime events; (4) that Congress appropriate monies to establish a foundation to address the nation's need for redress, including a fund for educational and humanitarian purposes beyond individual reparations; and (5) that Congress establish a fund to provide redress of \$20,000 to each of the remaining 60,000 surviving persons of Japanese ancestry incarcerated during the war. The commission's findings led to the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which offered a formal apology and reparations to surviving Japanese American internees and their families.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.archives.gov/research/japanese-americans/justice-denied>

H.R. 990 - Recognizing racism as a national crisis and the need for a truth and reconciliation process

This resolution recognizes racism as a national public health crisis and supports the creation of a truth and reconciliation process to address historic, enduring systemic and structural racism against black people. This resolution was introduced into Congress on June 4, 2020 by Congresswoman Joyce Beatty (D-OH-3)

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/990/text>

State

California

The California Truth and Healing Commission

The California Truth and Healing Commission is a commission, created by executive order via California Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019, to examine the relationship between the official state of California and the Indigenous Californian community, and allow for an opportunity for the State of California and its citizens to apologize to the CA Indigenous community. The Council is organized under a Charter and operates under Bylaws. The Council is led and convened by the Governor's Tribal Advisor and governed by a Governing Council. The Governing Council includes twelve (12) Voting Members and four (4) Alternate Voting Members, all of whom are representatives of California Native American tribes from the four regions throughout the State. The members of the Governing Council are not representative of the tribes in their respective regions, but were selected to ensure diversity of opinions, viewpoints and experiences in governing the Council.

The Commission, which meets regularly in Fresno, California, bears witness to, records, examines existing documentation of, and receives California Native American narratives regarding the historical relationship between the State of California and California Native Americans in order to clarify the historical record of such relationship in the spirit of truth and healing; the executive order, Executive Order N-15-19, does not limit or narrow the temporal scope of the Commission's investigation, so we can assume it will research instances dating back to California's introduction as a United States state in 1849. The Commission's report is due to the state in 2025.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- Official website: <https://tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc/>
- Executive Order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/6.18.19-Executive-Order.pdf>
- FAQ: <https://tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc/faq/?emrc=63f4235b4a71c>

Maine

Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth & Reconciliation Commission

The idea for the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) arose in 2008 from a workgroup stemming from the Indian Child Welfare Act. In 2010, a mandate was written up for the creation of a TRC. Then in 2011, a Declaration of Intent was signed between the five Wabanaki Chiefs, and the Maine Governor, thus establishing the purpose of the TRC, which was truth, healing, and change. The Commission was officially established on February 12, 2012. This Commission was created to address harms imposed on the Wabanaki people and their children by the American government. The Wabanaki have existed in the United States for thousands of years, and during the time of their existence they have been victimized by a number of discriminatory policies, such as the Doctrine of Discovery. This Doctrine granted Christian colonizers the power to enslave indigenous people and seize their lands. It also gave rise to the creation of Indian Boarding Schools, which ripped young Native American children away from their families and forced them to assimilate into mainstream culture. In 2013, the Commission began its first listening sessions, within the community, and it released its final report on June 14, 2015.

Keeping in mind these harmful practices, the TRC established seven objectives:

1. Giving a "voice to Wabanaki people who have had experiences with Maine state child welfare.
2. Giving a voice to those working in tribal and state welfare systems as well as care providers and those involved in the legal system with regards to their experiences with Wabanaki families.
3. Establishing a more complete history "of the Wabanaki people in the state child welfare system."
4. Collaborating with TRC Community and Convening Groups "to provide opportunities for healing and deeper understanding for Wabanaki people and state child welfare staff."
5. Improving child welfare practices and creating sustainable changes which strive to create the best child welfare system.
6. Ensuring that lessons learnt by MWTRC are not forgotten by providing recommendations to tribal and state governments and to "further the objectives of the Commission."
7. To "Promote individual, relational, systemic, and cultural reconciliation."

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- https://www.wabanakireach.org/truth_reconciliation
- http://www.mainewabanakitrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/TRC-Report-Expanded_July2015.pdf
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maine_Wabanaki-State_Truth_and_Reconciliation_Commission

Maryland

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission is a truth commission established in 2019. The Commission consists of seventeen members. Of these, four are appointed by the Governor, and one each by the Bowie State University President, the Coppin State University President, the Morgan State University President, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore President. House Bill 307 tasks the Commission with researching cases of lynching, holding public hearings in communities where racial terror lynchings took place and developing recommendations for addressing the legacy of lynching that are rooted in restorative justice. The MLTRC's hearing process will allow members of the public, including the descendants of victims, witnesses, and perpetrators, the opportunity to offer testimony about how these murders have impacted their lives and their communities in addition to allowing them the opportunity to make recommendations for achieving racial healing.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.vox.com/22979953/forgiveness-reconciliation-truth>
- <https://msa.maryland.gov/lynching-truth-reconciliation/>

New York

Truth Commission on Poverty in New York State

This truth commission is a part of a national Truth Commission on the Right Not to be Poor, organized as a part of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. It was organized by the Labor-Religion Coalition of New York State in 2017. The truth commission is based in three regions in the state of NY: Capital region, Long Island, and the Western Southern Tier (These sites were chosen because they represent three distinct types of communities - rural Western New York, urban Upstate New York, and suburban Downstate New York.)

The mission of the truth commission is to tell the truth about ongoing injustice in New York communities- both their root causes and potential solutions, to develop stronger relationships and a commitment to collaboration/solidarity among anti-poverty leaders in diverse parts of our state, and to support existing local efforts to organize and advocate against poverty.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://nytruthcommission.org/>
- <https://kairoscenter.org/truth-commission/new-york-truth-commission/>
- https://www.nyhcampaign.org/truth_commission_on_poverty_buffalo

Vermont

The Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The state of Vermont recently passed an act creating a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), sponsored by state senator Kesha Ram. The TRC has been given jurisdiction over issues of racial justice and equity, with a mandate to investigate systemic racism in Vermont and recommend strategies for repairing harm caused by past discrimination. The TRC is composed of seven commissioners, appointed by the governor, and will operate for a period of two years. Their work will include collecting testimony from individuals who have experienced discrimination or injustice, as well as reviewing historical and contemporary evidence of systemic racism in Vermont. The commission will also engage with communities across the state to better understand the ways in which racism has impacted different groups of people. The TRC's report is due by December 31, 2023, and will include recommendations for legislative and policy changes, as well as proposals for reparations and community healing.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.wcax.com/2023/01/11/vt-lawmakers-move-forward-establish-reconciliation-commission/>

Municipalities

Florida

Alachua County Truth and Reconciliation Initiative

This Truth Commission's goal is to set an example for how the local government can recall its role in the history of racial injustice, and repair what it can through official apologies and appropriate reparations. The County researched its history of voter suppression, segregation in housing and public accommodations, discrimination in hiring and economic opportunity, participation in leased prison labor to fund county government and build/maintain public facilities, differences in the provision of government services, and any other government actions or inactions that deserve to be remembered.

The County created an online archive of documents, images and recordings, related to this project, including a Lynching Victim Timeline from 1867-1942. The commission's goal was to complete the research phase by 2020. Community Remembrance Project Committee Leaders include: Charles C. Chestnut IV, Carl Smart, & Deidre Houchen.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://truth.alachuacounty.us/About>
- <https://truth.alachuacounty.us/Members>
- <https://truth.alachuacounty.us/Timeline>

Iowa

Iowa City Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The Iowa City Truth and Reconciliation Commission consists of nine total members, including one Chair and one Vice-Chair. The City Council of Iowa City established the Commission through Resolution 20-228. The Commission is taking a broad approach to analyze instances and impacts of systemic racism and discrimination at various instances throughout the city. The Commission was established in October of 2020. The Commission's members have been appointed to terms through June 30, 2023. The Commission is located in Iowa City, Iowa. There are no restrictions to the Commission's temporal jurisdiction. In fact, the goal of the Commission is to look at various instances of discrimination and systemic racism throughout the City's history.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- https://www.kwwl.com/news/iowa-city-city-council-votes-to-extend-truth-and-reconciliation-commission-to-2023/article_26f9b356-5d67-11ec-841b-d34abfab909b.html

Kentucky

The Racial Justice & Equality Commission

The name of the organization is the Racial Justice & Equality Commission and it is a truth commission created in 2020. The commission has 15 members and was created by a legislative effort. The purpose of the commission is to identify both the systemic and systematic practices of

racism tracing back to the 18th century which has fostered structural inequalities, challenges, and deficiencies in Lexington-Fayette County, assess the historic marginalization (discrimination) of African Americans in this community, and recommend and advocate the systemic changes that will protect and promote racial opportunity, diversity, equity, and unity. The commission has subcommittees including: Education & Economic Opportunity, Housing & Gentrification, Health Disparities, Law Enforcement, Justice, & Accountability, and Racial Equity.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- Official Website: <https://www.lexingtonky.gov/boards/commission-racial-justice-and-equality>

Louisville, Kentucky Truth & Transformation

In partnership with the National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC), the Office of Equity is attempting to improve the relationship between LMPD and residents in certain designated police districts through implementation of the Truth and Transformation Initiative by providing:

- Procedural Justice Training to command and patrol staff and all other LMPD personnel by the end of 2022
- Listening Sessions to create dialogue between community members and law enforcement through facilitated conversation wherein community members are empowered to share their voice and feel truly heard, and members of law enforcement gain perspective through honest conversation with the community they serve.
- Narrative Collection in which participants share personal and community narratives of harm to build mutual understanding and empathy and to elevate the voices of community members outside of just listening sessions.
- Fact-Finding, via thorough research, to understand both historical and present-day institutional harms of over policing to our community
- Policy and Practice Change based on community feedback, in order to prevent the same harms from ever taking place again.

This initiative, based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in post-Apartheid South Africa, is an important part of creating a just, peaceful, and whole Louisville Metro. The beginning and most important aspects of the Truth and Transformation Initiative is the initial step of an acknowledgement that certain populations in our community have been harmed at the hands of the law enforcement. The next step is the training of command and patrol staff, and all other LMPD staff by the NNSC training experts, followed by Listen Sessions for residents and LMPD and engagement of work by a qualified researcher to gather testimony, document harm to the community, and report-out of findings.

Louisville has seen over 40 homicides and roughly 100 non-fatal shootings in 2022 following two consecutive years of record murder totals. Louisville jail deaths: eight people have died in five months in Metro Corrections custody.

The program from the Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) at John Jay College aims “for communities and law enforcement to come to a position of respect and trust by recognizing historical harms and experiences, building empathy and finding common ground and a mutually supported way forward,” according to the budget summary.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/office-equity/truth-transformation>
<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/2022/03/29/louisville-clout-holds-2022-assembly-focused-gun-violence-police-lmpd/7192568001/>

Maryland

Salisbury Truth, Racial Unity, Transformation & Healing (TRUTH) Advisory Committee

This Commission was established on January 18, 2022 in Salisbury, Maryland. The 13-member body will recommend to the Mayor ways to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the City. The Committee will investigate systemic racism and offer policy solutions to the Mayor to address these issues. The Commission will meet on a biweekly basis and will focus on building community relationships as well as partnerships with historical and cultural associations.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://salisbury.md/01/18/2022/truth-cmte>

Massachusetts

Boston Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation Commission

The Boston Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission is a community-driven effort aimed at addressing the legacy of systemic racism and oppression in Boston, Massachusetts. Beginning in 2020, with few updates in the intervening years, the Commission seeks to provide a platform for people to share their experiences of racism and discrimination, and to investigate the ways in which systemic racism has affected individuals and communities in Boston. Through a process of truth-telling, the Commission aims to promote healing, reconciliation, and the creation of policies and practices that promote racial justice and equity. The Commission is committed to centering the voices of those who have been most impacted by racism, and to working collaboratively with community members, activists, and policymakers to create meaningful change. The Commission is composed of community members, activists, and leaders from various fields, and is committed to centering the voices of those who have been most impacted by racism.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.wbur.org/news/2020/06/30/boston-truth-justice-reconciliation-commission>

Minnesota:

Minneapolis Truth & Reconciliation Workgroup

The Minneapolis Truth & Reconciliation Workgroup was created by a city-wide resolution to study similar commissions and form a process to address the city's racist history. Specifically named in the resolution are the atrocities against the Dakota people who were driven out of the area, the 38 Dakota men who were hanged in 1862 (the largest one-day massacre in US history), the enslavement of and construction of racial prejudice against Africans forcibly brought to this country, the redlining of Black neighborhoods and destruction of an existing Black neighborhood with building I-35, etc. The temporal scope of the resolution wasn't specific, but considering it names the killing of the 38 men in 1862, we may be able to assume it began at least then and probably when Minnesota became a state. The resolution was passed on August 20, 2019, and a report on the group's findings were due in June 2021. However, likely due to the pandemic, the findings have not been published and it's unknown if the Workgroup has resumed their study.

New York

The Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission

The Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission is a truth commission that was formed in 2021 and located in New York City, NY. The purpose of the commission is to examine structural racism

within the city, identifying the structural barriers that plague minority groups in the city. The Commission, as a temporarily appointed government body, is tasked with reviewing the City Charter and making amendments that are to be voted upon by the people of New York during the 2022 general election. In December of 2021, the commission published its report and recommendations for the City of New York. The report included recommendations such as the City government engaging in reconciliation efforts with the communities, where it acknowledges the harm it has committed against the minority communities. It also recommends developing a tool to measure racial equity in the city, and enhancing the basic human rights and food justice within the city. One of its last recommendations is expanding voting and community power.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://racialjustice.cityofnewyork.us/about/>
- <https://racialjustice.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Final-Report-of-the-NYC-Racial-Justice-Commission.pdf>
- <https://racialjustice.cityofnewyork.us/roadmap/recommendations-from-the-commission/>

North Carolina

The Greensboro Truth & Reconciliation Commission

Per the official website, The Greensboro Truth & Reconciliation Commission was charged in its mandate with seeking the truth surrounding Greensboro Massacre that occurred on November 3, 1979, and the events leading up to it, as a means of fostering reconciliation and healing in the community. The Commission's goals were: "clarifying the confusion and reconciling the fragmentation caused by these events and their aftermath, acknowledging and recognizing people's feelings, and helping to facilitate positive changes in social consciousness and community institutions."

