2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE REPORT

“Changing the Culture of Violence in America...and the World”

Sponsored by

Black Women for Positive Change, National Steering Committees and Positive Change Foundation

October 17-25, 2015

Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC) is a multi-cultural, inter-faith, inter-generational network of women, good brothers, elected officials, youth, faith leaders, businesses, civic organizations and labor unions. The National/International Week of Non-Violence was observed in Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, Charles County and Prince Georges County, MD; Cook County/Chicago, IL; Denver, CO; Hampton Roads and Alexandria, VA; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; St. Louis, Missouri; Washington, D.C., and the United Kingdom.

www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org

Email: Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com;

www.facebook.com/BlackWomen4PositiveChange
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Black Women for Positive Change  
Preserving and Strengthening the Middle/Working Class  
“Changing the Culture of Violence in America…and the World”

2015 Week of Non-Violence Report

In Collaboration with National/International Steering Committees and Positive Change Foundation

Dr. Stephanie E. Myers  
BW4PC National Co-Chair

Delegate Daun S. Hester  
BW4PC National Co-Chair

National Honorary Co-Chairs, 2015 Week of Non-Violence

Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle Charles E. Blake  
Church of God in Christ, Inc.  
Hon. National Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence

Attorney Benjamin L. Crump, President  
National Bar Association  
Hon. National Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence

Black Women for Positive Change Executive Committee Liaisons

Estella E. Lee, California  
Patricia Duncan, Colorado  
Sierra Wallace, Illinois  
Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, Maryland  
Janice Wilson, Maryland  
Diane Powell, Pennsylvania  
Eunita Winkey, Maryland  
Dr. Hattie Washington, Maryland  
Janell Mayo Duncan, Maryland  
Joycelyn Daniels, Maryland  
Charisse Carney-Nunes, Maryland  
C. Jennings, United Kingdom  
Fannie Allen, Virginia  
Kayla Hicks, Virginia  
Karen Carrington, Washington, D.C.  
Mildred Freeman, Washington, D.C.  
Bernadette Tolson, Washington, D.C.  
Jessica Mitchell, Washington, D.C.

Black Women for Positive Change, 1220 L. Street, NW, #100-181, Washington, D.C., 20005;  
Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com Website: www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org  
#wkofNonViolence #BKW4PosChange
Black Women for Positive Change

Preserving and Strengthening the Middle/Working Class

“Changing the Culture of Violence in America”

For Immediate Release

Contact: Karen Carrington & Bernadette Tolson
BW4PC Media and Events Tel.202-210-4005;

Week of Non-Violence Announced, October 17-25, 2015

Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC) a national, inter-faith, multi-cultural volunteer and advocacy network based in Washington, DC, will convene the third National Week of Non-Violence, October 17-25, 2015. The theme of the week is “Changing the Culture of Violence in America…and the World.” This effort is dedicated to promote violence prevention and awareness in major U.S. cities, and overseas. Cities hosting violence prevention awareness and non-violence events for the 2015 Week of Non-Violence include: Denver, Colorado; Cook County/Chicago, Illinois; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Los Angeles, California; Atlanta, Georgia; Hampton Roads, Virginia; St. Louis, Missouri; the DMV in Greater Washington, D.C. including District of Columbia; Baltimore, Maryland and London, United Kingdom. (Attached List of National Co-Chairs)

Honorary National Co-Chairs for the 2015 Week of Non-Violence are Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle, Church of God in Christ, Inc. and Attorney Benjamin L. Crump, President of the National Bar Association. Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle, Church of God in Christ, Inc. a national denomination with 12,000 churches said, “Upon assuming the role of Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, I established the Urban Initiatives. It mirrors the strategy I successfully implemented over many years at West Angeles Church in Los Angeles. The Urban Initiatives deploys our 12,000 churches armed with programs designed to address the problems that plague our cities. The opportunity to serve as Honorary Co-Chair of the 2015 Week of Non-Violence sponsored by Black Women for Positive Change, provides yet another opportunity to advocate for the cessation of the violence that has proliferated in our cities. We must be consistent and aggressive in pursuit of transformation of urban America.”

