

## THINGS YOU CAN DO TO

# WAKE UP, INTERRUPT, & STEP UP FOR EQUITY

### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide will help you activate your commitment to equity and engage with community building initiative and our Charlotte community. In this guide, you will find community events, steps to burst your own bubble, ways to deepen your understanding, and opportunities to engage in courageous conversations.

#### Wake Up:

- Open your eyes and look around. What inequities do you see that you can do something about?
- **Burst your own bubble!** Shop, eat, play, volunteer, worship and visit parts of the community that are less familiar to you.

#### Interrupt:

- **Participate In Courageous Conversation**
- Make a commitment to learning how to talk about politics constructively vs. avoiding issues altogether
- [Equity Toolkit Cards](#) | Use your cards to talk with someone within or outside of your usual circle of friends.

#### Step Up:

- Find your passion – and act on it.
- **Deepen your understanding** of issues and organizations that matter to you.
- Stay Connected with your Stakeholders Breakfast tablemates, LU40 class, or LDI classmates and attend **community events**.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

MAY 19 | [Ignite Charlotte](#): Embrace the new ideas of your community by attending an evening of networking followed by a series of *5-minute talks* by community members who have a personal or professional passion about an idea they are willing to share.

MAY 23 | [The Happening](#): Learn more and support the work of the Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Fund.

MAY 25 | [It Takes a Village: Annual Iftar in aid of Orphans](#): Deepen your understanding and support your community.

JUNE 13-16 | [Juneteenth Festival of the Carolinas](#): Celebrate the history of liberation and the promise of the future.

JUNE 17 | [Black Pride Week](#): Celebrate the African-American LGBTQAI+ community of Charlotte. (Events throughout Charlotte.)

Be inspired to have a courageous conversation by [Three Bone Theatre's Oslo by: JT Rogers](#).

## ONGOING EVENTS

[Immigrant Solidarity Committee of Charlotte](#) | Connect with neighbors by attending an Immigrant Solidarity Committee monthly meetings 3rd Thursday of every month 6:00pm-8:00 pm.

[Refugee 101 Class](#) | Presented by Refugee Support services, on the first Wednesday of every month. [Register now >>](#)

[#HomeCLT](#) | Learn more about the history of Charlotte neighborhoods by attending [#HomeCLT](#) at the Levine Museum of the New South.

[The Community Book Read](#) | Make a pledge to participate.

[Find a Local Community Garden](#) | Volunteer at a local community garden.

- [Little Sugar Creek Greenway Garden](#)
- [Plaza Midwood Community Garden Work Day](#)

RMJJ's Racial Equity Workshop | Participate in a workshop.

## BURST YOUR OWN BUBBLE

[Poverty Simulation](#) with Crisis Assistance Ministries. A Poverty Simulation is a facilitated two-hour immersive experience designed to create awareness among participants of life at the bottom rung of the economic ladder.

Shop, eat, play, volunteer, worship and visit in parts of the community that are less familiar to you.

Support a local African American owned business while exploring one of Charlotte's evolving neighborhoods.

- [Queens Coffee Bar](#) 1720 Pegram St. Charlotte, NC 28205

Participate in a [City Walks Charlotte](#) neighborhood tour.

- View details on [Facebook](#)

Visit and be inspired by [Romare Bearden's BEFORE DAWN Mural](#) located near the front entrance to the Main Library of the Weil Popular Library.

Visit and be inspired by the CBI | Workplace Solutions' Live Love Serve Mural on the Old Pineville Road side of their building at 4020 Yancey Road.

Open your eyes and look around what inequities do you see that YOU can do something about?

Analyze your company's vendor list Interrupt by expanding it to include businesses owned by people of color, immigrants and women.

Utilize an equity lens in your board and/or volunteer service. How can you encourage others and the organization to interrupt... or step up?

Tour your neighborhood school before deciding where your child will go to school.

Learn the story behind [Dilworth Tennis Group](#) and check out the tennis scene at Dilworth Elementary on a weekend morning.

Learn more about the West Side Community Land Trust.

## DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING

MAY 21 | [The Charlotte Neighborhood: From Cotton Fields to Skyscrapers](#): Deepen your understanding of how Charlotte became a city of neighborhoods with Tom Hanchett.

[Analyze Your Personal Philanthropy](#); is it aligned with where you want to interrupt...or step up?

Read the [Opportunity Task Force Report](#) and identify one recommendation/insight to act on.

Deepen your understanding of government, communications training as well as conflict resolution training, by becoming a [Bridging The Difference Ambassador](#).

Support the work of **The Center for Community Transitions**, a Charlotte based organization with a mission to strengthen our community by helping people with criminal records and their families find a healthier and more productive way of living.

- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Deepen your understanding and learn more about the American Immigrant Experience by listening to the [1st Gens podcast](#).

Deepen your understanding of LGBTQ issues in Charlotte and around the world by visiting [Your 3-Minute Guide to LGBT Human Rights](#), presented by LGBT Charlotte.

Volunteer with [Refugee Support Services](#) to aid Charlotte's refugee community while deepening your own understanding.

Deepen your understanding of intersectionality by listening to the [Intersection Podcast](#).

Expand your tool kit by listening to the [Show About Race Podcast](#) that, teaches, "how to talk about race in an effective way".

With a friend or in your book club read, [Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Fight Inequality, Polarization and the Decline of Social Life](#).

Deepen your understanding of food justice and food desserts in Charlotte by exploring the State of the Plate presented by the [Charlotte Mecklenburg Food Policy Council](#).

Connect with [Educate2Engage](#) to explore The New Jim Crow.

#### **SUPPORT LOCAL AUTHORS**

- [Color and Character](#) by Pamela Grundy
- [Money Rock](#) by Pam Kelley
- [A Riff of Love](#) by Greg Jarrell

[View a Challenging Film or Documentary](#) | Convene others for a conversation about how it challenges or inspires you to take action.

Connect with [Amplify Charlotte for their Get Civic Kit](#) and other resources.

Learn more about [All of Us or None](#) – and volunteer.

Find your passion – and act on it

Make a commitment to learn how to talk about politics constructively vs. avoiding issues altogether

Plan a [CBI Bus Tour](#) for your organization and/or company.

Participate in CMPD's [Bridging the Difference](#), conversations about police and community relations and public safety offered in advance of the 2020 RNC.

## PARTICIPATE IN A COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION

MAY 20 | [Women's Leadership Panel Discussion](#): Join a courageous conversation about women's leadership efforts in politics and journalism, as well as mentorship in empowering girls.

MAY 24 | [Coffee Talk - Building Equitable Cities with Henry Cisneros](#): Join a courageous conversation.

DECEMBER 15 | Attend the [book signing](#) with Rogers at the Harvey Gantt center Sunday, December 15, 2019, @ 12:00 pm.

- Bring a courageous conversation to your book club by reading *And Then Tamir* by Boris "Bluz" Rogers.

[Equity Toolkit Cards](#) | Use your cards to talk with someone within or outside of your usual circle of friends.

[Write an Op-Ed](#) and step up for an issue of inequity in our community.

Bring a courageous conversation to your community and burst your own bubble committing with a friend to complete the, [Me and White Supremacy Workbook](#).

Stay Connected with your Stakeholders Breakfast tablemates and keep this morning's conversation going.

Share Your Secrets | Use your social capital to help someone else get what they need to be successful.

Find an Ally or Ask for Support | Bring a courageous conversation to your congregation, school, community group or book club.