On November 3, 1979, the Communist Workers Party engaged in a "Death to the Klan" rally/demonstration in Greensboro's Black Morningside Homes public housing community. KKK and Nazi members confronted the demonstration, shot, and killed five participants and wounded many others. Key issues: violent language and provocation, injustice in the justice system, city government and community response, fear and silence, grassroots organizing, firearms, and racism.

In 1999 the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Project (GTCRP) was created. From 2002-2004, the GTCRP Local Task Force began drafting the Mandate and establishing the Commission. In 2006 the Commission's final report was released. The Commission was composed of seven individuals appointed by a democratic, community-wide nomination and selection process: Cynthia Brown, Pat Clark, Muktha Jost, Angela Lawrence, Robert Peters, Rev. Mark Sills, and Barbara Walker.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- Official Website: <https://greensborotrc.org/>
- Official TC Report: https://greensborotrc.org/exec_summary.pdf
- <https://gateway.uncg.edu/crg/essay1979>
- <https://books.google.com/books?id=vQ4utXDKWvwC&pg=PT20#v=onepage&q&f=false>

- https://www.democracynow.org/2004/11/18/remembering_the_1979_greensboro_massacre_re_25
- <https://read.dukeupress.edu/radical-history-review/article-abstract/2007/97/102/30123/A-Massacre-Survivor-Reflects-on-the-Greensboro>

Ohio

Cleveland Truth Commission on Poverty

The Cleveland Truth Commission on Poverty was held on October 14th, 2017 at Franklin Circle Church in Ohio City was part of a year-long effort, through many activities and actions across the country, to revive the 1968 Poor People's Campaign led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and bring together the struggles of the poor and dispossessed today. The Truth Commission only functioned for a single day.

The event put poverty on trial and featured over 20 personal testimonies from local low-income individuals telling their stories involving environmental degradation, housing, quality education, healthcare, living wage jobs, and criminalization of the poor.

The testimonies were presented to nearly 115 community members and local leaders as well as a panel of commissioners that included Rev. Sala Nola-Gonzales, Maria Smith, Attorney with Legal Aid and Marian Kramer from the Michigan Welfare Rights Union.

Commissioners: Brooks Berndt, Sala W. J. Nolan Gonzalez, Maria Smith, Marian Kramer, Chris Knestrick

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://organizeohio.org/cleveland-truth-commission-2017.html>

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921

The Oklahoma Commission to study the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre was created in 1997 pursuant to Oklahoma House Joint Resolution 1035. The Commission report findings note that the targeted attack on the Greenwood Section of Tulsa, Oklahoma, ensued from May 31- June 1, 1921. Among the damages:

- 40 square blocks of 1,265 homes looted and then burned to the ground, including hospitals, schools, and churches owned primarily by African Americans;
- 150 businesses leveled also by fire and, in some instances, incendiary devices thrown from the air in the Greenwood district now popularly referred to as the "Black Wall Street" of America;
- 6,000 Black Tulsans involuntarily arrested, detained and released only upon being vouched for by a White employer and/or citizen;
- 9,000 homeless and living in tents well into the Winter of 1921

The Commission identified 118 survivors and at least another 176 descendants of massacre victims and made recommendations to the State legislature twenty years ago. One investigation suggests casualties of 2% of the Black population in Tulsa in 1921 using the Bureau of Vital Statistics and directs towards three specific locations for forensic investigation of mass graves. Human Rights Watch reports that the Oklahoma Education Department added the 1921 Tulsa race massacre to its curriculum for the first time in Fall 2020.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921: [Final Report on February 28, 2021](https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/freport.pdf)
<https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/freport.pdf>

Pennsylvania

Truth, Justice, & Reconciliation Commission

The name of the organization is the Truth, Justice, & Reconciliation Commission. The initiative it is involved in is truth commission. It is a fairly new commission as it was created in 2020. The organization is a partnership of three District Attorneys—Rachael Rollins, Larry Krasner, & Chesa Rousin. The mechanism for its creation was by way of these district attorneys. The organization is physically located in Philadelphia, but has two other pilot cities located in Boston and San Francisco. The commission's overarching objective is to address generations of racial injustices. There is no information on the temporal jurisdiction of the commission.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.tjrc.org/>

The Carlisle Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The Truth Commission is based in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and was born out of a community town hall on racial equity held earlier this year. Over one hundred individuals attended this town hall to share stories, ask questions, highlight issues of racial inequity, and make recommendations. After the town hall there was local legislation (Resolution 03-11-2021-01) that was enacted on March 11, 2021 and went into effect on May 25, 2021.

The TRC's work will include examining and documenting policies, practices, and actions by the Borough and Borough Council that have contributed to racial inequity and systemic racism in the community. The commission will also provide opportunities for those impacted by systemic racism to share their experiences and will facilitate conversations among and between community members of various backgrounds. The ambitions of the commission include:

- To improve racial justice and racial equity by meeting our community where it is and engaging it in truth-telling and reconciliation.
- To examine existing policies as well as past and present practices and structures that contribute to systemic racism.
- To develop guidance for Borough officials about next steps for making our community more just and equitable through accountability and transformative change.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- https://www.carlislepa.org/government/boards_commissions/truth_and_reconciliation_commission.php

Rhode Island

Providence Truth-Telling and Reconciliation Process

The truth commission was enacted through Executive Order 2020-13 on July 15, 2020. The Mayor, Jorge. O. Elozora, convened community leaders to address institutional and systemic bias and racism affecting Black and indigenous people.

First, the City will work to identify the Truth by examining the role of the State of Rhode Island and the City of Providence in supporting the institution of slavery, the genocide of Indigenous People, forced assimilation, and seizure of land, among other policies. As part of this first step, local and state laws will be reviewed. This will include a review of all other forms of public and private sector discrimination against people of African or Indigenous heritage and their descendants up to the present day. Once the collection of Truth is completed, findings will be used to begin the process of Reconciliation. Residents, organizations, and institutions will be engaged in discussing these Truths, with the aim of appreciating the resiliency of the Black, Indigenous People, and People of Color in Providence and to better understand the ways these injustices continue to impact residents today.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.providenceri.gov/mayor-jorge-elorza-announces-truth-telling-reconciliation-municipal-reparations-process/>
- <https://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Mayors-Executive-Order-2020-13-1.pdf>

South Carolina

Human Affairs and Racial Reconciliation Commission

The purpose of HARCC is to promote equity, inclusion, and racial conciliation through meetings, presentations, and research regarding all forms of institutional and community discrimination and assist in implementing any recommendations from the mayor and council through its standing committees to the public, assist with education and implementation of any directive from council.

The duties and responsibilities of the HARCC are to provide recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on the development of the racial equity framework.

Members: Councilmember Stephen Bowden, Councilmember Jason Sakran, Councilmember Michael Seekings, Bonnie Cleveland, Carroll Frye, Jerome Harris, Carol Jackson, Alvin Johnson, Kim Long, Marie Delcioppo, Robert B. Simons, Adam Shoemaker, D.Min., and Tom Orth.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.charleston-sc.gov/2713/Human-Affairs-and-Racial-Conciliation-Co>

Virginia

Racial Truth and Reconciliation Virginia

The Truth Commission was created in 2020 in Henrico, Virginia. This is a community-led initiative catalyzed by Voices for Virginia's Children empowers advocates with lived experience to ignite the change they wish to see in their communities. The initiative wants to influence state policy to become more trauma informed. RTRVA focuses on the intersection of trauma and equity to empower advocates with lived experience to ignite change in pursuit of healing, reconciliation, and justice. The campaign seeks to advance policies that dismantle systems that perpetuate racial trauma, oppression, and inequity.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://vakids.org/racial-truth>

Nongovernmental Organization/University

Truth Commission on the Right to Not be Poor

As part of the call for a New Poor People's Campaign, leaders across struggles for human rights and dignity are coming together to create a Truth Commission on the Right Not to Be Poor. As our government and the news media become less and less reliable sources of information, we have to work together to seek out the truth about the crises we're facing. This Truth Commission will happen through a series of tribunals, community hearings, public actions, and listening tours. With it, we will connect the experiences and insight of people on the front lines of the fight for survival. Through this process, the Truth Commission will play a significant role in developing the national platform of the New Poor People's Campaign.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://kairoscenter.org/truth-commission/>

<https://staging.poorpeoplescampaign.org/truth-commission/>

Black women's Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The Reconciliation Center administers a cooperative and institute, an organic farm and an intentional community of women committed to restoring right relationships between and within people and nature. Designed to forward the work of the Black Women's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Center fosters awareness of mechanisms of internal, interpersonal and socio-political conflict, and hosts healing retreats, workshops, exhibitions, and dialogues. Working with land, and local and global communities, it brings people together to design and practice strategies for healing, health and reparative justice.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://restoreny.org/reconciliation-center/>

Alabama

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Selma

The TRHT of Selma is a truth commission that was established in May of 2017. The Commission was created in conjunction with the Black Belt Community Foundation, and it receives its funding as a grantee of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The commission is a comprehensive, national and community based process to plan for and bring about transformational sustainable change, and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. What it focuses on most is doing away with the deeply rooted beliefs that fuel racism within the community. This looks like disposing of the notion that one race is superior over another. This commission has five main focus points: narrative change, racial healing & relationship-building, separation/ segregation, economy, and law. Each one holds a different significance for example, law looks at recognizing the historical significance that the American legal system has had on the community. On the other hand,

separation/ segregation looks to dismantle and transform laws and policies that create, enforce, and support racial separation. Along with the BBCF, the commission also holds an annual national day of racial healing.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://blackbeltfound.org/>

Alaska

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation

The First Alaskans Institute (FAI), based in Anchorage, Alaska, received a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support “TRHT: Alaska”, a three-year statewide Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) process. The organization’s overarching objectives are to grow a shared understanding of Alaska’s true history, to right the past wrongs that continue to inhibit Alaska’s true potential as a state, and to help communities heal to achieve an equitable future for all.

For years, indigenous communities and peoples of color in Alaska and across the country have called for a process that provides for intergenerational healing and permanent systemic and societal transformation. Through the First Alaskans Institute, TRHT: Alaska, seeks to combine the power of collective healing and relationship building with policy and law to advance a fundamental shift in society. Beginning in 2017, TRHT: Alaska supports efforts related to Indigenous language education; transformation of public education; and the advancement of policies that center Alaska Native stewardship and protect Alaska Native ways of being.

The *Advancing Native Dialogues on Racial Equity* (ANDORE) is a project initiated by the First Alaskans Institute, which seeks to:

- Reset and reshape the dialogue on race in Alaska by bringing people together to challenge perceptions through community conversations; seeking to raise the level of awareness and healing around race and racism;
- To advance policy solutions towards racial equity.

The ANDORE team consists of: La quen náay Liz Medicine Crow, Ayyu Qassataq, Kacey Qunmigu Hopson, Henaayee Olivia Irwin, Angela Łot’oydaatno Gonzalez and other community members trained in the dialogue process.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://healourcommunities.org/>
- <https://firstalaskans.org/newsroom/news-releases/announcing-trht-ak-1-5-million-three-year-grant-support-truth-racial-healing-transformation-alaska/>
- <https://firstalaskans.org/alaska-native-policy-center/racial-equity/>

California

The Truth Commission to End Abuse at L.A. Ports

During a Nov. 9 Truth Commission hearing, appalling stories were told of abuses and injustices from warehouse workers and truck drivers who move goods that flow through the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The Truth Commission is a coalition of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California, the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE), Warehouse Worker Resource Center (WWRC), and Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE-LA). The group's goal is to increase awareness that many jobs at the port are insecure, low-wage positions, instead of good jobs that benefit communities. At the end of the hearing, the Commission agreed to investigate further and ultimately develop a report on the conditions that will be provided to Port officials.

The Truth Commissioners include: David Huerta, Jackie Goldberg and Pastor William Monroe Campbell. Truth Commission members include End Abuse at LA's Port includes community leaders from across the city, including Jean Franklin, executive director of Anchor of Hope Reentry Ministry; Jackie Goldberg, chair of L.A. City's Targeted Local Hire Program; David Huerta, president of SEIU USWW; Jim Mangia, president of St. John's Well Child and Family Center and Emi MacLean of Immigrant Rights Clinic at the UC Irvine.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://lasentinel.net/truth-commission-investigates-workplace-abuse-at-l-a-port.html>

Truth Racial Healing and Transformation Los Angeles

TRHT Los Angeles was founded in 2017 through a grant given by the WK Kellogg Foundation (WKKF). The coalition is attached to the SoCal Grantmakers which is a community of philanthropists and grant makers who are looking institute substantial change in Southern California. TRHT ran until 2022, and during that time, it made significant strides in the LA community to advance racial healing, narrative change, and the economy. Because Southern California has a large Asian population, the coalition delved into the history of anti-Asian violence, looking at the Japanese internment camps and the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during WW2, and the 1871 Chinese Massacre. TRHT Los Angeles also offered implicit bias training across various business sectors. Sometimes it worked with corporate business, and other times it worked with nonprofits or philanthropist. Through their tireless work, they were able to get established the first ever Los Angeles Office of Racial Equity.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://socalgrantmakers.org/>

Hawaii

Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center Team at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

The Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center Team at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa was created in 2018. It is a truth commission. The primary members responsible for the creation of the TRHT are Dr. Gail Christopher, Dr. Tia Brown McNair, Dr. Lynna Pasquerella, & Mee Moua. It was created by the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) in partnership with the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center. UH Mānoa is 1 of the 25 THRT Campus Centers and one 1 of the first cohort of 10 institutions to lead this work. Its overarching objective focuses on racism which has affected Hawaiian communities and the climate change and global warming within Hawaii.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/nhpol/trht/>

Illinois

Northern Illinois University Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation Campus Center

The Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation Campus Center on the NIU Campus in DeKalb, IL is a truth commission established in partnership with the Association of American Colleges. The TRHT framework was informed by the globally recognized truth and reconciliation commission (TRC) process. The framework is based on five components: (1) narrative change, (2) racial healing, (3) separation, (4) law, and (5) economy. The goal of the center is to prepare the next generation of leaders and thinkers to break down racialized practices and to dismantle the belief in a “hierarchy of human value.” NIU was awarded \$25,000 in seed money to start the TRHT Campus Center. “The goal of TRHT is to bring transformation and sustainable change within campus cultures and to address the historical and contemporary effects of racism and other -isms,” said Jocelyn Santana, director of Social Justice Education, who will oversee the TRHT team at NIU. The TRHT team at NIU consists of J Pappas, assistant director of Social Justice Education; Joy Mitchell, associate director for Student Conduct; James Cohen, associate professor of ESL/Bilingual Education; and Joseph Flynn, associate professor of Curriculum and Instruction.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Greater Chicago

The Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation of Greater Chicago (TRHT) was founded in 2018. The TRHT is made up of a group of individuals who represent diverse sectors and backgrounds. They met at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) TRHT Summit in December of 2016. It’s objective is to create regional transformational change in four areas: truth and narrative; healing; law and policy; and youth. Their mission is To proliferate healing and equity within individuals, neighborhoods, and communities to change the race narrative to fuel transformation, erase the belief in racial hierarchy, and drive towards racial equity. To meet its goals, the organization holds an annual Day of Racial Healing, where it seeks to unite the Chicago area in the spirit of becoming a more just and equitable community. While the scope of the organizations authority is tied to their funding by the WKKF, it continues to expand its reach within the Chicago community.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.woodsfund.org/news/truth-racial-healing-and-transformation-trht>

<https://www.transformchi.com/national-day-of-racial-healing/>

Maryland

University of Maryland, Baltimore County Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation Campus Center

The Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation Campus Center located on the campus of the University of Maryland Baltimore County is a truth commission established in partnership with

the Association of American Colleges. The TRHT framework was informed by the globally recognized truth and reconciliation commission (TRC) process. The framework is based on five components: (1) narrative change, (2) racial healing, (3) separation, (4) law, and (5) economy. Known as the “Shriver Center” at UMBC, the center is committed to dismantling white supremacy by implementing anti-racist practices through programs, initiatives, and organizational processes. In 2017, the Shriver Center received funding from the American Association of Colleges and Universities to create a Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Campus Center. Their vision is to lead meaningful social change through transformational higher education and community partnerships.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Michigan

Howard County, MD Lynching Truth & Reconciliation, INC.