Attorney Benjamin Crump, President NBA said, “The NBA has chosen to partner with Black Women for Positive Change and support the Week of Non-Violence October 15-23, 2015, to promote non-violence in our homes. We have an obligation to show our children that any form of violence, especially domestic violence, is unacceptable.” Attorney Crump will participate in a October 9th press conference in Washington, D.C. as part of the National Steering Committee for the Week of Non-Violence.

In a joint statement Dr. Stephanie E. Myers and Delegate Daun S. Hester, BW4PC National Co-Chairs stated, “We are proud to partner with leaders like Attorney Benjamin L. Crump and Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake who are leading the national effort to promote the 2015 Week of Non-Violence. There is real urgency for youth, millennials, parents, elected officials, faith leaders, law enforcement officials, civic leaders, athletes and entertainers to implement prevention strategies to STOP THE VIOLENCE in our communities. We are also gaining interest from civic leaders overseas, and invite them to support the 2015 Week of Non-Violence.

The Week of Non-Violence includes a Peace Pledge developed in collaboration with the Cook County Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee, and a theme song titled, “We Are One” composed by Bishop Henry Phillips, of St. Louis, MO. To learn more about the 2015 Week of Non-Violence, go to www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org Free socially responsible violence prevention media tools available for community screenings can be downloaded at: http://www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org/socially-responsible-media/ For information contact National Co-Chairs for Media and Events, Karen Carrington, 202-210-4005; and/or Bernadette Tolson, 202-997-0655.

Black Women for Positive Change, 1220 L. Street, NW, #100-181, Washington, D.C., 20005; Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com Website: www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
## International, State & Local Co-Chairs of Steering Committees

| Mayor William Euille, Co-Chair, DMV Week of Non-Violence, Alexandria, VA |
| DC City Council Chair, Phil Mendelson, Co-Chair Week of Non-Violence, Washington, D.C. |
| Rev. William Lamar, Co-Chair DMV Week of Non-Violence, Washington, D.C. |
| Rev. A.C. Durant, Chair, Missionary Baptist Ministers Conf. Member, Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee |
| Akua Coppock, Nat Bar Association Liaison Week of Non-Violence, Washington, D.C. |
| Sandra Lewis, Ast. Coordinator Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee, Cook County, IL |
| Rev. Rodney Lyde, Co-Chair Week of Non-Violence, Pittsburgh, PA |
| Rev. Kelvin Sauls, Co-Chair Week of Non-Violence, Los Angeles, CA |
| Bishop Henry Phillips, Composer Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, St. Louis, MO |
| Werda Utsey, Black Student Alliance/Teacher Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, Denver, CO |
| Kenneth Fisk, Legislative Aide, Atlanta City Council, Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, Atlanta, Georgia |

### Week of Non-Violence National and Local Co-Chairs of Steering Committees

**Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle Charles E. Blake**
Church of God in Christ, Inc.  
Hon. National Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence

**Attorney Benjamin L. Crump, President**
National Bar Association  
Hon. National Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence

**Mayor Muriel Bowser, Honorary Chair, DMV**
Committee Week of Non-Violence, Washington, D.C.

**Chairman Mel Franklin, Co-Chair, DMV**
Week of Non-Violence, Prince Georges County, MD

**Councilman Kenyan McDuffie, Co-Chair DMV**
Week of Non-Violence, Washington, DC

**Rev. Frank Tucker, Chair Wednesday Clergy Fellowship**
Managing Chair, DMV Week of Non-Violence

**Delegate Daun S. Hester, Chair**
Week of Non-Violence, Hampton Roads, Virginia

**Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Honorary Chair**
Week of Non-Violence, Cook County, Illinois

**Garvin Ambrose, Esq., Coordinator**
Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee, Cook County, IL

**Police Chief Cameron McClay, Co-Chair**
Week of Non-Violence, Pittsburgh, PA

**Jan Perry, Director, Economic Development, City of L.A.**
Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, Los Angeles, Calif.

