

## Attendee Feedback

# 400 YEARS OF INEQUITY

A CALL TO ACTION

**400 Years of Inequity Action Summit Evaluation provided feedback following the event. We've included some of the responses here.**

"It was an exceptional summit that educated and provided the promised call to action."

*"Harriet Washington ignited a spark in me to continue to work to dismantle racism."*

"I think there should be a track for people of color who are triggered by the information presented and the work they are involved in."

*"Isabel Wilkerson's powerful stories grounded the conference in shared history, brought ancestors into the room, and provided priming to remind participants of the collective power of many people acting for themselves and their families."*

"This was an excellent summit. I got so much out of it, both personally and professionally, and feel so lucky to have heard such an amazing list of speakers in person. It was well organized and well executed and is a topic we need to focus on more."

*"Maybe a statewide gathering could be held in the future to keep the momentum going in the state but not really sure about continuing as a national gathering. There are other events that are national."*

"Lovvvvvvved it! It was helpful and empowering for me to acknowledge and commemorate the African experience in America. I learned new information. I was emotionally and intellectually enriched. I was able to network. I appreciated the intentional moments to reflect at the tables, particularly at the beginning of the summit. It was just POWERFUL!"

*"The last presenter, Dr. Christopher, was engaging and offered a framework to do the hard work of coming together to create change in our community. She offered hope in the unseen."*

"I enjoyed the breakout session 'Structural racism in the criminal Justice system.' I enjoyed the opportunity to challenge the collective narrative of punishment and crime."

*"Good to hear Darrick Hamilton talk about the ongoing economic ramifications of slavery and racism. This should be discussed more."*

"This summit was incredibly well-designed to hold space for the participants to show up and engage with each other to create valuable connections across lines of difference (race, geography, institution, sector, age, gender, etc.) The commitment to hold this space made this one of the most valuable conferences I've ever attended. My favorite keynote speaker was Gail Christopher because she motivated me to empower myself when it comes to my future kid's health. Advocate for them and continue to spread the word."

*"My favorite breakout session was the managing implicit bias and our fears. This one stood out to me because I wanted a better understanding of implicit bias and how I could take that information to my work place."*

"Awesome speakers; great integration of history, research, policies/practices and current functioning for African Americans."

*"I really enjoyed John Powell. His explanation of the 'white ideology' allowed me to release some tensions that I have been feeling as a result of today's political climate. It's made me very untrusting, now I realize to accept those that don't embody the white ideology of supremacy."*

"The final speaker cinched it for me. Just as I was skeptical of the previous week's conference, which had a top down orientation as did this one, at least this time I had confidence in the leadership. I was skeptical that there would not be enough sense of actual action items coming out of it, but the speakers from Milwaukee helped me to understand the strategy. The final speaker helped me to see that we were going to go far beyond 'just' declaring racism a public health problem."

*"I learned so much that I did not know. I left the first day feeling sad, overwhelmed, frustrated and weak. I returned the next day tired but hopeful and I left feeling empowered, encouraged, and motivated."*

"This was seriously the best conference I've ever been to. I was moved to tears multiple times. I would love to attend again if it happens again and I know a lot of people I would invite who would love to come as well. Just overall very beautifully done, and very well balanced in terms of engaging the heart and the mind. Incredibly powerful speakers!!!"

*"I enjoyed Dr. Joia Crear-Perry. I am inspired by her work; the framework she discussed was very helpful for my work to address Black infant mortality and improving maternal safety in California."*

"It was a very powerful two days that stirred my soul and all aspects. Painful, moving, affirming. Very well done. Thank you for gathering such incredible speakers."

*"This was an excellent summit. I got so much out of it, both personally and professionally, and feel so lucky to have heard such an amazing list of speakers in person. It was well organized and well executed and is a topic we need to focus on more. Thank you for your work organizing it and I hope it will be repeated."*



## Key Presenters

### **DR. GAIL C. CHRISTOPHER**

Social change agent and former Senior Advisor and Vice President of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation

### **DARRICK HAMILTON**

Executive Director, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity; Professor, John Glenn College of Public Affairs

### **JOHN A. POWELL**

Director of the Haas Institute for a Fair & Inclusive Society at the University of California Berkeley

### **STACEY STEWART**

President and CEO, March of Dimes

### **HARRIET WASHINGTON**

Writer and Author

### **ISABEL WILKERSON**

Journalist and Author

### **MILWAUKEE PANELISTS**

**Nicole Brookshire**, Director of Office on African American Affairs, Milwaukee County, WI

**Jeanette Kowalik**, City of Milwaukee Health Commissioner

**Lilliann Paine**, Health and Wellbeing Educator, University of Wisconsin Extension

## Breakout Session Presenters

### **Re-imagining What's Possible: A Future Where Reproductive Justice is Achieved**

Dr. Monica McLemore, UCSF/ANSIRH

### **Maternal and Child Health Equity**

Joia Crear-Perry, National Birth Equity Collaborative

### **Managing Implicit Bias (and Our Fears)**

Denise Evans, Consult Me LLC

### **Achieving Equity in Organizations**

Renee Canady, Michigan Public Health Institute; and Vijaya Hogan, University of North Carolina

### **From Redlined to Million Dollar Blocks — The Intersection of History, Mass Incarceration and Law Enforcement Violence**

Jessica Roach, ROOTT; Dorian Wingard, Midwest Strategies; and Andrea Headley, OSU

### **Practicing Equity Competent Leadership**

Erica Merritt, Equius Group

### **Engaging the History of Structural Racism to Support Justice**

Greg Brown, PolicyBridge; Martha Halko, Cuyahoga County Board of Health; and Freddy Collier Jr., Cleveland City Planning Commission

### **Structural Racism and Economic Development Policy**

Gbenga Ajilore, Center for American Progress

### **Black Women's Evidence-Based Models of Care**

Jennie Joseph, Commonsense Childbirth

### **Know Your Price**

Andre Perry, Brookings

### **Keeping Black Workers Down: New Deal Legislation and Racial Disparities**

Nina Banks, Bucknell University

### **"If You Want To Go Far, Make Space to Go Together!" Igniting Power & Love For Action Right Where You Are**

Neighbor Up Network

### **Education Inequities & Health Implications of Inner City Students**

Ricardo Franklin, Cleveland Leadership Academy

### **How ACES has Redefined the Connection between Social Determinants of Health and Historical Trauma**

Valerie Alloy, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

### **Singing Ella's Song: Black Maternal Stress, Strain and the Quest for Birth Equity**

Fleda Mask Jackson, MAJAICA, LLC

### **From Redlined to Maternal Health Hot Spots - How Has our History Shaped Health Inequities?**

Tonni Oberly, GRC; Dorian Wingard, Midwest Strategies; and Jessica Roach, ROOTT

### **Creating the Segregated City — The Legacy of Land Use, Housing, and Sundown Towns**

Jason Reece, OSU; Chip Allen, Ohio Department of Health; Julialynne Walker

### **Fired Up and Ready to Go! Now What?**

Will Tarter and Hope Lane, Center for Community Solutions

### **Criminal Justice Reform**

Shakya Diaz, Alliance for Safety and Justice

### **Leading Through Your Heart: How Having a Vision for the World You'd Love is the Most Powerful Force**

Adele DiMarco, YINOVATE