Howard County Lynching Truth and Reconciliation, Inc. is committed to compiling, and truthfully documenting and memorializing the history of lynchings and near-lynching activities that happened in Howard County. Knowing this history of sanctioned violence and terror (Truth) is an essential first step to understanding and healing from the ways in which it continues to impact many of us today (Reconciliation). It aims to provide a more accurate picture of the environment and climate in which the events occurred. In March 2021, it became a Maryland nonprofit in order to do the work. Advancing *Truth* and *Reconciliation* compels an inclusive and transparent process that is firmly rooted in moral *Integrity* in all and for all.

On June 12, 2021, the initial Board of Directors for HCLTR held an election to vote on nominees. As of that date, the following became members of the Board of Directors for HCLTR: Rev. Sadie Woolford, Lynn Mumma, Erika Carruth, Joy Owens, Marlena Jareaux.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://hocoltr.org/about/>

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation of Kalamazoo

The TRHT initiative was implemented in the Kalamazoo community in 2017, and now guides work across functional areas of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. TRHT Kalamazoo was awarded a grant of \$816k from a \$5million grant meant to support all four TRHTs in Michigan. It's goals are to: Build/strengthen collaborative partnerships and infrastructure locally to carry out the TRHT Framework; Map, build capacity and expand existing efforts in narrative change, racial healing, and racial equity in Kalamazoo; Establish a fund as a sustainable funding source for the TRHT work; and Set a vision, goals, key, and strategic direction for ongoing local work in Phases 1 and 2. Currently, TRHT Kalamazoo is focused on addressing fair housing practices, eviction mitigation, transparency in the criminal justice system, and the needs of small businesses owned by black and brown people. It is also trying to create a historical database of those local businesses. Additionally, it seeks to utilize the TRHT framework to inform its public policy agenda to try and make Kalamazoo the most equitable place to live by centering the needs of the residents in

Kalamazoo county. Since its inception, the Commission has hosted or partnered in producing 50 events.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- [TRHT Kalamazoo - CF Kalamazoo \(kalfound.org\)](http://kalfound.org)

Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Battle Creek

TRHT Battle Creek was founded in 2017 through a grant given by the WK Kellogg Foundation (WKKF). Additionally, it receives funding from the Battle Creek Community Foundation. Through this initiative, TRHT Battle Creek is focused on addressing the historical ramifications of racism within the Battle Creek community while also trying to bring about transformational and systemic change. The mission of the transformation commission is to "be the catalyst for a racial equity movement in Battle Creek, Michigan that transforms the way we live, work, and interact as a community." This is achievable by following the model principles set by the WKKF, and conforming those ideals to the pertinent needs of the community. In practice, TRHT Battle Creek is quite involved in the community. It hosts a yearly program for the National Day of Racial Healing. It also has created literature to guide the community through racial healing, established a training program for those who want to become Racial Healing advocates and practitioners, and turned some of its focus towards increasing the rate of black homeownership within the city.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.bctrht.org/home-en>

Nebraska

A Year of Reckoning and Reconciliation – University of Nebraska

A Year of Reckoning and Reconciliation is dedicated to recognizing the Great Plains' complex history. The Commission focuses on topics including land dispossession and return, racial violence and repair, and environmental harm and justice. The series specifically asks how residents of the Great Plains can best reckon with the violence, conflict, and abuse that has occurred in the region and move toward healing, justice, and reconciliation.

People on the Great Plains have suffered dispossession, exile, violence, discrimination, exclusion, exploitation, forcible assimilation, and family separation. Typical accounts of the region often downplay or erase these events. Yet past abuses have contributed to current disparities and inequalities, and failure to confront them has limited the possibilities to create a fully inclusive and thriving society.

This series will reckon with the past while also highlighting the resiliency of people, cultures, and communities moving forward. These events are designed for community members and organizers, local and regional leaders, students, student groups, the academic community, and anyone curious about these issues.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.unl.edu/plains/2022-symposium>

New York

Binghamton University Truth and Reconciliation Commission

In 2019-2021 the Harriet Tubman Center led the efforts to create the TRC and organized six listening sessions with various stakeholders in our community. This resulted in the successful creation of 10 Recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This academic year, TRC panel members in conjunction with the Vice President of DEI and the President's Office, to implement the ten recommendations.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

South Carolina

Greenville County: Greenville Racial Equity & Economic Mobility Commission

The Racial Equity and Economic Mobility (REEM) Commission was formed in the summer of 2020 to convene around matters of racial inequities, social justice, and disparities in key areas that negatively impact the Black community in Greenville County, South Carolina. After the murder of George Floyd and the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement, the United Way, Urban League of the Upstate and Greenville Chamber came together to leverage data from United Way's 2019 Racial Equity Index (<https://www.unitedwaygc.org/rei/>) toward building solutions for the Black population in our community. It was with this heightened sense of urgency and renewed passion that the REEM Commission was formed to specifically address the historical, systemic, and ongoing inequities and disparities affecting Black people in Greenville County. It is a truth commission composed of community leaders with the primary goal of developing strategies and partnerships to eradicate race-based disparities and inequities that affect the Black community. There is no specified temporal jurisdiction of the commission or expiration date for the commission. Relevant leaders of the organization include Stacy Mills, the Executive Director, as well as Merl Code and David Lominack, the two co-chairs. Relevant links include:

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.reemgvl.org/>

Texas

Dallas, Racial Healing, and Transformation

The Dallas Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) is a community-based initiative aimed at addressing issues of racism and promoting racial healing and equity in Dallas, Texas. It is a part of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation aimed at confronting the legacy of racism and its ongoing impact on individuals and communities, while fostering a culture of healing and transformation that can lead to a more inclusive and equitable future for all. It launched in 2016, TRHT is a comprehensive, national and community-based process to plan for and bring about transformational and sustainable change, and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. As a smaller community based organization it was organized by local members as part of the national TRHT mission. The organization is trying to promote racial equity training, coaching,

case study presentations, policy review and development, outcomes development and a community-based history tour. The organization is trying to promote racial equity training, coaching, case study presentations, policy review and development, outcomes development and a community-based history tour.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://dallastrht.org/vision/>

Washington

University of Washington School of Nursing Truth and Reconciliation Commission

This Commission was established in September 2020, in response to harms that current and former students had experienced while attending the University of Washington School of Nursing, particularly in the midwifery program. After initial responses to harm including track leadership changes, the faculty decided to implement a formal panel to pursue truth and reconciliation utilizing a Restorative Justice/Transformative Justice approach. The University employed an outside facilitator to support the process and the nurse-midwifery faculty engaged in internal work to create an accountability structure. The Commission then engaged with current students, alumni, and community stakeholders in a truth and reconciliation process to attend to harms that stemmed from the program.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://nursing.uw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/UW-Midwifery-Truth-and-Reconciliation-Final-Report.pdf>

II. REPARATIONS

National

Reparations for Wartime Relocation and Internment of Japanese-American Civilians

In response to the United States' government placing many Japanese-Americans in internment camps during World War II, the U.S. sought to correct these wrongs by enacting the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. This gave surviving Japanese Americans \$20,000 in reparations and was paired with a formal apology from President Reagan. Many prominent Japanese Americans played a role in getting this bill passed. "In 1978, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) formed the Redress Committee and appointed John Tateishi as its chair. The JACL and Tateishi went to the Hill to meet with California Representatives Mineta and Robert Matsui, as well as Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga. Like Inouye, Matsunaga was a WWII veteran. He fought in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team."

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/redress-and-reparations-japanese-american-incarceration#:~:text=This%20law%20gave%20surviving%20Japanese,the%20redress%20movement%20into%20legislation>.

Colorado River Indian Settlement

The Departments of Interior and Justice enacted the Colorado River Indian reparations settlement. This began from a compilation of lawsuits from Native American Tribes after the government failed to pay after making treaties to purchase the Native land. In 2016, 17 tribes received \$492 Million from the Obama Administration. The money from the tribal settlements will be transferred directly from the U.S. Treasury to tribal governments, and that there are no stipulations about how it will be spent. In a departure from more than a century of policy, the U.S. government insists that tribal governments take the payments, refusing to hold the settlement assets in trusts.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/09/27/495627997/u-s-government-to-pay-492-million-to-17-american-indian-tribes>

H.R. 40 Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans

Senator Corey Booker, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, S. 40 in Jan. of 2023 to propose reparations for African American descendants of slavery. This legislation is the Senate companion of H.R. 40 introduced by Sheila Jackson Lee. The purpose of this legislation is to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans,

and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1083>
- <https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/booker-reintroduces-legislation-to-form-commission-for-study-of-reparation-proposals-for-african-americans>

Indian Claims Commission

The Indian Claims Commission was a government commission established by Congress in 1946 - H.R. 4497, An Act to create an Indian Claims Commission. It functioned as a judicial relations arbiter between the federal government and native tribes. This commission was comprised of lawyers, anthropologists, historians, and a commissioner appointed by the president. On the side of the Native tribes, it was comprised of advocates and legal counsel.

This commission was established through Congressional legislation. It was an independent agency that looked at claims stemming from once the United States became an independent country.

The overarching objectives were to hear and determine the claims of tribes and other identifiable groups of American Indians living in the United States to give these Native groups the ability to obtain redress of a number of land related issues. These were to obtain redress for lands that were ceded to the US through treaty, but the government failed to complete payment, land that was purchased at an unreasonably low price, or failure to honor a treaty during the westward expansion of the US.

This commission, operating in Washington DC, was created in 1946 and was adjourned in 1978 when its remaining claims were transferred to the United States Court of Claims.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- <https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/opa/online-press-release/indian-claims-commission-granted-more-45-million-during-1969>
- <https://web.archive.org/web/20180116120442/http://digital.library.okstate.edu/icc/index.html>

State

California

Bruce Beach Reparations

The California Reparations Task Force, created by California statute SB 796, focused on the history of the taking of the Bruce Beach property from Charles and Willa Bruce, a Black merchant married couple in the LA area, and giving the descendants of the Bruce family reparations for the taking. The Task Force consists of nine members. Five members are appointed by the Governor, two members are appointed by the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and two members by the Speaker of the Assembly; it is currently chaired by Kamillah Moore. The Task Force may hold hearings, hear witness testimony, and request the production of evidence.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

[Bill Text - SB-796 State parks: state beaches: County of Los Angeles: Manhattan State Beach: deed restrictions: taxation. \(ca.gov\)](#)

[Newsom signs bill to return Bruce's Beach to Black family - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)

[Why the Bruce's Beach \\$20 million sale isn't a model for reparations \(nbcnews.com\)](#)

[Reparations Task Force Members | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General](#)

California Victim Compensation Board

California's Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program was created by the California Victim Compensation Board in order to provide reparations for forced sterilizations during eugenics programs instituted by the state and in state prisons from the 1900s-70s. California performed the largest amount of these sterilizations. The reparations include a 15,000 cash amount. The program looks back to both eugenics programs peaking in the 1930s as well as the state prison sterilizations that occurred until about a decade ago. The board is located in Sacramento, California and consists of three members: Amy Tong, Secretary of the Government Operations, Malia M. Cohen, California Controller, Diana Becton, Contra Costa County District Attorney.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.statnews.com/2023/01/04/california-sterilization/>

<https://victims.ca.gov/fiscp/>

<https://victims.ca.gov/board/board-members/>

Reparations Task Force

In 2020, the California legislature passed Assembly Bill 3121, Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans. The goal of the task force is to study the institution of slavery and its lingering negative effects on living African Americans, including descendants of persons enslaved in the United States and on society. In June 2022, the task force submitted an interim proposal to the legislature for appropriate remedies of compensation, rehabilitation, and restitution for African Americans. California's Department of Justice was also included in the

legislation, tasked with assisting the task force in facilitating consultations with various experts on California history and reparations as well as providing administrative, technical, and legal support. The Task Force consists of nine members, five appointed by the Governor, two appointed by the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and two members by the Speaker of the Assembly. The Task Force holds regular meetings, nearly once a month, that are open to the public. A final proposal will be submitted in July 2023.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121/>

<https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121#:~:text=AB%203121%20charges%20the%20Reparations,United%20States%20and%20on%20society.>

Reparations for Mexican Laborers in the US-Bracero Program

“The Bracero Program began on August 4, 1942, in Stockton, California, as a result of the U.S. government responding to requests by Southwestern agricultural growers for the recruitment of foreign labor. Though the specific link has not been directly demonstrated, it is certainly more than coincidence that only six months previously, thousands of Japanese farmers and farm laborers mostly residing in California) were detained as suspected “dangerous enemy aliens” and eventually shipped off to one of ten internment camps.” **Ronald Mize, Jr., Cleveland State Law Review**

“While American soldiers fought in World War II, about 4.5 million Mexicans were brought in to temporarily work in U.S. farm fields and railroads. The bilateral guest worker agreement between Mexico and the United States lasted from 1942 to 1964.” - Jorge Macias, *The Sonoma Index-Tribune*

From 1942-1947, no Braceros were sent to Texas because of the documented mistreatment of Mexican workers by Texan growers and other citizens. A series of assurances by the Texas state government were secured before growers were allowed to import labor from Mexico. The states of Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming were also blacklisted by the Mexican government, up until the 1950's, due to discriminatory practices documented in each of the states.

