

**Unity in Community North Mecklenburg, Inc.** (UiC) is a multiracial organization committed to achieving racial equity in the North Mecklenburg area. We are nonpartisan and open to all who share our mission.



PHOTOS: BILL GIDUZ



### Our Mission

Unity in Community exists to achieve racial equity primarily in the North Mecklenburg communities of Cornelius, Davidson, and Huntersville.

### UiC's Goals

- Working toward justice for all
- Modeling love for "the other"
- Increasing our understanding of race and racism
- Building/strengthening relationships across different races



PHOTOS: MICHELLE GOGLIA

Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce 2018 Champions of Diversity Award: Ron Potts, Sue Rankin-White, Willie Jones and Pam Jones.



### Unity in Community – Key Highlights

- Built and strengthened relationships across racial lines.
- Conducted voter registration, education and Get Out The Vote activities throughout North Mecklenburg, with a focus on African American churches.
- Provided support to the Smithville Community Coalition's Save Our Smithville (SOS) Campaign to fight gentrification and advance their community revitalization efforts.
- Together with community partners, conducted the Stop the Hate Rally, including a community pledge signed by participants acknowledging their commitment to reject all forms of hate.
- Supported local and nationally recognized speakers on the topic of social justice.
- Took actions to urge the Mt. Zion Monumental Association to take down the Confederate soldier monument in Cornelius, including issuing our position through various media forums and conducting a peaceful protest.



- Participated in local protests for Black Lives Matter.
- Incorporated UiC as a 501(c)4 social justice organization.

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### If you

- Believe in love and justice for all...
- Want to actively work for justice and racial equity...
- Want to build friendships and relationships across different races...
- Want to increase your knowledge and understanding of race and racism...

PHOTOS: BILL GIDUZ



### Then join us

Learn more about Unity in Community North Mecklenburg, Inc. and find out how you can get involved.



PHOTO: WASANY PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO: MICHELLE GOGLIA

UiC guest speaker: District Attorney Spencer Merriweather, Mecklenburg County

Davidson College event: Bryan Stevenson, founder/executive director of Equal Justice Initiative (and subject of the movie Just Mercy)

## How UiC is Organized – central to our mission

Small Groups, which are central to our very basic and informal structure, are supported by a Board of Directors and Action Committees.



## Board of Directors – where it all starts

- Provides leadership and direction
- Consults with Small Groups and Action Committees
- Organizes and leads Large Group meetings



## Action Committees – where big things happen

In addition to participating in a Small Group, Unity in Community encourages Supporters to participate in one of its Action Committees:

### Education Committee:

- Creates and provides opportunities to help Supporters and the community at-large grow in our understanding of racism, racial equity, white privilege, and social justice.
- Enables Supporters to have respectful/authentic race related conversations with family and friends; equips members to engage in their communities, houses of worship, and organizations; and empowers them to be agents of change.
- Develops curriculum designed to enhance Small Groups' understanding of racism, racial equity, white privilege, black oppression, and social justice.

### Social Justice Committee:

- Engages in voter registration and education.
- Supports and promotes Get Out The Vote (GOTV) activities.
- Supports the preservation of historically African American neighborhoods in our communities.

### Communications Committee:

- Keeps Supporters informed about UiC activities and opportunities, such as Large Group meetings, Small Group meetings, events, as well as local/state/national news and matters of interest related to race.
- Promotes Unity in Community in the community.

### Supporter Committee:

- Responsible for Small Group operations, including new Supporter orientation and training.
- Assigns new Supporters to Small Groups.
- Provides Small Group facilitator training.
- Conducts evaluations of Small Groups to assess best practices that can be shared among all Small Groups.



PHOTO: SUE RANKIN-WHITE

## Small Groups

– where diverse friendships take seed and bloom

75% of White people do not have a single Black friend and 65% of Black people do not have a single White friend. This is the disturbing statistic that birthed the idea of diverse Small Groups.

Small Groups are the foundation of Unity in Community. Although not required, most Supporters choose to participate in Small Groups which are made up of 8-12 multiracial individuals, whose explicit purpose is to build relationships to promote racial equity. Small Groups meet at least once a month.



PHOTO: MICHELLE GOGLIA

## Large Group – where the Board, Supporters, Small Groups, and Committees come together

The UiC Board and Supporters, including Small Groups and Committees, meet as a Large Group on a quarterly basis. In this forum, the Board, Small Groups, and Committees provide updates on UiC activities; vote on key issues; learn more about racism and social justice from guest speakers within the community; participate in group activities; and meet new UiC Supporters.



PHOTO: BILL GIDUZ



## Join Us – we'll grow together

Come and be part of Unity in Community – where you can make a positive difference in our ENTIRE community!

Learn more at [UIC-NMECK.ORG](http://UIC-NMECK.ORG)