

UNITY IN COMMUNITY – North Mecklenburg 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Unity in Community had strong successes in several areas, made progress in some areas, and saw setbacks in others. Here are highlights of our various activities, events, and impact:

Community Activism


UiC significantly stepped up our electoral work in 2022. Through our new and past partnerships, we collaborated with Caterpillar Ministries, the Latino Community Engagement Committee, and other Latino organizations to increase Latino voter turnout. We held our first Racial Equity Community and Candidates Forums in Cornelius, Huntersville, and Davidson with the Ada Jenkins Center, the Charlotte Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, the League of Women Voters Charlotte Mecklenburg, the New North Carolina Project, North Meck Communities United, North Meck Economic Mobility Collaborative, and the Smithville Community Coalition, to increase voter turnout in black and brown communities and among youth. We also tried to reach communities of color through voter registration efforts, canvassing, and door knocking.

Continued campaign to take down the Confederate Monument in Cornelius

- Published statement on the anniversary of the monument's dedication continuing our call to take down the monument
- Shifted our tactics to focus more on recognizing the contributions of African American people, while continuing to advocate for the monument's removal
- Met with Town of Cornelius Commissioners to solicit their assistance on a resolution in support of taking down the monument

Continued UiC support of Smithville and Pottstown

- Attended Historic Landmarks Commission meeting
- Attended Board of County Commissioners meeting opposing gentrification and displacement and in support of affordable housing
- Helped organize march and rally of over 50 people at Cornelius Town Hall in support of ARPA funds for Smithville



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Community Partnerships

Continued to build and strengthen partnerships with community and faith-based organizations (see partial list of partners above under Community Activism)

Supporters

Added more than 100 people to UiC's email list

Large Group Meetings

Held successful Large Group Meetings in January via Zoom, in April and July via hybrid meetings, and in October we held an in-person only meeting

Small Groups

Our small groups had some setbacks. A few small groups experienced the loss of members, due to various factors. As a result, several have become inactive, and others have merged remaining members with other small groups. Several continue going strong, meeting via Zoom as well as in-person

Education/Training

UiC small groups, along with a couple of community small groups organized by Ada Jenkins, studied the *Color of Law* and engaged in meaningful conversations about housing discrimination and racism

UiC Operations

Held our second board of directors' nomination and election process, saying goodbye to four board members, reaffirming six existing board members and welcoming four new members

Maintained our Communications and Supporter Committees; Enlarged Social Justice Committee; still working to re-activate our Education Committee

Enhanced our monthly newsletter, informing supporters of UiC activities, meetings, and events, as well as other local activities, meetings, and events

Fundraising

Raised over \$5,000 in donations from supporters and friends

Marketing/Public Relations

Maintained our website: www.uic-nmeck.org

Continued our private Facebook page, as well as Instagram and Twitter

Continued to promote UiC and build relationships with local media, primarily Cornelius Today