Many laborers said they never received the pay, and many never even knew that 10 percent of their salaries was deducted. In 2001, lawyers filed a class action lawsuit in California. In 2005, the Mexican government agreed to pay about \$3,500 in compensation for braceros living in Mexico. 49,000 of the 212,000 applications received could provide documentation. Bracero Justice Act of 2002 (H.R. 4918) was introduced by Rep. Luis Gutierrez, (D-IL-4) on June 12, 2002 to the 107th Congress (2001-2002). The bill “sets forth rules for cases in which an eligible claim is brought against the United States, Mexico, or certain financial institutions alleging failure to pay moneys owed to workers participating in the labor importation (bracero) program between January 1, 1942, and January 1, 1969”. The bill also aimed to waive certain defenses to legal claims brought by workers participating in the bracero program between 1942 and 1969. The largest organization representing Latinos, the National Council of La Raza (NLCR), offered letters in support of local

Bracero justice campaigns.

A total of thirty-one counts were filed in a lawsuit in the Federal District Court in San Francisco. Lawyers for the braceros and the Mexican government said the Federal District Court in San Francisco had given preliminary approval to a settlement in the case. Under the settlement, Mexico would give each bracero, 38,000 pesos. About 36,000 ex-braceros still have not received the money, a third of them living in California.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Reparations for Mexican Braceros - Lessons Learned from Japanese and African American Attempts at Redress - <https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/clevstlrev/vol52/iss1/19/>

New York Times: [Settlement Will Allow Thousands of Mexican Laborers in US to Collect](https://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/16/us/16settle.html) - <https://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/16/us/16settle.html>

CalMatters: [Time is running out for the braceros](https://calmatters.org/california-divide/2019/11/time-is-running-out-for-the-braceros/) -

<https://calmatters.org/california-divide/2019/11/time-is-running-out-for-the-braceros/>

The Sonoma Index-Tribune: [Braceros wait for wages they're owed from decades ago](https://www.sonomanews.com/article/news/braceros-wait-for-wages-theyre-owed-from-decades-ago/#:~:text=At%20least%20%2432%20million%20was,once%20they%20returned%20to%20Mexico.) - <https://www.sonomanews.com/article/news/braceros-wait-for-wages-theyre-owed-from-decades-ago/#:~:text=At%20least%20%2432%20million%20was,once%20they%20returned%20to%20Mexico.>

University of California-Davis: [Braceros: History and Compensation](https://migration.ucdavis.edu/rmn/more.php?id=1112) - <https://migration.ucdavis.edu/rmn/more.php?id=1112>

Connecticut:

Bill No. 818

Antonia Edwards is Connecticut's Civic Ambassador and co-founder of SoliDarity, who worked with Connecticut Senator Saud Anwar on SB-1, which declares racism a public health crisis (signed into law June 14, 2021). From their discussion, Senator Saud determined to add a study on the impact of historical racism on Black American descendants from chattel slavery into the bill. Senator Saud Anwar of the 3rd District submitted Bill No. 818 to the State General Assembly in January 2023 to establish a Connecticut Reparations Task Force to study slavery and its effects throughout American history and make recommendations concerning reparations.

Representative Nolan of the 39th District submitted Bill No. 6267 in January 2021. That a task force be created to (1) identify and document the institution of slavery that existed within this country historically and, in particular, this state with an ultimate purpose to “ design a plan for the state to support enactment of a federal project of reparations for all American descendants of chattel slavery, and submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly not later than one year from the date of the initial meeting of the task force”

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

State of Connecticut - [Proposed Bill No. 818](#) (January Session 2023) -

<https://trackbill.com/bill/connecticut-senate-bill-818-an-act-establishing-a-connecticut-reparations-task-force/2322386/>
State of Connecticut - [Proposed Bill No. 6267](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/TOB/H/PDF/2021HB-06267-R00-HB.PDF) (January Session 2021) -
<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/TOB/H/PDF/2021HB-06267-R00-HB.PDF>
Civic Ambassador, Antonia Edwards - [Biography](https://ctbythenumbers.news/ctnews/civic-ambassador-reflects-impact-of-engaging-in-community-to-advance-change) -
<https://ctbythenumbers.news/ctnews/civic-ambassador-reflects-impact-of-engaging-in-community-to-advance-change>
CT Public Radio - [“New Englanders Bring Targeted Approach to Reparations Movement”](https://www.ctpublic.org/news/2021-04-01/new-englanders-bring-targeted-approach-to-reparations-movement) -
<https://www.ctpublic.org/news/2021-04-01/new-englanders-bring-targeted-approach-to-reparations-movement>
UCONN Magazine - [“New Reparations Math”](https://magazine.uconn.edu/2020/06/15/the-new-reparations-math/)
- <https://magazine.uconn.edu/2020/06/15/the-new-reparations-math/> UCONN School of Public Policy - [Professor Thomas Craemer](https://publicpolicy.uconn.edu/person/thomas-craemer/) -
<https://publicpolicy.uconn.edu/person/thomas-craemer/>
CT Mirror - [A Professor’s Case for Reparations in the US](https://ctmirror.org/2019/08/23/a-german-professors-case-for-reparations-in-the-u-s/) -
<https://ctmirror.org/2019/08/23/a-german-professors-case-for-reparations-in-the-u-s/>
Yale: The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, & Abolition
[I,https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-1](https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-1)
[II,https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-0](https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-0)
[III,https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-2](https://glc.yale.edu/outreach/teacher-programs/citizens-all-african-americans-connecticut-1700-1850/connecticut-stories-2)

Florida:

Rosewood Massacre Reparations

In 1923 in Rosewood, Florida a racially motivated massacre against Black residents occurred after a white woman in a neighboring town claimed to have been assaulted by a Black man. A mob, made of largely white men, went to Rosewood and burned the Black neighborhood as well as killed at least 6 people. The residents of Rosewood were forced to flee into the swamps and relocate with nothing. Nearly 80 years later, the story resurfaced and with the help of media pressure and a law firm, the remaining 9 living survivors of the event were able to receive reparations from the State of Florida. The bill passed in 1994 and provided reparations as cash payments from the state legislature. There was a sum of \$1.5 million decided on that would be split into payments of \$150,000 to each person who could prove he or she lived in Rosewood during 1923, and provide a \$500,000 pool for people who could apply for the funds after demonstrating that they had an ancestor who owned property in Rosewood during the same time. In 1994, the Florida Department of Education set up the Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund for Rosewood descendants and ethnic minorities.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/national/rosewood-reparations/>
<https://time.com/5887247/reparations-america-rosewood-massacre/>
<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleno.asp?id=6A-20.027&Section=0>

Georgia:

House Resolution 12

Between 1882 and 1930, 458 documented lynchings occurred in Georgia (2nd to Mississippi's 538 documented lynchings), in which 95% of the victims were Black. Less than 5% of the victims were white, but none were victims of Black mobs. Decatur County witnessed thirteen lynchings. One notable incident involves the lynching of 8 inmates on June 29, 1905 in Watkinsville (Oconee County); seven victims were Black males. The September, 1912 racial terrorism in Forsyth County, Georgia illustrates an example of internal displacement of approximately 1,000 Black residents due to persistent Night Riders who fired live rounds into homes, killed livestock, and burned churches and residences as the aftermath of lynchings of Rob Edwards (proven innocent of crimes for which he was arrested) and the hanging of convicted teenagers, Ernest Kox and Oscar Daniels. The May 29, 1918 lynching of Mary Turner, an eight-month pregnant widow of Hazel Turner, for publicly denouncing his lynching, led directly to the proposal of the Dryer Anti-Lynching Act. "Ninety-nine percent of all perpetrators of lynching escaped from punishment by State or local officials" according to the U.S. government. (See the *Justice for Victims of Lynching Act of 2018*). However, as with many other states in which lynching was prevalent, we note a municipal to state level commitment to escalate reparations to the federal level when the issue of funding reparations arises.

In 2021, GA House Bill 541 was presented by Georgia State Representatives Bruce, Beverly, Boddie, Jackson, and Thomas. It seeks to create the Georgia Equity and Fairness Commission "for examining the impact of slavery on the descendants of slaves and recommending appropriate remedies thereof" with three members appointed by the Governor (one of whom the Governor selects as chairperson), two appointed by the President of the Senate, two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, two appointed by the Speaker of the House, and two appointed by the minority leader of the House. All members shall be appointed from persons recommended by organizations concerned with the issues of: civil rights; human rights; racial, social, and economic justice and equality; reparations; and other issues concerning the African-American community. The commission shall be abolished and this article shall stand repealed June 30, 2023. The commission shall:

"(1) Examine the extent to which the State of Georgia supported the institution of slavery in constitutional and statutory provisions; (2) Examine the state's laws that discriminated against freed slaves and their descendants from the end of the Civil War, through the era of Jim Crow laws, to the present; (3) Examine the lingering negative effects of the institution of slavery on the descendants of slavery in Georgia; (4) Recommend appropriate ways to educate the public on the commission's findings; and (5) Recommend appropriate remedies in consideration of the commission's findings. In making such recommendation, the commission shall address the form, amount, and eligibility for any restitution." (Page 5)

House Resolution 12 (GAHR12-2021) submitted by Representatives Kendrick, Mitchell, Scott, Williams, and Hutchinson resolves "that the Georgia House of Representatives hereby expresses support for the creation by the 117th United States Congress of a commission to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans"

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

State of Georgia: House Bill 541 - [Georgia Equity & Fairness Commission](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/198097) - <https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/198097>

State of Georgia: House Resolution 12, 117th Congress - [Reparations Study Committee](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/195707) - <https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/195707>

Atlanta Journal-Constitution - [Georgia democrats embrace slavery reparations](https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional-govt--politics/georgia-democrats-embrace-slavery-reparations-reparations-proposal/Oo0TRMLS9d45Gp4VGoxQ2J/) - <https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional-govt--politics/georgia-democrats-embrace-slavery-reparations-proposal/Oo0TRMLS9d45Gp4VGoxQ2J/>

[Lynching](https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/lynching/) - <https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/lynching/>

United States Congress: S3178, 115th Congress - [Justice for Victims of Lynching Act of 2018](https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/s3178/BILLS-115s3178es.pdf) - <https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/s3178/BILLS-115s3178es.pdf>

Georgia Exhibits - [The Night Riders](https://georgia-exhibits.galileo.usg.edu/spotlight/forsyth-race-relations/feature/the-night-riders) -

<https://georgia-exhibits.galileo.usg.edu/spotlight/forsyth-race-relations/feature/the-night-riders>

Zinn Education Project - [Mary Turner](https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/mary-turner-lynching/#:~:text=On%20May%2019%2C%201918%2C%20Mary,of%20her%20husband%2C%20Hazel%20Turner.) -

[https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/mary-turner-](https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/mary-turner-lynching/#:~:text=On%20May%2019%2C%201918%2C%20Mary,of%20her%20husband%2C%20Hazel%20Turner.)

[lynching/#:~:text=On%20May%2019%2C%201918%2C%20Mary,of%20her%20husband%2C%20Hazel%20Turner.](https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/mary-turner-lynching/#:~:text=On%20May%2019%2C%201918%2C%20Mary,of%20her%20husband%2C%20Hazel%20Turner.)

Louisiana

Italian-American Lynching

In the United States, more than 4,700 people were lynched between 1882 and 1968, of whom over 400 resided in Louisiana. The majority (75% according to NPR) of those individuals classify as African-American/Black in accordance with the United States Census.

On April 12, 2019, New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell (an African-American woman) apologized to the Italian American community for the lynching of 11 Italian immigrants who were killed after acquittal verdicts in the murder trial for 1890 ambush of Police Commissioner David Hennessy (October 15, 1890) on March 14, 1891. The municipal government and law enforcement targeted Italian Americans in a round-up, arresting hundreds of suspects from the Italian immigrant community, which comprised 30,000 people in New Orleans at the time. The Mayor offered an official Proclamation of Apology to the Italian American community.

In the time of the mass lynching, the Italian government responded upon hearing that “practically no consequences for the New Orleans officials” who sanctioned the killings. Italy demanded prosecution and reparations from the U.S. government to the victims’ families. Italy closed its Embassy in the U.S., prompting the U.S. to close its Embassy in Italy during this time. The U.S. government paid \$25,000 to the families.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Smithsonian Magazine: [New Orleans Apologizes for 1891 Lynching of Italian-Americans](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z390SKsaEkk) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z390SKsaEkk>

Newsone: [Government Paid Reparations for Italian American Who Were Lynched](https://newsone.com/3849689/lynching-reparations-new-orleans-apology-italian-immigrants/) -

<https://newsone.com/3849689/lynching-reparations-new-orleans-apology-italian-immigrants/>

ZinnEdProject.org: [Italians Lynched in New Orleans](#) -

<https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/italians-lynched-new-orleans/>

The Advocate: [New Orleans mayor plans apology for ‘longstanding wound’ of 1891 Italian immigrant lynchings](https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/new-orleans-mayor-plans-apology-for-longstanding-wound-of-1891-italian-immigrant-lynchings/article_729274f6-5365-11e9-82e9-bb76cfed5db0.html) -

https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/new-orleans-mayor-plans-apology-for-longstanding-wound-of-1891-italian-immigrant-lynchings/article_729274f6-5365-11e9-82e9-bb76cfed5db0.html

The Guardian: [New Orleans to apologise for worst mass lynching in America’s history](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/apr/01/new-orleans-to-apologise-for-worst-mass-lynching-in-americas-history) -

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/apr/01/new-orleans-to-apologise-for-worst-mass-lynching-in-americas-history>

Caitlin Kennedy: [Vengeance, Violence, & Vigilantism: Exploration of the 1891 Lynching of 11 Italian Americans](https://thesis.honors.olemiss.edu/1187/1/honors%20thesis%20upload.pdf) - <https://thesis.honors.olemiss.edu/1187/1/honors%20thesis%20upload.pdf>

Maryland:

Reparations Commission

Maryland Bill HB 0875 calls for the creation of a reparations commission in Maryland to administer a program to provide compensatory benefits to individuals whose ancestors were enslaved in the state. The bill recently received a hearing.

