



Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT: WeROC Issues Month, May 2022

WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) is a county-wide collaboration among Faith, Labor, and Community influencers who bring new voices—people of color, lower income families, and youth—to the tables where consequential decisions are made. Our goal is to develop effective ways to dismantle the structures that stubbornly maintain racism and economic inequality in our area.

In May 2022, Washtenaw County decision makers will share information and respond to questions from local citizens in a series of four issues-based virtual panel discussions and audience Q&As. **To register and for additional information visit werocmi.org**

WEROC ISSUES MONTH—FOUR TOPICS AND DATES

Who Killed the King: Challenges and Trauma of Black Men and Boys in America — with Leah D. Mills Chapman, LMSW, licensed clinical therapist, and CEO of Ntervene, LLC. Chapman will speak about and take questions on the challenges and trauma of Black men and boys in America and the role social systems play in the overall demise of the Black Man in America. Moderated by Cynthia Bodewes, WeROC chair and convener of the WeROC Health Equity Action Team. May 3, 6:30 to 7:30pm. FREE

Voting Down-Ballot Elections. Why it matters. What Happens if I Don't Vote? —with Yousef Rabhi, State House Democratic Floor Leader; Ed Golembiewski, Washtenaw County Chief Deputy Clerk and Director of Elections; Erinn Williamson, Legislative Assistant to Michigan Representative Jeff Irwin, and Sarah Collier, Superior Township Deputy Clerk. Issues like taxes and voting rights or the election of school board members and judges are listed down-ballot. Voting down-ballot is a priority for our communities, and when left to a small minority of voters, can have a huge negative impact on our communities. Join us to learn more, includes Q&A. Moderated by Rev. Jeffrey Harrold, convener of the WeROC Voting Rights Action Team. May 12, 6:30 to 8:00pm. FREE

Advancing Equity Through the Public Defender's Office —with Washtenaw County Public Defender Delphia Simpson. Presentation and audience Q&A. May 18, 6:30 to 7:30pm. FREE

School Expulsions —with State Senator Jeff Irwin and Peri Stone-Palmquist, LMSW, MPP, Executive Director of the Student Advocacy Center. Senator Irwin will provide an overview on the legislation that he introduced on this topic to the Michigan Senate and the process it will follow to passage into law. Stone-Palmquist will share information on the impact current school expulsion practices have on students, followed by audience Q&A. Ypsilanti Mayor Lois Richardson will make opening and closing remarks. May 24, 6:30 to 7:30pm. FREE