**Bishop Edwin Bass, Director Urban Initiatives, COGIC**
Chair, Week of Non-Violence, St. Louis, Missouri

**Stephanie O'Malley, Director, Public Safety**
Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, Denver, CO

**William Kellibrew, Mental Health Consultant**
Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, Atlanta Georgia

**C. Jennings, Author, Radio Host**
Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence, United Kingdom

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BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE
Preserving and Strengthening the Middle/Working Class
“Changing the Culture of Violence in America”

PARTNERS 2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE
Atlanta, Georgia, 2015 Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee
   ATWINDS Foundation
   Beta Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
   Church of God in Christ, Incorporated
   Cook County State Attorney’s Office, Cook County, Illinois
   Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA
   Councilwoman Theresa Kali-Smith, Pittsburgh, PA
   Councilwoman Natalia Rudik, Pittsburgh, PA
   Councilman Kenyan McDuffie, Washington, D.C.
Denver, Colorado, 2015 Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee
   DC Office of Religious Affairs
   East High School, Denver, Colorado
   Generation Progress
   Global Trancendence
Hampton Roads, Virginia 2015 Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee
   Holman United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, CA
   Hill House, Pittsburgh, PA
   Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, D.C.
   Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, PA
   Metropolitan AME Church, Washington, D.C.
   My Brother’s Keeper, Pittsburgh, PA
   National Bar Association, National Office
   National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
   Masjid Muhammad, The Nations Mosque, Washington, D.C.
   Network for Victim Recovery of DC
   Panera Bread
   Pittsburgh Community TV, (PCTV)
   POISE Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA
   Positive Change Foundation, Washington, D.C.
St. Louis Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee, Missouri
   United Steelworkers Union
   Washington National Cathedral
   Wednesday Clergy Fellowship, Washington, D.C.
   William Kellibrew Foundation
   YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

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Black Women for Positive Change

Preserving and Strengthening the Middle/Working Class

“Changing the Culture of Violence in America”

2015 DMV STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS TO LAUNCH WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE AT DC CITY HALL

(Left to Right) Keith Andrew Perry, Executive Director, National Bar Association; Akua Coppock, Esq., Week of Non-Violence Liaison, National Bar Association; Mel Franklin, Chairman, Prince Georges County Council, Eunita Winkey, Co-Chair Mental Health, BW4PC; Rev. Donald Robinson, Wednesday Clergy Fellowship; Leonard “Tony” Upson, Capstone Program; Dr. Stephanie E. Myers, National Co-Chair, BW4PC; Benjamin Crump, Esq. Honorary Co-Chair, Week of Non-Violence; Karen Carrington, Co-Chair, BW4PC Events and Media; Bernadette Tolson, Co-Chair, BW4PC Events and Media; Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, Chaplain, BW4PC. (Not Pictured) Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, VA; DC City Councilman Kenyan McDuffie; NOBLE Executive Director Dwayne Crawford; Canon Patty Johnson, Washington National Cathedral; Rabbi Batya Steinlauf, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, D.C.; Rev. Donald Isaac, DC Director Religious Affairs, DC; Mildred Freeman, Positive Change Foundation, Treasurer; Kimberly Bassett, Director, Office of Women’s Policy, DC.