HBCU Reserve Fund

The Maryland legislature established the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Reserve Fund subsequent to the settlement of the lawsuit - The Coalition for Equity and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education, et al. v. Maryland Higher Education Commission, et al., which asserted that the state had failed to sufficiently desegregate its colleges and universities through its ongoing underfunding of HBCUs. In SB1, the Maryland legislature required the Maryland Higher Education Commission to establish a new unit to assist in evaluating and reviewing certain proposals for new programs and substantial modifications of existing programs; requiring the Governor, for fiscal years 2023 through 2032, to include in the annual State operating budget \$577,000,000 to be allocated to certain HBCUs and establishing the HBCU Reserve Fund. The legislation provides for \$577 million over 10 years to be used for various programs benefitting the state's HBCUs.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0875?ys=2023RS>

<https://www.wmar2news.com/homepage-showcase/hearing-on-bill-to-create-reparations-commission-in-maryland>

<https://trackbill.com/bill/maryland-senate-bill-1-historically-black-colleges-and-universities-funding/1957642/>

Mississippi:

Between 1877 and 1950, Mississippi reports 581 lynching victims - the most on record by state in the United States in that period. Overall, Mississippi had the second highest annual rate of

lynchings per capita, of 0.55 per 100,000 each year until 1940. Hinds County had the most lynchings of any county in Mississippi (22), followed by Lowndes with 19, and Kemper, Leflore and Warren counties (18 each). Since 2000, there have been at least eight suspected lynchings of Black men and teenagers in Mississippi, according to court records and police reports.

In 2017, Jill Collen Jefferson (Founder, Julian) began compiling records of Black people found hanging or mutilated across the country in present-day. In 2019, Jefferson began focusing her investigation on Mississippi. In each case she investigated, law enforcement officials ruled the deaths suicides, which families contest and declare their loved ones were lynched in fact.

In 2022, Mississippi State Representative Summers submitted House Bill No. 1369 or the “Commission for Racial Reconciliation Act”, which establishes a 13-member team consisting of three appointees by the Governor, three appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointee by the President pro tempore of the Senate, and six members from civil society organizations “that have historically championed reparatory justice for African Americans.” The Commission will report on their findings on or around August 2023.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2022/pdf/HB/1300-1399/HB1369IN.pdf>

<https://www.vicksburgpost.com/2021/06/28/advocacy-group-calls-for-slavery-reparations-in-mississippi/>

https://egrove.olemiss.edu/hon_thesis/1565/

<https://www.abhmuseum.org/8-suspected-lynchings-have-taken-place-in-mississippi-since-2000/>

<https://thedmonline.com/opinion-wholl-pay-reparations-on-our-ole-miss-soul/>

New Jersey:

Bill A938

Loria Schuldiner Schor - an international grants manager for the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and Chief Development Officer for the Jewish Social Service Agency - is a resident of Millburn, New Jersey and a supporter of reparations for African-American descendants of enslaved people who notes that by 1830, more than two-thirds of all enslaved black people held captive in the north were in New Jersey, which contributes to the reasons that New Jersey initially rejected the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery.

In 2005, Graig Stanley of Essex County put forth Bill A3771 to the State Government Committee, which establishes in the Department of State a 29-member New Jersey African-American Reconciliation Study Commission to examine historical and current conditions affecting African-Americans, to recommend tested means to foster communication and dialogue between African Americans and other peoples, and to recommend other appropriate means to achieve reconciliation and justice.

In 2019, New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus members introduced a bill for reparations for NJ descendants of enslaved people. It did not go far. In 2020, S-40, 118th Congress, 1st Session was put forth by U.S. Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) to accompany HR-40, which was introduced by U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee. Accompanying S-40 is a list of over 200 organizations endorsing S-40 (118th Congress)

In 2023, Shavonda Sumter presented an Act establishing the “New Jersey Reparations Task Force” to conduct research and develop reparatory proposals and recommendations to address the generational harms caused by New Jersey’s role in America’s institution of slavery and its legacy of systemic racial discrimination.

Under the proposal, the task force will hold at least six public meetings in different parts of the State, including Camden, Paterson, Newark, New Brunswick, Atlantic City, and Trenton. The Governor will call the first meeting of the task force to occur on or before the first day of the third month after enactment. The task force will issue an interim report of its progress to the Governor and the Legislature no later than 12 months following the initial meeting. The task force will submit its final report and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature no later than 24 months following the initial meeting. The task force will expire upon issuance of its final report.

New Jersey Bill A938 (*Assembly No. 938 in the State of New Jersey in the 220th Legislature*) was sponsored by Shavonda E. Sumter, Britnee N. Timberlake and Verlina Reynolds-Jackson to establish the "New Jersey Reparations Task Force". Shavonda E. Sumter chairs the New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus. A938 and its state senate companion bill S 386 may soon be considered by New Jersey Senate and Assembly Committees.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

New Jersey Assembly State Government Committee - Bill A3771 (2005)

https://pub.njleg.gov/bills/2004/A3500/3771_S1.PDF

New Jersey State Legislature - Bill A938, Session 2022-2023 -

https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2022/A938/bill-text?f=A1000&n=938_I1

Ronald Rice (State Senator, District 28, Essex) & Sandra B. Cunningham (District 31, Hudson) |

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice - <https://www.njisj.org/>

List of Organizations Endorsing S-40 (118th Congress)

https://www.booker.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/list_of_organizations_endorsing_s40.pdf

<https://nj1015.com/new-jersey-reparations-for-black-state-residents/>

North Carolina:

Justice For Sterilization Victims Foundation

The North Carolina Sterilization Program was initiated in July 1933 under the administration of the Eugenics Board of North Carolina, chaired by Ellen Winston, PhD, George B. Patton, J.W.R. Norton, MD, Walter Sikes, MD, & MM Vitols, MD. These individuals were the Commissioner of Public Welfare, the Attorney General, the State Health Office, and the Superintendents of the State Hospitals in Raleigh & in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

House Bill 1013 repealed the Sterilization Law in 1929, which enabled the North Carolina General Assembly to give the governing body of executive head of any penal or charitable public institution the authority to order sterilization of any patient or inmate whose operation they considered would be in the best interest of the individual and of the public good. Brenda Feign Fasteau (ACLU) indicated that approximately 65% of women sterilized in North Carolina were African American women since 1964. Records indicate that 7,686 people were sterilized between 1933 and 1977, when the North Carolina General Assembly first repealed the law authorizing its existence and set a state-level reaction culminating in 2003 with comprehensive legal change. The last noted sterilization was in 1974. It is estimated by the North Carolina Justice for Sterilization Victims Foundation that 1500-2000 victims survived in 2013 when the North Carolina legislature became the first state in the nation to agree to compensate sterilization victims (\$10 million). North Carolina Sterilization Victims Foundation former director, Charmaine Fuller-Cooper, reported that about 200 victims came forward, giving each victim approximately \$50,000 each of which the first payment of ~\$20,000 was awarded in 2014 and a second payment of \$15,000 each in 2015.

The North Carolina Justice for Sterilization Victims Foundation was established by Governor Bev Purdue as a Division of the North Carolina Department of Administration in 2010. The foundation serves as a clearinghouse assisting victims of the former NC Eugenics Board and provides justice & compensation to victims who were sterilized by the state. The foundation staff supported the Gubernatorial Task Force on Eugenics Compensation established under Executive Order 83. In the late 1940s, a campaign to promote sterilizations began that led to increased sterilizations by the 1950s. The program was carried out in each of the 100 counties in North Carolina. The youngest victims were 10 years old. 80% of the victims were women and 40% in total were African American women, with 65% representation in the peak between 1946 and 1968.

North Carolina represents over 10 percent of the 60,000+ Americans that were sterilized in 33 states between the 1920s to the 1970s.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Eugenics Archives - [North Carolina passes a new sterilization law](https://eugenicsarchive.ca/discover/tree/55005c8ccc8b722e0400000f)
<https://eugenicsarchive.ca/discover/tree/55005c8ccc8b722e0400000f>

North Carolina History Project: [Eugenics Board](https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/eugenics-board/)
<https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/eugenics-board/>

Biennial Report, Eugenics Board of North Carolina
<https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/collection/p249901coll22/id/257367>

Government indication of payments in NC & VA

<https://www.tillis.senate.gov/2015/12/senate-passes-bipartisan-bill-to-assist-eugenics-victims-receiving-compensation-payments#:~:text=In%202013%2C%20North%20Carolina%20became,payment%20of%20approximately%20%2420%2C000%20each.>

Temporal Pattern of Sterilization

<https://www.uvm.edu/~lkaelber/eugenics/NC/NCold.html#:~:text=Under%20the%20sterilization%20law%2C%20the,and%20of%20the%20public%20good.>

State Library of North Carolina - "[Eugenics in North Carolina](http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/dimp/digital/eugenics/index.html)"
<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/dimp/digital/eugenics/index.html>

Office of Justice for Sterilization Victims
MeasuringWorth, 2023 - www.measuringworth.com/slavery.php

Municipality

California:

San Francisco: Reparations Committee

The San Francisco African American Reparations Advisory Committee is an initiative from the San Francisco, CA local government aimed at studying the case for reparation and suggesting a plan to carry out this goal. In February 2020, District 10 Supervisor and Board President Shamann Walton introduced a resolution to create the committee and in December 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance establishing the San Francisco African American Reparations Advisory Committee (AARAC). The committee is composed of 15 appointed members who work across several subcommittees. They are appointed through an application process through the city government.

The committee advises the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, the Human Rights Commission, and the public on the development of a San Francisco Reparations Plan. Their goals and work focus on studying the case for reparations to San Francisco's Black communities. They also hope to build on the powerful nationwide movement to call for federal, state and local governments to acknowledge the harms that policy decisions have played in perpetuating racial inequities in the United States. The plan will highlight ways that City policies have harmed Black lives. It will also include specific actions to address discrimination and inequities. The study covers California's ascension to statehood, in 1850, up until modern day. This reparation plan sets itself apart by emphasizing impacts of not only slavery, but other discriminatory practices including the War on Drugs and redlining.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.sfreparations.org/>

<https://sf.gov/departments/african-american-reparations-advisory-committee>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/san-francisco-decide-black-reparations-plan-5m-person-rcna74873>

Florida:

St. Petersburg Reparations

In December 2021, a majority of St. Petersburg City Council members voted to create a program of reparations to address decades of structural racism that they acknowledged still lingers and leads to disparate lived experiences for Black and white residents. Those reparations would not come in the form of payments to individuals or families. Rather, they would come through investment in affordable housing, educational programs, economic development and other efforts aimed at ensuring Black residents enjoy the same opportunities and benefits of their white neighbors. Council members voted to accept a report that identified and examined systemic racism affecting all aspects of living in St. Petersburg, from housing and health care to the legal system and employment opportunities. It recommended that the council initiate "action steps to provide reparations." The \$50,000 study was commissioned in May and conducted by the University of South Florida. Its recommendations include acknowledging the historical and modern-day impact that structural racism has had on the lives of Black residents, creating an equity department in the mayor's office and creating a permanent resident race equity board.

Georgia:

Fulton County Reparations Task Force

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners Reparations Task Force is a municipal reparations task force based in the most populous county of Georgia. Serving over one million residents, the task force researches and makes recommendations to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners on the possibility of reparations for black residents. The commission has 14 members that are appointed by the board of commissioners. There are currently only 5 members and 9 vacancies; Elon Butts Osby, Mr. Marcus Coleman, Tamika Jackson, Shanti Oleti Vissa, Dr. Karcheik Sims-Alvarado. It was created through state legislation in 2021, but in 2023 the board of commissioners finally approved funding the project by a majority vote 4 to 3.

