

Please Join Us

November 8-9, 2019
Cleveland Public Auditorium

400 Years of Inequity: A Call to Action

A national summit commemorating the 400-year anniversary of slavery, connecting this history to current racial disparities, and discussing where we go from here.

When America has been asked about resolving racism ...

"You always told me 'It takes time.' It's taken my father's time, my mother's time, my uncle's time, my brothers' and my sisters' time. How much time do you want for your progress?"

— James Baldwin

We say ... now is the time.

This year marks 400 years since Africans in bondage were sold into chattel slavery here in British North America. After slavery ended, mistreatment of African Americans was codified in local, state and federal laws, policies and practices designed to accommodate Jim Crow, which spread this ideology throughout the entire country. Today, circumstances in America remain unfair for African Americans, as seen in racial disparities in health, economic security, housing, the justice system and beyond.

The YWCA Greater Cleveland and First Year Cleveland believe the inequities in social conditions that were forced upon slaves and their descendants have led to the racial disparities we see today.

To that end, we are hosting a national summit this fall in Cleveland, Ohio, that will **commemorate** the 400-year anniversary, **enhance understanding** of the relationship between past and present, and **spark action** toward an equitable future.

Join YWCA President & CEO **Margaret Mitchell**, First Year Cleveland Executive Director **Bernadette Kerrigan**, and national maternal and infant health expert **Dr. Arthur James** and hundreds of others for two days of dynamic speakers, skills-building and educational breakout

sessions, powerful performances and exhibits, and a unique opportunity to connect with people near and far who share a commitment to equity and justice.

This national summit will feature keynote presentations by renowned experts, including:

- **Isabel Wilkerson**, Pulitzer-winning journalist and author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*
- **John Powell**, Director of the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society at the University of California Berkeley
- **Harriet Washington**, award-winning medical writer and author of *Medical Apartheid*, the first social history of medical research with African Americans
- **Darrick Hamilton, PhD**, Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
- **Stacey Stewart**, President and CEO, March of Dimes
- **Dr. Gail Christopher**, award winning social change agent and former Senior Advisor and Vice President of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation

This summit is part of a longer-term movement toward achieving equity and is meant to serve as a catalyst for change by bringing people from the community together with leading experts for open, inclusive dialogue and planning for progress. We hope you'll join us and be part of the change.

Please visit <https://cvent.me/07mge> to register and learn more.

Sponsored by:

**First Year
Cleveland**



With thanks to our founding partners:

- March of Dimes
- Michigan Public Health Institute
- Project 400