LIST OF EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE DURING 2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA., Youth Speak: We Listen, Forum with Pittsburgh Police Chief Cameron McLay, Allegheny Community College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Oct. 16, 2015,</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>Inter-Denominational Council Meeting on Non-Violence and providers of National Week of Non-Violence Theme Song “WE ARE ONE”</td>
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<td>Sat., Oct. 17, 2015 9 am</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>Washington, D.C. Summit on Non-Violence, Metropolitan AMC Church, 1518 M. Street, NW, WDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Date/Time</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<td>Sun., Oct. 18, 2015</td>
<td>Cook County, IL</td>
<td>Sermons on Non-Violence, Non-Violence Worship Weekend, Chicago Churches</td>
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<td>Mon. Oct. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>“Beyond Violence: A Community Roundtable,” 3201 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr, NW, Atlanta, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Oct. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>“Why Black Women Stay,” Greater Washington Area Chapter, National Bar Association, Women Lawyers Division. October 19, 2015, 6:30 p.m. D.C. Court of Appeals, 430 E Street, NW WDC; Courtroom #1</td>
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<td>Mon., Oct. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>Town Hall Meeting with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti Holman United Methodist Church</td>
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<td>Mon. Oct. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>Community Forum with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings- Blake, Presentation by Dr. Hattie Washington on Week of Non-Violence</td>
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| Wed. Oct 21, 2015        | Chicago, IL        | Film Screenings of “On 2nd Thought”  
• Chicago State University, Breakey Theatre, 9501 South King Drive  
• U of Illinois at Chicago UIC, 750 South Halstead                         |
| Thurs, Oct. 22, 2015     | Denver, CO         | On 2nd Thought film Screening  
East High School, Denver, Colorado                                              |
| Thurs. Oct 22, 2015      | Los Angeles, CA    | South LA Homeless & Foster Care Collaborative meeting focusing on Prevention Strategies of Violence in Teen Relationships, Right Way Foundation, 4333 Leimert Blvd, Los Angeles, |
| Thurs., Oct 22, 2015     | Los Angeles, CA    | Youth Leaders from South LA addressing issues of gender based violence, Jazz for the Soul Evening, Holman UMC                                           |
| Fri. Oct 23, 2015        | Norfolk, VA        | Film Screening: Magic Johnson Bridgescape Academy, 1025 Widgeon Rd., Norfolk, VA 23513                                                             |
| Sat., Oct. 24, 2015      | Pittsburgh, PA     | Film Screening: “On 2nd Thought,” Baptist Temple Church, 7241 Race Street, Pittsburgh, PA                                                            |
MEDIA LINKS TO NEWS CLIPS DURING THE WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE
October 17-25, 2015

Community Forum on Violence PSA made by Atlanta, Steering Committee
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKI6xFolvc&feature=em-upload_owner&app=desktop

Youth Speak: We Listen Coverage, WESA Public Television, Pittsburgh
http://wesa.fm/post/black-women-positive-change-kicks-nonviolence-week-pittsburgh

Youth Speak: We Listen Coverage, WPXI-TV, Pittsburgh

DMV Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee, Washington DC Press Conference, Steps of DC City Hall
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwWcO9_Zr-U

https://soundcloud.com/holmanumc/following-the-nonviolent-jesus-mathew-538-48

Coverage of Community Forum, Holman United Methodist Church—ABC TV

Show on “Black Lives Matter,” NBC TV—“Viewpoint Public Affairs Show Featuring Reps of DMV Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee

Domestic Violence Discussion Video, East High School, Denver, Colorado
https://plus.google.com/u/0/109492339189513534637/posts/QGaWKq27Eyd

Carl Nelson Show: WOL-Radio 1450 AM, Four Hour Forum on Violence Prevention Awareness

Black Women for Positive Change, Socially Responsible Media Link, Featuring “On 2nd Thought,” “Red Flags in Domestic Violence,” and “Positive Change Harmony Jam.”
www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
Thanks to Sponsors of the 2015 Week of Non-Violence

Positive Change Sponsors

Estella E. Lee, CA
Rev. Frank Tucker, First Baptist Church, of DC.

2015 Week of Non-Violence Sponsors

ATWinds Foundation, MD
Bishop Edwin Bass, Church of God in Christ, MO
Chairman Mel Franklin, Prince Georges County Council, MD
Giant Foods
Sandra Henderson, DC
Rev. Kelvin Sauls, Holman United Methodist Church, CA
Rev. William Lamar, Metropolitan AME Church, DC
Panera Bread
Poise Foundation, PA
Dr. Hattie Washington, Aunt Hattie’s Place, MD
Roy J. Myers, R.J. Myers Publishing & Consulting Co., DC
Shoppers Food Warehouse
Rev. Frank Tucker, Wednesday Clergy Fellowship, DC

Special Thanks

Carl Nelson Show, WOL Radio, 1450 AM
Kateleigh Hewings Clark, Network for Victims of Domestic Violence, DC
Community College of Allegheny County, PA
Carolyn Eaves-Goff, Washington, D.C.
Renee Knox- Duquesne University
Bishop Henry Phillips, “WE ARE ONE” official song
Councilman Phil Mendelson, President, DC City Council, WDC
My Brother’s Keeper, Pittsburgh, PA
Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jon Rutherford, Vergo Productions, DC
Staff at Metropolitan AME Church
Trice Edney News Wire
William Jordan, MelaNet
ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO SUPPORTED WEEKS OF NON-VIOLENCE 2014-15