The reparations task force will provide recommendations "to the Board of Commissioners regarding priorities, objectives, and policies which will support the revitalization, preservation, and stabilization of the Black/African American population in Fulton County in the form of reparations." The funding was requested in order to study if the county owes Black residents reparations for slavery, Jim Crow, as well as the effects of "urban renewal." If it is decided that reparations are necessary, the study will also determine how much Black residents should receive. As of February 2023, the research team has retrieved more than 4,600 documents – while examining slavery and the impact of eminent domain on residents of Bagley Park. The report will be delivered in October 2024 to the Board of Commissioners.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/news/2023/02/06/fulton-county-approves-budget-for-reparations-task-force>

[Reparations Task Force \(fultoncountyga.gov\)](https://www.fultoncountyga.gov)

Illinois:

Chicago: Reparations for Burge Torture Victims

The Reparations for Burge Torture Victims ordinance was signed into law by the City council of Chicago in 2015. The ordinance gives cash payments, free college education for victims within city of Chicago, a memorial, counseling services, job placement, priority access to support services, and adding information about the Burge torture victims to local school's curriculum. John Burge tortured at least 100 Black men into confessions during his time as police commander. The ordinance explicitly defines these actions as reparations and each of the living 57 victims is entitled to up to \$100,000 in reparations. The reparations focus on victims of torture occurring between May 1, 1972 and November 30, 1991. Black People Against Police Torture (BPAPT) and Chicago Justice Memorial (CJM) were key players.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dol/supp_info/Burge-Reparations-Information-Center/ORDINANCE.pdf

<https://guides.library.umass.edu/reparations#s-lg-page-section-7637941>
<https://chicagotorture.org/reparations/>
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/evanston-s-reparations-plan-noble-start-complicated-process-experts-say-n1262096>
<https://cityofevanston.civicweb.net/document/50624/Adoption%20of%20Resolution%2037-R-27,%20Authorizing%20the.pdf?handle=E11C7B73E1B6470DA42362AB80A50C46>

Evanston Illinois Reparations

Evanston Illinois City Council; Establishing a City of Evanston Funding Source Devoted to Local Reparations. The mandate applies to Evanston, Illinois residents. The mechanism was through legislation - a city council resolution. The overarching objective of the Evanston Reparations fund is for the city of Evanston to take responsibility for its role in the historic abuses against its Black citizens. The Evanston reparations takes money from the local marijuana tax to fund reparations \$10 million for local citizens, and is currently dedicated to affordable housing. It seeks to right the wrongs committed by housing discrimination that occurred in the 20th century. Rue Simmons was a leader in its creation. The initial phase included funding of \$400,000 to give 16 applicants \$25,000 each for the Home Ownership benefit, Home Improvement benefit, or Mortgage Assistance benefit. It was created in November 2019. It was a follow up to earlier legislation from June of that year called the Resolution to Commitment to End Structural Racism and Achieve Racial Equality (58-R-19). The Subcommittee held fifteen (15) public meetings during the development of the Program. The Subcommittee also discussed the Program at the December 2020 City Council meeting. The Reparations Subcommittee dissolved in April 2021 to be replaced with the Reparations Committee which was formally codified in 2021. Descendants of Evanston residents who lived in the city between 1919 and 1969 or suffered housing discrimination after 1969. For the Program's purposes, African-American/Black is defined as having origins in any of the Black racial and ethnic groups of Africa. For a participant to qualify for the Program, one must fall under one of the following categories:

- Ancestor - African American or Black resident of the City between 1919 and 1969 may have children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, or other issues defined as a "Direct Descendant."
- Direct Descendant - A blood relative in the direct line of descent of an African American or Black resident of the City between 1919 and 1969

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://patch.com/illinois/evanston/evanston-recreational-cannabis-tax-fund-referendum-program>
<https://guides.library.umass.edu/reparations#s-lg-page-section-7637941>
<https://www.cityofevanston.org/government/city-council/reparations>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-63165668>
<https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showpublisheddocument/62672/637511530122430000>
<https://www.cityofevanston.org/government/boards-commissions-and-committees/reparations-committee>
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/evanston-s-reparations-plan-noble-start-complicated-process-experts-say-n1262096>

<https://cityofevanston.civicweb.net/document/50624/Adoption%20of%20Resolution%2037-R-27,%20Authorizing%20the.pdf?handle=E11C7B73E1B6470DA42362AB80A50C46>

Massachusetts:

Amherst Reparations Fund

In June 2022 Amherst Massachusetts city council agreed to transfer up to \$205,000 free cash each year into a reparations fund for African Americans for the next decade. The purpose of the fund is to address historical and ongoing damage of structural racism. Amherst’s reparations assembly was founded in 2020 for this purpose and listed numerous harms including a 1762 order that removed Black individuals and families out of the time. The committee is currently hearing ideas on how to spend the \$2 million in funding.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.gazettenet.com/Amherst-Town-Council-establishes-reparations-fund-41095651>
<https://www.mma.org/amherst-explores-reparations-at-the-municipal-level/>
<https://www.nhpr.org/2022-10-28/amherst-committee-hears-ideas-for-spending-2m-on-reparations-for-black-residents>

Boston City Council Reparations Task Force

The Boston City Council Reparations Task Force was formed through an ordinance sponsored and led by Councilor Julia Mejia and co-sponsored by Councilors Tania Fernandes Anderson and Brian Worrell, signed into law in 2022 by Mayor Michelle Wu. Councilor Anderson explained the lengths of the task force study as, “going back to the enslavement of kidnapped Africans, to the current manifestations of structural and systemic white supremacy that are embedded and entrenched within the political and economic status quo.” In March, appointments for the 10-person team was made and the task force will begin its work on the three phase plan. Phase 1 will be the research on the history of the city and its ties to the slave trade and its legacy with the period ending by June 30, 2023. Phase 2 will assess the city’s existing actions to address impacts, ending December 31, 2023. Phase 3 will have the task force submitting its final recommendations to the City by June 30, 2024.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.boston.gov/news/members-reparations-task-force-announced>
<https://boston.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5399413&GUID=CD5D4B98-0A7C-4C11-9EA7-4BDF1065E48C&Options>

Missouri:

St. Louis Executive Order #75

On December 8, 2022, St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones signed Executive Order #75, establishing a volunteer commission to explore and recommend opportunities for reparations in the City of St. Louis.

The Reparation Commission’s mandate shall be to explore the history of race-based harms in the city; reveal the present-day manifestations of that history; and, ultimately, propose a method and potential funding resources for directly repairing the harms that have been inflicted. The

commission shall explore not just the socio-economic and political evidence but also engage the moral, legal and historical evidence for various claims to reparations and redistributive justice.

The new commission will consist of nine St. Louis residents. Per the executive order, the group must include an attorney, clergy member, academic, public health professional, civil rights advocate and youth. Their task is to “recommend a proposal to begin repairing the harms that have been inflicted.” The commission is currently seeking new members through an open-application process

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/documents/executive-orders/upload/Executive-Order-75-on-Reparations.pdf>

St. Louis Reparations Plan

In December of 2022, St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones signed an executive order creating a reparations commission that will be made up of nine members. The committee will investigate race-based harms that Black residents have faced as a result of slavery and beyond. The committee will accept nine members with specific qualifications through an application process and host monthly meetings on their investigations that will be open to the public. The term for the committee is set to be three years, expiring on April 15, 2025.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/boards/public-board-detail.cfm?groupID=2136751019>
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/how-st-louis-is-approaching-the-question-of-reparations-for-black-citizens>

North Carolina:

Asheville

On July 14, 2020, Asheville City Council voted unanimously to pass what they call a reparations resolution. The resolution does not give direct payments to descendants of slaves, but instead allocates \$2.1 million USD to areas that traditionally see racial disparities. The members of the Reparations Commission were appointed by Asheville City Council on March 8, 2022, and the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners on March 15, 2022.

The Reparations Commission is empowered to make short, medium, and long-term recommendations that will make significant progress toward repairing the damage caused by public and private systemic racism. The task of the Reparations Commission is to issue a report in a timely manner for consideration by the City and other participating community groups for incorporation into their respective short-term and long-term priorities and plans. “The Community Reparations Commission recommends that the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners include a line item in their budget for reparations for Black people in Buncombe County as a percentage of the overall budget in perpetuity.”

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

New York Times - [“North Carolina City Approves Reparations for Black Residents”](#)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/16/us/reparations-asheville-nc.html>
NPR - “North Carolina City to Apologize for Slavery, Pay Reparations to Black Residents”
<https://www.npr.org/2020/07/15/891563684/north-carolina-city-to-apologize-for-slavery-pay-reparations-to-black-residents>
NBC WYFF4 - “Asheville passes reparations payments resolution in historic vote”
<https://www.wyff4.com/article/asheville-passes-reparations-resolution-in-historic-vote/33319471>
NBC WYFF4 - “Buncombe County passes reparations following Asheville”
<https://www.wyff4.com/article/buncombe-county-passes-reparations-in-4-3-vote/33518446>
Charlotte Observer - “Reparations for Black people approved by this North Carolina city.”
<https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/nation-world/national/article244150107.html>
Scalawag Magazine - “Asheville’s ‘historic’ reparations is not what it seems”
<https://scalawagmagazine.org/2020/07/asheville-nc-reparations-black-demands/>
NCPedia - “Slavery” by Jeffrey Crow, 2006 - <https://www.ncpedia.org/slavery>

Durham

Durham City Council passed a resolution in October 2018 calling for reparations for the descendants of enslaved people and formed a racial equity task force. In July 2020, the task force “submitted a 60-page report to the city council that encouraged Durham leaders to consider the creation of a local reparations program as part of the city’s anti-racism work. Durham’s Racial Equity Task Force (RETF), also called for their city to establish a Wealth Equity Fund dedicated to reparation efforts. This task force consisted of 18 residents per request by Mayor Schewel and Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, and was chaired by NC Superior Court Judge and Dean of NCCU School of Law, Elaine O’Neal.

The Durham City Council approved its budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year, which includes \$6 million for reparations for slavery “through green infrastructure projects” according to the Duke Chronicle. “This money will be used to fund green and equitable infrastructure in historically Black neighborhoods.” states Anna Zolotar on June 22, 2021 in the Duke Chronicle. Durham intends to allocate money every year going forward. The \$6 million USD represents 1.005025% of the annual budget (~\$597 million USD) of that fiscal year. William Darity, Duke professor of Public Policy and African American Studies notes that “it will take a coalition to trace down descendants and begin instituting reparations”.

“The historic injustices from slavery from Jim Crow, and now the injustices that continue today, have had an incredibly disproportionate burden on our African American brothers and sisters here in Durham and around the country,” - Mayor Steve Schewel (Durham, North Carolina)

The press release also noted that the fiscal year’s property tax, 55.17 cents for every \$100 of assessed value, is an increase of two cents from the previous year’s tax. Of those two cents, 1.38 cents will go towards repaying the debt created by the \$95 million Affordable Housing Bond passed in 2019 and .50 cents will go toward the green infrastructure projects. The remaining 0.12 cents will go to the city’s General Fund. Durham city officials also called for the federal government to issue reparations. True to southern politics in the US, one African American math teacher voiced his disagreement with reparations as reported by ABC 11.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Durham, NC Government Website: [Report of the Durham Racial Equity Task Force](https://www.durhamnc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32853/FINAL-REPORT-Durham-Racial-Equity-Task-Force-72220)
<https://www.durhamnc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32853/FINAL-REPORT-Durham-Racial-Equity-Task-Force-72220>

AP: [North Carolina County becomes latest to back reparations](https://apnews.com/article/race-and-ethnicity-discrimination-north-carolina-slavery-raleigh-4e975e1c68704aae5bf3121050983c1c)
<https://apnews.com/article/race-and-ethnicity-discrimination-north-carolina-slavery-raleigh-4e975e1c68704aae5bf3121050983c1c>

News & Observer - [Durham racial equity task force calls for city to offer reparations](https://www.newsobserver.com/latest-news/article244443072.html)
<https://www.newsobserver.com/latest-news/article244443072.html>

Spectrum News 1 - [Durham City Leaders Call for Federal Reparations](https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/binghamton/news/2020/10/06/durham-city-leaders-call-for-federal-reparations)
<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/binghamton/news/2020/10/06/durham-city-leaders-call-for-federal-reparations>

WUNC 91.5 NC Public Radio - [Durham Commits \\$6 million for reparations in approved budget](https://www.wunc.org/race-demographics/2021-06-22/durham-commits-million-reparations-approved-budget-slavery)
<https://www.wunc.org/race-demographics/2021-06-22/durham-commits-million-reparations-approved-budget-slavery>

Duke Chronicle - [Durham budget for 2021-22 fiscal year includes \\$6 million for reparations](https://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2021/06/duke-university-durham-city-council-budget-2021-2022-fiscal-year-6-million-reparations-infrastructure)
<https://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2021/06/duke-university-durham-city-council-budget-2021-2022-fiscal-year-6-million-reparations-infrastructure>

Carrboro & Orange County

In 2020, The Town of Carrboro adopted a resolution to support reparations. In 2021, the town created a Racial Equity Commission to provide reparations and make amends with its Black community members, which meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday. Carrboro joined the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE). Carrboro is a town within Orange County, which also issued a resolution in support of reparations that requests federal reparations funding as well.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Township of Carrboro

<https://chapelboro.com/news/local-government/carrboro-racial-equity-commission-to-repair-damage-from-local-systemic-racism>

Township of Carrboro: [Racial Equity Commission Membership](https://www.townofcarrboro.org/2585/Racial-Equity-Commission)
<https://www.townofcarrboro.org/2585/Racial-Equity-Commission>

Oklahoma:

1921 Tulsa Race Massacre

Oklahoma House Resolution Bill (HB) 1627 proposes a \$300 million fund “to implement a program of reparations for damages to persons and property.” It was put forward in February 2023 by Representative Regina Goodwin (D-Tulsa) in a renewed effort to prioritize restorative justice in Oklahoma for African Americans who were murdered, assaulted, or displaced after the Greenwood section of Tulsa was burned by a white mob in 1921. HB 1627 proposes a “Tulsa Race Massacre Victims’ Compensation Revolving Fund” structured as a continuing fund not bound by fiscal year limitations to be sourced by the Department of Commerce with payments made by warrants from the Department of Treasury and administered by Department of Office

Management and Enterprise Services with proposed enactment date on July 1, 2023. Key stakeholders include the Oklahoma Historical Society & The Tulsa Reparations Coalition.

Representative Goodwin also sponsored HB 1626, the Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Fund which would comprise \$1.5 million from a one-time allocation, and awards scholarships from the interest generated from the investment. According to the Bill text, which sets a qualifying requirement for receipt of the scholarship based upon income and specific schools from where the recipients can apply:

“The program shall each year make scholarships available to as many as feasible up to three hundred scholarships to qualified residents of the Tulsa School District, and to qualified residents of any other common school district of the state who are direct lineal descendants as defined in subsection C of Section 2623 of this title and who meet the criteria set forth in Sections 2623 and 2624 of this title, and who are intending to pursue studies at an institution of higher education in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or a private institution of higher education, or who are intending to pursue studies in a postsecondary career technology education program

In May 2021, Mother Randle, one of the last three known living survivors of the Massacre, the TRMCC Commissioners, and Solomon Simmons Law submitted a cease-and-desist order to Phil Armstrong, the project director of the 1921 Tulsa Racial Massacre Centennial Commission after they rejected her initial request for a portion of the \$30 million raised to build a memorial building be reallocated to directly benefit the living survivors and descendants and secondary request to inspect the Commission’s records in accordance with State laws.

In May 2021, Human Rights Watch reports:

“Rather than working on such a plan, city and state authorities have focused most of their efforts on creating the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission and its flagship project, the “Greenwood Rising” history center, which is meant to honor the victims and foster cultural tourism. The Centennial Commission has raised at least \$30 million, \$20 million of which went to build Greenwood Rising, but it has alienated massacre survivors and many descendants of victims by failing to adequately involve them in its planning.”

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Oklahoma State House Bill 1626

<http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo.aspx?Bill=hb1626&Session=2300>

Oklahoma State House Bill 1627 - <https://www.billtrack50.com/billdetail/1531075>
Human Rights Watch: US: Failed Justice 100 Years After Tulsa Race Massacre 0
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/05/21/us-failed-justice-100-years-after-tulsa-race-massacre>
Human Rights Watch: Tulsa Searches for Mass Graves from Tulsa Race Massacre
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/07/14/tulsa-searches-mass-graves-1921-race-massacre>
Lessie Benningfield Randle (Survivor): Cease-&-Desist Letter to 1921 Tulsa Centennial Commission - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nI38mn4Ve26uxpzzakj27WFmjRJU95V/view>
National African-American Reparations Commission:
<https://reparationscomm.org/reparations-news/does-1-million-gift-to-tulsa-massacre-survivors-count-as-reparations/>

John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation: Words from 1921 Race Massacre Survivors -
<https://www.jhfcenter.org/1921-race-massacre-survivors>
John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation: Greenwood Curriculum with details on the Massacre - <https://www.jhfcenter.org/curriculum>

Rhode Island:

Providence Reparations Commission

On February 28, 2022, Providence's mayor announced a city commission on reparations in the Rhode Island capital city's efforts to atone for its role in Black slavery, systemic racism and the mistreatment of Native Americans. The 13-member panel is charged with examining reparation work being done in other cities, conducting community outreach and creating recommendations for ways the city can begin repairing harms. Providence's efforts also notably look to use some \$15 million in federal COVID-19 funds to jump-start reparations work, something other city leaders have pursued recently.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

[Elorza EO_2022-4.pdf \(providenceri.gov\)](#)

Tennessee:

Shelby County Reparations

In late February 2023, the Shelby County Commission approved \$5 million to start a reparations program in Memphis and Shelby County. The bill was sponsored by District 9 Commissioner Edmund Ford and will allocate funding to investigate the disparities of Black residents with their counterparts and propose a plan for programs that will uplift the Black community. The study will investigate wealth, healthcare and home ownership.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.localmemphis.com/article/news/community/shelby-county-commission-5-million-reparations-program-in-memphis/522-6f1b0464-14ad-4347-a466-a89116fca374>

Non-Governmental Organization

The National African American Reparations Commission

The National African American Reparations Commission (NAARC) is convened and administered by the Institute of the Black World 21st Century (IBW), a 501 C-3 organization. The NAARC looks as far back to 1619 and was established in April 2015.

The National African American Reparations Commission's Preliminary 10 Point Reparations Program is a document for review, revision and adoption as a platform to guide the struggle for Reparations for people of African descent in the U.S.: (1) Apology & Maafa Institute, (2) Repatriation, (3) Land, (4) Funds, (5) Health & Wellness, (6) Education, (7) housing & Wealth Generation, (8) Info & Comms Infrastructure, (9) Sacred Sites & Monuments, (10) Criminal Justice System. Convenor of the NAARC is Dr. Ron Daniels, veteran civil and human rights activist and Distinguished Lecturer Emeritus, York College, City University of New York.

The organization comprises a group of distinguished professionals from across the country with outstanding accomplishments in the fields of law, medicine, journalism, academia, history, civil rights and social justice advocacy.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://reparationscomm.org/>

The National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America

The National Coalition Of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA) is a mass-based organization for the sole purpose of obtaining reparations for African descendants in the United States. The objective of the organization is to win full Reparations for Black African Descendants residing in the United States and its territories for the genocidal war against Africans that created the TransAtlantic Slave "Trade" Chattel Slavery, Jim Crow and Chattel Slavery's continuing vestiges (the Maafa). Organizational founders of N'COBRA include the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the New Afrikan Peoples Organization, and the Republic of New Afrika. N'COBRA was founded in 1987 in Washington, DC.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.officialncobraonline.org/home-page>

Virginia Theological Seminary

In September of 2019, the Virginia Theological Seminary designated \$1.7 million as a reparation's endowment fund. The endowment is a part of the Seminary's commitment to recognizing its participation in oppression in the past and commitment to healing and making amends in the future. Additional funds have been allocated to support the work of Black congregations that have historical ties to the Seminary; to create programs that promote justice and inclusion; and to elevate the work and voices of Black alumni and clergy within The Episcopal Church. In February of 2021, the Seminary in Alexandria, VA, began dispensing cash payments to the descendants of Black Americans who were forced to work at the seminary during the time of slavery and Jim Crow. The seminary's program is unique in that it provides cash, whereas other institutions have

created scholarships and housing vouchers for Black people. As of May 31, 2021, checks totaling \$2,100 have been dispensed to descendants of Black workers—amounting to 15 people who have received payment. As genealogists continue to search records, the number is expected to grow. Payments are authorized to members of the generation closest to the original workers, known as “shareholders.” If the generation includes those who have died, the payments then go to their children.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/31/us/reparations-virginia-theological-seminary.html>
<https://vts.edu/reparations-faq/#1627499292122-7663943c-873c983c-6193>

Where is my Land?

Where Is My Land Inc. is a movement dedicated to helping Black People discover, search for, identify, and reclaim land taken from them over the past 400 years. Where is My Land inc. provides assistance, with no up-front or out-of-pocket costs, to Black families that have credible claims and that are looking to reclaim their land through our technology, research, and advocacy services. Where Is My Land also offers client-funded options for research, media, and/or advocacy consultant services. The organization’s objectives are to, help Black Americans discover connections to stolen land through research, data, and technology, help families and descendants reclaim stolen land and secure restitution through traditional advocacy and digital amplification, and educate the public about the hidden history of Black land theft by whites through partnerships, content, and programming. The organization is located in California.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://whereismyland.org/>

Reparation Generation

Reparation Generation is a national organization providing direct reparative transfers to Black Americans for wealth-building pursuits. Reparation Generation’s founders and participants span various races, career fields, educational backgrounds, and levels of community activism, but the organization is united in their quest to do what’s right: pursuing reconciliation between Black and White Americans. To achieve this, the organization says that the U.S. must first reckon with our past, explore our interactions with a government and society built upon Black oppression, and bring long-overdue economic repair to Black Americans. The organization raises funds from individuals, corporations, and foundations as their personal reparation for slavery in the United States and the resulting legacy of economic and social oppression. The organization’s Black founders direct their investment strategy with the goal of cultivating intergenerational wealth for members of the Black community.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://reparationgeneration.org/>

Georgetown University Reparations Program

In 2019, the students at Georgetown University voted to “increase their tuition to benefit descendants of the 272 enslaved Africans that the Jesuits who ran the school sold nearly two centuries ago to secure its future.” In a nonbinding student-led referendum, “the undergraduate

student body voted to add a new fee of \$27.20 per student per semester to their tuition bill, with the proceeds devoted to supporting education and health care programs in Louisiana and Maryland, where many of the 4,000 known living descendants of the 272 enslaved people now reside." ("Georgetown Students Agree to Create Reparations Fund" by Adeel Hassan, The New York Times, April 12, 2019.)

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

<https://reparations4slavery.com/historical-timeline-of-reparations-payments-made/>

The Episcopal Church of Connecticut

Under the Resolution #7, the 236th Annual Episcopal Church of Connecticut Convention directs “each Parish, Worshipping Community, and Intentional Episcopal Community to take steps to discover and document historic complicity in racism in their parish and communities”.

The members of the task force, who under mandate of Resolution #7 must consist of a majority of clergy and laity of color with an invitation to all clergy of color canonically resident in Connecticut to serve on the task force, currently consists of the following twelve individuals: The Reverend Dr. Donald L. Hamer (Co-convener, Chaplain of the Retired Clergy and Spouses), Cheryl Sharp (Co-convener and member of St. Peter’s, Cheshire), Rev. Whitney Altopp (Rector, St. Stephen’s, Ridgefield), Rev. Mark Byers (Priest-in-Charge, St. Andrew’s, Meriden), Rev. Darryl C. Burke (Priest-in-Charge, Trinity Church, Portland), Rev. Shancia Jarrett (Curate, Christ Church, Greenwich), Rev. Rowena Kemp (Rector, Grace, Hartford), Rev. Tracy Johnson Russell (Rector, St. Monica’s, Hartford), Dick Shriver (Member, St. Ann’s, Old Lyme), Valarie Stanley (Member, St. Luke’s, New Haven), Rev. Deacon Ronald Steed (Deacon, St. James’, Preston & Grace, Yantic), and Lisa Yarbor (Member, St. Luke’s, New Haven).

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

NBC - [Episcopal Church searches its soul on slavery](#) (2006)

<https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna13072926>

220 Annual Episcopal Church of Connecticut Convention - [Resolution #7](#)

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ddc0cf83d310d4548b81167/t/613a5b9bfb9e135f2a03009e/1631214491498/Resolution+7.pdf> Episcopal Church of Connecticut - [The Reparations Task Force](#) -

<https://www.episcopalct.org/reparations-task-force/>

ECCT Facebook (April 19, 2021) - [Meet the Taskforce](#) -

<https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalCT/posts/10159373049799208/>

[2021 Diocesan Racial Justice Ministries Inventory](#) -

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/11/RR-2021-Diocesan-Inventory.pdf>

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

In 2019, the Diocese voted to study reparations and on September 12, 2020, a \$1 million seed fund was established. In May of 2022 the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland awarded \$175,000 in grants to community organizations from a fund established to make reparations for systemic racism and slavery. The reparation fund is intended only to aid initiatives and programs that will uplift African American and Black communities throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. Approved organizations will be awarded up to \$50,000 on a one-time basis with the opportunity to re-apply every other year—as long as the funds have not been depleted. Up to three grants will be awarded each year and affiliation with The Episcopal Church is not required. Organizations wishing to receive reparations funding must indicate how they will impact one or more of the following areas: education, healthcare/elder care, affordable housing, environmental degradation, and job creation/micro-economic investment. Applicants will be graded on a five-point scale, with five indicating that the application excels in most or all relevant aspects. Applications opened February 1, 2023, and close March 1, 2023.

The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi

The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi in 2006 issued Resolutions A039 (reconciliation training), A127 (restorative justice), and C011 (Church responsibility in reparations). In 2009, the Diocese issued Resolution A143, extending the 2006 Resolution to examine and repent for complicity in slavery. In the same year, Resolutions A142 and A144 recommitted the Church to issue an annual report of its actions in anti-racism work and to reaffirm the Truth, Reconciliation, and Restorative Justice resolution. In one of the Church publications on the subject of reparations in which the Church calls Congress to take steps to assure reparations, the Church notes:

“Scripture points the way towards addressing the economic injustice that has arisen from white supremacy. The Deuteronomic demand is for “justice and only justice” (Deut. 16:20). Tangible justice is in part economic, as laid out in demands for remission every seventh year, particularly for slaves. When slaves were sent out as free people, they were not to be sent out empty handed, but instead were to be liberally provided for, thus giving the slave some of the bounty with which the Lord had previously blessed the slave owner (Deut. 15:12-15)....So why raise the need for reparations now? It is precisely because “now is the acceptable time” (2 Cor 6:2)...The baptismal renunciations and adhesions provide a theological and liturgical framework for The Episcopal Church to make reparation for the evils of chattel slavery, Jim Crow, and white supremacy as a step towards forgiveness, reconciliation, and the building of the Beloved Community. Simply put, if we do not take up the obligation to make reparations—to become “repairers of the breach”—then we reject our duty as followers of Jesus to “restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.” Theology Committee of the House of Bishops, September 2021 (The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, The Very Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas, The Rt. Rev. Larry R. Benfield, Dr. Stephen Edward Fowl, The Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal The Rev. Dr. Altigracia Perez-Bullard, (co-chair), The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin The Rev. Dr. Katherine Sonderegger, The Rt. Rev. Carol Gallagher The Very Rev. Dr. James F. Turrell, The Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg, The Rt. Rev. Allen K. Shin, (chair), The Rt. Rev. Prince Singh)

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Episcopal Church - Theology Committee - Report on Reparations
Anglican and Episcopal History - Slavery in the Diocese of Mississippi's Convention Journals, 1826-1861

Princeton Theological Seminary – Pledges \$27.6 Million for Reparations

"Princeton Theological Seminary will set aside \$27.6 million from its endowment to fund a set of initiatives — including scholarships, curricular reforms, and community outreach — intended as atonement for the Presbyterian institution's historical entanglement with slavery, the seminary announced Oct. 18, [2019]." When fully implemented in 2024, the plan is expected to cost \$1 million a year, with that cost supported "in perpetuity" by the reserve of nearly 3 percent of the seminary's \$986 million endowment. Princeton Theological Seminary Board of Trustees unanimously endorsed the implementation of a multi-year **action plan** to repent for its ties to slavery. The approved series of new initiatives offers the institutional response to a **report** the Seminary published in October 2018 after conducting a two-year historical audit. The audit team comprises of faculty, administrators, students, alumni, and trustees, which include Victor Aloyo (Associate Dean, Institutional Diversity & Community Equity), Craig Barnes (President and Professor of Pastoral Ministry), Keri Day (Associate Professor of Constructive Theology & African American Religion), Karen Jackson-Weaver (Trustee), Jacqueline Lapsley (Dean & Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor of Old Testament), Gordon Mikoski (Associate Professor of Christian Education), Kermit Moss (PhD Candidate and Interim Director of the Center for Black Church Studies), Anne Stewart (Vice President of External Relations), Jonalthan Walton (Trustee at Princeton Theological Seminary, Plummer Professor of Christian Moral and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard University & Professor of Religion and Society at Harvard Divinity School), and John White (Dean of Student Life & Vice President of Student Relations).

Nicholas Young, President of Princeton Theological Seminary's Association of Black Seminarians, notes that Christian logic and political logic substantiate the argument for much more than the amount and ask for 15% of the endowment (~\$148 million), matching the 15 to 40 percent of the Institution's pre-Civil War revenues that are believed to have derived directly or indirectly from slavery. IT must do more "to address how the institution used theology to justify the institution of slavery". According to the Historical Audit, "Princeton Seminary faculty, board members, and alumni were deeply involved in the American Colonization Society, which advocated sending former slaves to Africa." It states further that "The Seminary's first three professors, Archibald Alexander, Samuel Miller, and Charles Hodge, all used slave labor at some point in their lives."