YEAR 2015
Governor Steve Bullock, Montana
Governor Jeremiah W. Nixon, Missouri
Governor Bill Haslam, Tennessee
Mayor Todd Strange, Montgomery, Alabama
Mayor W.J. “Jim” Lane, Scottsdale, Arizona
Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago, Illinois
Mayor Muriel Bowser, District of Columbia
Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, California
Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, Virginia
Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando, Florida
Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Baltimore, Maryland
Mayor Andy Hafen, Henderson, Nevada
Mayor William Pedudo, Pittsburgh, PA
Mayor Michael S. Rawlings, Dallas, Texas
Mayor Harry LaRosiliere, Plano, Texas
Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, Virginia
Mayor Paul D. Fraim, Norfolk, Virginia
Delegate Daun S. Hester, Norfolk, Virginia
Council Chairman Mel Franklin, Prince Georges County, MD
Councilman Phil Mendelson, President, City Council, District of Columbia
Councilman Kenyan McDuffie, District of Columbia
Councilwoman Natalia Rudiaik, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Councilwoman Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond, Virginia Beach, Virginia

YEAR 2014
Congressman John Lewis, Georgia
Governor John Hickenlooper, Colorado
Governor Pat Quinn, Illinois
Governor Paul R. LaPage, Maine
Governor Martin O’Malley, Maryland
Governor Deval L. Patrick, Massachusetts
Governor Jeremiah W. Nixon, Missouri
Governor Steve Bullock, Montana
Governor Brian Sandoval, Nevada
Governor Lincoln D. Chafee, Rhode Island
Governor Bill Haslam, Tennessee
Governor Terry McAuliffe, Virginia
Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, West Virginia
Mayor Todd Strange, Montgomery, Alabama
Mayor Dan Sullivan, Anchorage, Alaska
Mayor W. J. “Jim” Lane, Scottsdale, Arizona

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Con't Elected Officials Who Supported Weeks of Non-Violence

Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, California
Mayor Michael H. Hancock, Denver, Colorado
Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando, Florida
Mayor Steven M. Fulop, Jersey City, Jersey
Mayor-President Melvin L. “Kip” Holden, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Baltimore, Maryland
Mayor Mike Duggan, Detroit, Michigan
Mayor Betsy Hodges, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Mayor Byron W. Brown, Buffalo, New York
Mayor Bill De Blasio, New York City, New York
Mayor William V. “Bill” Bell, Mayor, Durham, North Carolina
Mayor John Cranley, Cincinnati, Ohio
Mayor Michael Nutter, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Mayor William Peduto, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Mayor Harry LaRosiliere, Plano, Texas
Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, Virginia
Mayor Paul David Fraim, Norfolk, Virginia
Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Councilwoman Dr. Amelia Ross Hammond, Virginia Beach, Virginia
BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE & GOOD BROTHERS

Delegate Daun S. Hester, National Co-Chair
Dr. Stephanie E. Myers, National Co-Chair
Mildred Freeman, Treasurer
Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, Chaplain

Angela Polite, New York
April Oliver, Maryland
Barbara Marshall, Virginia
Barbara Reynolds, Maryland
Belinda Hankins,
C Jennings, United Kingdom
Carol Milligan, Georgia
Carolyn Goff Eaves, Washington DC
Carolyn Jackson, Pennsylvania
Chaka Balamani, Maryland
Charisse Carney Nunes, Washington DC**
Charlene Ligon, Nebraska**
Constance Portis, Pennsylvania
D. Mary Timeyin, Washington DC
Daun Hester, Virginia**
David Sommerville, New York
Diane Powell, Pennsylvania**
Emily Ward, Washington DC
Emma Lucas Darby, Pennsylvania
Latara Jones, Pennsylvania
Laura Morris, Washington DC
Leonard "Tony" Upson, Washington DC
Marie Jefferson,
Mary Bernadette Tolson, Washington DC**
Michelle Cohen, Washington DC
Mildred Freeman, Washington, DC**
Pat White, California
Patricia Duncan, Colorado**
Rabbi Batya Steinlauf, Washington DC**
Rev. Dave McFarland, Pennsylvania
Rev. Frank Tucker, Washington DC
Rev. Donald Robinson, Washington, DC
Rev. Louise Battle, Maryland
Rodney Jordan, Virginia

Estella E Lee, California**
Eunita H. Winkey, Maryland**
Fannie Allen, Virginia*
Gail Denise Fuller,
Hattie Washington, Maryland**
Imam Talib Shareef, Washington DC**
Janell Mayo Duncan, Maryland**
Janice Wilson, Maryland*
Jennifer Kane, Pennsylvania
Jessica Ann Mitchell, Washington DC**
Jewel Celestine Ware,
Joanna Mayo, Maryland
Jon Rutherford, Washington DC
Joycelyn Daniels, Maryland
Karen Carrington, Washington DC
Kayla Hicks, Virginia
Pastor Kelvin Sauls, California
Krysta Jones, Virginia
LaChelle Anderson, Washington DC
Roy J. Myers, Washington, DC**
Seneca Bock, Virginia
Sierra Wallace, Illinois
Sister Fitrah, Washington DC
Sondra Henderson, Washington DC
Stephanie E. Myers, Washington, DC**
Sylvia Little, Texas
Talia M. McCray, Colorado
Tamara S. Rhone,
Tiffany N. Winkey, Maryland
Towana Gatewood, Pennsylvania
Unnia Pettus, Washington DC
Wherda D. Utsey, Colorado
William Kellibrew, Georgia**
Yvonne Burns,

**Executive Committee and/or Co-Chair of Committee
National Week of Non-Violence seeks culture change

by Barrington M. Salmon • October 23, 2015  Nashville Pride News

National Bar Association President Benjamin Crump (at mic) and Stephanie Myers, national co-chair of Black Women for Positive Change announce National Week of Non-violence (photo by Roy Lewis/Trice Edney News Wire).

(TriceEdneyWire.com) — Every year, more than 30,000 Americans die by gun violence or commit suicide using a firearm. America has nearly six times the number of gun homicides as Canada, more than seven times as Sweden, and nearly 16 times as much as Germany. And although Americans make up about 4.43% of the world’s population, they own about 42% of all the world’s privately held firearms.

Across the United States, families, cities and communities are grappling with a culture of violence which is manifested by the tens of thousands killed annually by guns, including thousands in the streets, mass murders on campuses, in workplaces, homes and domestic violence perpetuated primarily against women.

For the past two years, Dr. Stephanie E. Myers, national co-chair of Black Women for Positive Change, has spearheaded what is a burgeoning national effort to combat this pervasive violence. Myers and a number of supporters kicked off the 2015 Week of Non-Violence on the steps of the Washington, D.C. City Hall. “This is a very serious issue facing America,” said Myers. “We want to go on record that like Fannie Lou Hamer, we’re sick and tired of young people killed on the street, sick and tired of little girls murdered in their front yard, sick and tired of people attacking our schools and sick and tired of law enforcement taking advantage because they have weapons and overstep their authority.
“I believe that it’s time for families, youth, actors, professionals, athletes to come together and that we can change the culture.” Myers said events and activities during the week of Oct 17-25 will take place in cities as varied as Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago, Alexandria and Hampton Roads, Va., and St. Louis, Mo. These include a summit on Oct 17, workshops and seminars, and related activities all week.

Benjamin L. Crump, who gained national and international prominence as the attorney for the families of Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown (unarmed teens shot and killed by a vigilante in 2012 and a Missouri police officer last year) said Americans cannot expect to apply the same solutions and ever hope to secure a different result.

“We want to bring attention to dialogue to address violence that happens way too often,” said Crump, president of the National Bar Association (NBA) and honorary national co-chair of the week’s activities. “Dr. Myers took leadership and action to stand up for the community, stand up for our children. I’d rather see a sermon rather than hear a sermon every day of the week. What she’s doing is not for the media or the government. It’s for the children.”

Crump said pursuing peace is an issue larger than one’s self.

“We have to be united for a greater purpose or cause than violence,” he said. “We don’t want to ‘Stand Your Ground’ for violence. We want to ‘Stand Your Ground’ for peace.”

Crump said the NBA and its 60,000 members stand committed to changing the culture of violence that disproportionately affects African Americans. During the week, the association will hold mentoring sessions, conduct workshops and hold town halls.