Included in the current list of 20 new initiatives are the establishment of 30 full-tuition scholarships plus \$15,000 stipends for students who are descendants of slaves or who are from underrepresented groups; hiring a full-time director for the Center for Black Church Studies; and hiring a new faculty member focused on African American experience and ecclesiastical life. The library will be named after Theodore Sedgwick Wright, who is the first African American to graduate from the seminary whose student body includes about 10% students identified as black. Specifically, the press release from Princeton Theological Seminary reports that as acts of repentance, the

institution will: a) Honor the legacy of the African American experience at Princeton Seminary through the names of prominent campus spaces b) Offer 10 new scholarships each year for students from historically disenfranchised communities to ensure that a Seminary education is affordable and does not further contribute to the disproportionate debt burden of students from these communities, c) Evaluate the curriculum and pedagogy in light of our history, d) Enhance community partnerships and support historically disenfranchised communities in and around Princeton, and e) Ensure that every member of the Princeton Seminary community understands our history

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

New York Times: [\\$27 million for Reparations Over Slave Ties Pledged By Seminary - https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/21/nyregion/princeton-seminary-slavery-reparations.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/21/nyregion/princeton-seminary-slavery-reparations.html)

Princeton Seminary and Slavery Report - <https://slavery.ptsem.edu/overview/task-force>
<https://www.nj.com/education/2022/01/princeton-seminary-strips-slaveholders-name-from-chapel-after-vowing-27m-in-reparations.html>

Princeton Alumni Weekly: [Seminary Pledges \\$27.6 million as reparations for its ties to slavery https://paw.princeton.edu/article/seminary-pledges-set-aside-276-million-reparations-its-ties-slavery](https://paw.princeton.edu/article/seminary-pledges-set-aside-276-million-reparations-its-ties-slavery)

Inside Higher Education: [Princeton Theological Commits \\$27.6 million for Reparations https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2019/10/23/princeton-theological-commits-276-million-reparations](https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2019/10/23/princeton-theological-commits-276-million-reparations)

Black Manifesto at Riverside Church

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. donated significant funds for the Riverside Church, which served as the proxy to the inquiry by Former SNCC Executive Director and then-Director of International Affairs, James Forman, into the assets of the Church on May 4, 1969. Selected to speak on behalf of the National Black Economic Development Conference (NBEDC), which included business and church leaders. James Forman and members of the Episcopal Church, the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization, and the National Council of Churches drafted a 2500-word document known as the Black Manifesto.

In a \$500 million USD plan, the manifesto outlined utilization of the funds to include creation of a National Black Labor Strike and Defense Fund, National Welfare Rights Organization, a southern land bank, and four publishing and printing industries as “an alternative to the white dominated printing fields.” The document also called upon white Christians and Jews to apply the rhetoric of nonviolence they preached into action. Forman voiced his discontent with the National Council of Churches for objecting to John Lewis’ speech and to his involvement at the March of Washington. Importantly, the document also called for \$130 million USD for the establishment of a Black university in the South.

Forman borrowed from Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Economic Bill of Rights for the Disadvantaged”, which required \$10-\$12 billion USD from combined efforts of public and private sectors alongside the religious communities. The government did allocate funding, but only to finance an FBI investigation of the NBEDC. However, the speech did lead to Reverend Ernest T. Campbell (pastor of Riverside Church) to become the first clergyman to endorse “reparations” as

a concept. Riverside Church allocated \$200,000 in response to the demands and the National Council of Churches pledged \$500,000 and presented a proposal to raise tens of millions. The National Association of the Layperson asked the Catholic Church for \$400 million to be allocated to black-owned or controlled organizations. The World Council of Churches established a \$15,000 budget for a secretariat on racism that would become \$500,000 pledged for reserve funds for “oppressed people,” of which no funds were allocated to the organizations who requested the money initially. The Synagogue Council of America and the National Jewish Community Advisory Relations Council condemned "the substance and the tactics of the reparations proposal on both moral and practical grounds".

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

CARICOM: [Some Religious Institutions Promoting Reparations](https://caricomreparations.org/some-religious-institutions-promote-reparations/)

<https://caricomreparations.org/some-religious-institutions-promote-reparations/>

SNCC Digital: [James Forman delivers Black Manifesto](https://snccdigital.org/events/jim-forman-delivers-black-manifesto-at-riverside-church/)

<https://snccdigital.org/events/jim-forman-delivers-black-manifesto-at-riverside-church/>

Freedom Archives: [The Black Manifesto and the Tactic of Objectification](https://www.freedomarchives.org/Documents/Finder/Black%20Liberation%20Disk/Black%20Power!/SugahData/Essays/Frye.S.pdf)

<https://www.freedomarchives.org/Documents/Finder/Black%20Liberation%20Disk/Black%20Power!/SugahData/Essays/Frye.S.pdf>

The New York Review: [The Black Manifesto: The National Black Economic Conference \(July 10, 1969\)](https://www.nybooks.com/articles/1969/07/10/black-manifesto/) - <https://www.nybooks.com/articles/1969/07/10/black-manifesto/>

Nez Perce Tribe - Property and Portion of Their Original Land Returned

In 2018, the United Methodist Church returned part of Wallowa Lake to the Nez Perce for fishing. On April 29, 2021, The Wallowa United Methodist church handed over to the Nez Perce Tribe. In addition 1.5 acres of Wallowa River riverfront. "[The land] is already theirs, it always was theirs," said Rev. Dr. Allen Buck of the United Methodist Church.

More than 150 Niimiipuu people returned and blessed part of their homeland after the U.S Army drove them from the Wallowa Valley in eastern Oregon in 1877 to a reservation in Idaho roughly 1/10th the size of the land taken in acreage. The forced removal breached the terms of 1855 in the Treaty of Walla Walla (ratified March, 1859) in which the tribes lost 6.4 million acres of land and billions of dollars in resources, but retained a sizeable portion as a homeland reservation.

“The Nimiipuu — the people — are tied to this land,” says Mary Jane Miles, Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee member. The Oregon-Idaho Conference of The United Methodist Church gifted its church building and property deed to the Nez Perce in a ceremony that included about 60 people, most of whom were Nez Perce tribal members from the Lapwai, Idaho-based reservation. Casey Mitchell, vice chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, said “Any land that comes back to the tribe is a blessing for us, considering this is originally our homeland that we were pushed out of.”

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs:

<https://goia.wa.gov/tribal-government/treaty-walla-walla-1855>

Library of Congress: Walla Walla Territory

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4284w.pm009830/?r=0.314,0.343,0.62,0.348,0>

UMOI.org - Wallowa UMC Returned to the Nez Perce Tribe

East Oregonian - Methodists turn church back to tribe

[https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/methodists-turn-wallowa-church-back-to-](https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/methodists-turn-wallowa-church-back-to-tribe/article_18961a48-ac32-11eb-926a-5b9c27049588.html#:~:text=Buy%20Now-)

[tribe/article_18961a48-ac32-11eb-926a-5b9c27049588.html#:~:text=Buy%20Now-](https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/methodists-turn-wallowa-church-back-to-tribe/article_18961a48-ac32-11eb-926a-5b9c27049588.html#:~:text=Buy%20Now-)

[,The%20Wallowa%20United%20Methodist%20Church%2C%20built%20in%201910%2C%20](https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/methodists-turn-wallowa-church-back-to-tribe/article_18961a48-ac32-11eb-926a-5b9c27049588.html#:~:text=Buy%20Now-)

[was%20handed,church%20officials%20and%20the%20tribe.](https://www.eastoregonian.com/news/local/methodists-turn-wallowa-church-back-to-tribe/article_18961a48-ac32-11eb-926a-5b9c27049588.html#:~:text=Buy%20Now-)

KGW.com: Church returns land to Nez Perce

[https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/church-returns-land-to-nez-perce-tribe-in-wallowa/283-](https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/church-returns-land-to-nez-perce-tribe-in-wallowa/283-1b4f79a0-a57e-4e23-8e50-3512fad8074e)

[1b4f79a0-a57e-4e23-8e50-3512fad8074e](https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/church-returns-land-to-nez-perce-tribe-in-wallowa/283-1b4f79a0-a57e-4e23-8e50-3512fad8074e)

Wallowa.com: Land returned to Nez Perce Video Footage and interview -

[https://www.wallowa.com/land-returned-to-nez-perce/article_0a4ec5ee-85bc-528b-95d8-](https://www.wallowa.com/land-returned-to-nez-perce/article_0a4ec5ee-85bc-528b-95d8-52fabd2e729b.html)

[52fabd2e729b.html](https://www.wallowa.com/land-returned-to-nez-perce/article_0a4ec5ee-85bc-528b-95d8-52fabd2e729b.html)

Episcopal Diocese of Texas - Pledges \$13 million in Reparations

The first Bishop of the Diocese of Texas was a slave owner. The first enslaved Africans mentioned in the historic baptismal books of Christ Church Matagorda belonged to Judge Matthew Talbot who was a member of the first church and leader of the diocese from its founding. The Diocese of Texas with \$1.8 billion in assets, said it would pay \$13 million to atone for its past by channeling some of that money to various organizations supporting African Americans. The Diocese of Texas hosts the largest Episcopal church in the United States in Houston with nearly 10,000 members.

According to the Diocese, over 700 news outlets, including broadcast and newspaper outlets in large markets across the nation and around the world picked up an article written by an Associated Press journalist featuring the Diocese of Texas' "commitment to fund racial justice projects and to repair and commence racial healing." Bishop C. Andrew Doyle serves as head of the Texas diocese, who met with 38 representatives of historically black churches (that list for which I have been looking). He first made the announcement while presenting a Missionary Vision for a Racial Justice Initiative at the 171st Diocesan Council held in Waco, Texas, February 7-8th, 2020. The funds demarcated for reparations will also underwrite work by the Equal Justice Initiative, which is a nonprofit organization that created a lynching memorial in Alabama.

The racial justice initiative launched six funds and supports a seventh:

- The Dr. Bertha Sadler Means Endowment for Racial Justice at Seminary of the Southwest - a ministry to support visiting black scholars, research in Texas slavery and racism, teaching racial justice, formation for empowerment of black leaders, and encouragement for Episcopal black ministries in the diocese/Church.
- The Rev. Thomas Cain Fund for Historic Black Churches
- The Rev. David Taylor Endowed Scholarship at SSW - Scholarship for students of color in MDiv.
- The Rev. Pauli Murray Scholarship Fund at SSW - Scholarship to help students of color with living expenses while attending SSW

- The Henrietta Wells Scholarship Fund - Designated for scholarships for students from Historically Black College and Universities across the diocese of Texas. The funds are to be used for choir scholarships and teaching internships in Episcopal schools while attending a HBCU in Texas.
- The Joseph and John Talbot Fund for Racial Reconciliation - A gift to underwrite a program of church community racial reconciliation initiatives that bring together the work of the Equal Justice Initiative's Lynching memorial work and justice work in local communities
- Episcopal Health Foundation Congregational Engagement

Doyle told the Houston Chronicle, "...All of our futures are tied to our past. There isn't one future that is somehow disconnected from the story that got us here, and we must be willing to see the connectedness of the past to see how it shapes our future. There is still a lot of institutional racism and a good measure of change is still needed."

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

- EDOTracialjustice.org: [Texas Episcopalians Pledge \\$13 million in Racial Reparations](https://www.edotracialjustice.org/news/texas-episcopalians-pledge-13-million-in-racial-reparations)
- Episcopal News Service: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2022/06/09/as-dioceses-pursue-reparations-general-convention-poised-for-churchwide-racial-justice-discussion/>
- The Episcopal Diocese of Texas Center: [Diocese of Texas Racial Justice Initiative Receives International Attention](https://www.epicenter.org/article/diocese-of-texas-racial-justice-initiative-receives-international-attention/) - <https://www.epicenter.org/article/diocese-of-texas-racial-justice-initiative-receives-international-attention/>
- Relevant Magazine: [Texas Episcopalians Pledge \\$13 million in Racial Reparations](https://www.relevantmagazine.com/news/texas-episcopalians-pledge-13-million-in-racial-reparations)
- Bishop Doyle's Address: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xIO_X8NC5Y
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xIO_X8NC5Y&t=1470s

The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia

Excerpt from Resolution R-10a:

"The Episcopal church and the Diocese of Virginia have a long history of support for and complicity with chattel slavery, violence against Indigenous peoples and land, segregation and other racist systems, including slave ownership by our first four diocesan bishops and 82% of priests by 1860...This 227th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia direct the Ecclesiastical Authority to appoint a Reparations Task Force to identify and propose means by which repair may begin for those areas of our structures, patterns, and common life by which Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC)"

One of the options suggested for financing reparatory justice includes "using a portion of the approximately \$19 million in existing unoccupied diocesan real estate assets which currently generate little or no income". In addition, they established "an endowment over the next five years of \$10 million to be set aside as an initial investment to begin reparations."

The signatories on the Resolution are as follows : Ms. Ernestine Armstrong; The Rev. David P. Casey, OP; Mr. Larry Clark; The Rev. Marlene Forrest; The Rev. Shea Godwin, Deacon; The Rev. Valerie Hayes; Ms. Edwina Mason; The Rev. B. Cayce Ramey; The Rev. Colleen Schiefelbein; Ms. Jean Mary Taylor; Ms. Beka Wueste

In 2022, 16 members were assigned to a Reparations Task Force: Jeanette R. Cadwallender, Rev. Benjamin P. Campbell, Dennis Carter-Chand, Ernestine Gilpin, Harris Merman Greene, Jr., Jabriel Hasan, (Co-Chair), Malanna Henderson, Davette Himes, Thomas W. Howard, Wendy Ikesawa, Amy Keenan-Amago, Laura Lafayette, Alex Peterson, The Rev. Colleen Schiefelbein, (Co-Chair), Kristin Szakos, Donna Tildon-Archer, M.D., Alda White, and Tom Baker.

Citations and relevant links (official website, new articles, blog, posts, etc.)

The Episcopal Church Diocese of Virginia:

- Resolution R-10a
https://www.thediocese.net/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/Annual_Convention_2021/R10a_Final_Clean_pdf.pdf
- Task force on Reparations
<https://www.thediocese.net/resources/ministries/racial-justice-and-healing/reparations/task-force-on-reparations/>
- Reparations
<https://www.thediocese.net/resources/ministries/racial-justice-and-healing/reparations/>