The group stood on the steps of the D.C. City Hall, emphasizing the fact that the nation’s capital is among the cities grappling heavily with its homicide rate. With two months left in 2015, D.C. has so far seen 120 homicides. That figure is 45% higher than 2014.

“(Alexandria) Mayor (Bill) Euille and folks from the DMV are working hard to stop violence,” said McDuffie, chair of the Council’s Committee on the Judiciary. “According the CDC, the leading cause of death (for young Black men 15-34) is homicide. I don’t know about you, but that’s a crisis. We need, as governments, to use every resource to stem the tide of violence. We cannot arrest ourselves out of this, which is why I advocate a health approach using workforce development, educational agencies and law enforcement.”

The Week of Non-violence regional steering committee is comprised of Christian ministers and priests, rabbis, imams and members of other faiths. Alongside them are businesspeople, government officials, residents and representatives of civil society. Elected officials who have endorsed the National Week of Non-violence 2015 include: Gov. Steve Bullock, Montana; Gov. Bill Haslam, Tennessee; Mayor Todd Strange, Montgomery, Ala.; Mayor W.J. ‘Jim’ Lane, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago; Mayor Muriel Bowser, D.C.; Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando, Fla.; Mayor William Peduto, Pittsburgh; Mayor Michael S. Rawlings, Dallas; Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, Va.; and Mayor Paul D. Fraim, Norfolk, Va.;

“Trayvon’s mother said it best,” said Crump: “‘I want to thank you for standing up for my child. But it’s not just my child. Tomorrow, it could be yours. We have got to stand up for Trayvon, stand up for justice.’ Don’t wait until it comes to your doorstep before you stand up for violence. If you don’t do anything for your brother or sister, don’t expect Dr. Myers to come and stand up for you. God wants our children to live out the fullness of their destiny.”

15
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

FOCUS: WORSHIP WEEKENDS
BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE & NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEES
CHANGING THE CULTURE OF VIOLENCE

NON-VIOLENCE WORSHIP WEEKENDS

OCTOBER 17-18, 2015
OCTOBER 24-25, 2015

NON VIOLENCE WORSHIP WEEKENDS--ALL FAITHS INVOLVED!

PASTORS URGED TO GIVE SERMONS TO PROMOTE NON VIOLENCE!

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RACIAL VIOLENCE, GUN VIOLENCE, TEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
2015 Week of Non-Violence

Rev. James Lawson, Pastor Emeritus & Renowned Civil Rights Leader of the 60’s, Holman United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, CA
Sermon during 2015 Week of Non-Violence: "Follow the Non-Violent Jesus."

Participating Faith Institutions
Barach Christian Church, Boston, MA
Eternal Life Ministry, Chicago, IL
Alpha Temple Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Christ Temple Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church—Youth Ministry Sermon, Chicago, IL
Greater Metropolitan Church, Chicago, IL
St. John MB Church, Chicago, IL
True Light MB Church, Chicago, IL
Restoration MB Church – Youth Ministry Sermon, Chicago, IL
Messiah Temple MBC, Chicago, IL

WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE, OCTOBER 17-25, 2015
Organized by Black Women for Positive Change and National Steering Committees
www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
58 Faith Leaders Preached Non-Violence Sermons

New Tiberia Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Holy Jerusalem MBC, Chicago, IL
Thomas Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL
Come Alive Ministry of Faith, Chicago, IL
Trinity All Nations Church--Sponsored youth march, Chicago, IL
Greater Apostolic Faith International, Chicago, IL
Holy David MBC, Chicago, IL
Radio Ministry, Chicago, IL
Rock of Ages Baptist Church--"Preservation of Life" Door Hanger, Chicago, IL
People's Church of the Harvest COGIC, Chicago, IL
Prayer and Faith Outreach Ministries, Chicago, IL
Love Faith Hope Church, Chicago, IL
Sheldon Heights Church of Christ, Chicago, IL
Friendship Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
Oakdale Covenant Church --Peace rally with Youth and Police, Chicago, IL
United Faith Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
God House of All Nations, Chicago, IL
Church of God in Christ, Los Angeles, CA
Holman United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, CA
Baptist Temple Church, Pittsburgh, PA
The Empowered Church, COGIC, St. Louis, MO

WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE, OCTOBER 17-25, 2015
Organized by Black Women for Positive Change and National Steering Committees
www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
58 Faith Leaders Preached Non-Violence Sermons

First Baptist Church, WDC
Michigan Park Christian Church, WDC
2nd New St. Paul Baptist Church, WDC
Jerusalem Baptist, WDC
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, WDC
Washington National Cathedral, WDC
St. Paul’s Christian Community Church, WDC
Brookland United Methodist Church, WDC
Faith Bible Church Remixed, WDC
Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington, WDC
Metropolitan AME Church, WDC
Masjid Muhammad, the Nations Mosque, WDC
Purity Baptist Church, WDC
Christ Our Redeemer AME Church, WDC.
The Ambassador Church, WDC
Full Gospel Tabernacle, WDC
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, WDC
Canon Patty Johnson, Washington National Cathedral, WDC
Jewish Community Relations Council, Greater Washington, DC
Jerusalem Baptist Church, WDC
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, WDC
Foundry United Methodist Church, WDC
Florida Ave Friends, WDC

WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE, OCTOBER 17-25, 2015
Organized by Black Women for Positive Change and National Steering Committees
www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
The Non-Violence Peace Pledge© was developed by Black Women for Positive Change in collaboration with youth members of the Cook County Steering Committee, Chicago, Illinois. The Peace Pledge is available for groups to produce in their own artistic way, provided it is not used for profit. Groups and individuals are invited to produce the Peace Pledge in hip hop, rap, spoken word, dance etc.

Post up your version of the Non-Violence Peace Pledge on the Black Women for Positive Change Facebook page at:

https://www.facebook.com/BlackWomen4PositiveChange/

Post videos at YouTube: Black Women for Positive Change Urgent Issues Channel

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**Non Violence Peace Pledge**

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**2015 Week of Non-Violence**

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**Peace Pledge**

I pledge to uphold peace in the name of non-violence and to work to keep my brothers and sisters safe. I promise to seek the path of peace and to treat others with fairness and respect. I pledge to do this for the sake of humanity, so we can all live together in peace and harmony.

Signature: ____________________________ Date ________________

City/State/Nation ____________________________

Witness: ________________________________

Sponsored by Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC)

www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org

Prepared in collaboration with BW4PC by Cook County State’s Attorney Office, Illinois 2015 Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee ©2015
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL NON-VIOLENCE BLOG IN UK
Greetings, everyone.

I am privileged to be hosting the Blogging Carnival for Nonviolence again this year. It is running in conjunction with Black Women for Positive Change as part of the International Week for Nonviolence, which will be held October 17-25 2015. Young people and elders will be sharing our views, methods and experience of nonviolence. I will be posting some very inspiring blogs by Nonviolent Communication (NVC) trainers and authors who work internationally, as well as members of Black Women for Positive Change, and others, below. These will be updated daily during the Week for Nonviolence. Please check out my blog posts. Plus scroll down for the blogs from the Week for Nonviolence/Blogging Carnival for Nonviolence.

War on the Black Community?
590 Black Deaths in Police Custody [in Britain].
We Need Solutions That Work
Can nonviolence offer real solutions? Click here for my interview with Karen Carrington of Black Women for Positive Change and Rev. Kelvin Sauls.

Blogs from the Blogging Carnival for Nonviolence

Interview with Ike Lasater - From Conflict to Connection. How can we change the culture of violence? What role does nonviolence play in Buddhist ethics? Check out "A Flock of Wild Geese" by Subhadramati.

Is there an age gap in the Black Lives Matter movement? How can different generations learn from each other? How can we take responsibility for the violence in our homes and families?

Sylvia Haskvitz, Eat by Choice, Not by Habit - How can we apply Nonviolent Communication (NVC) to our issues around food and eating? It’s about how we speak to ourselves.....8 Books about NVC - many of these books and authors are featured in the Blogging Carnival for Nonviolence.........One Heart, One Cry - Skywalker Payne; Dian Killan, Connecting across Differences - how we can use NVC even in conflict situations; 8 Ways To Get POSITIVE Results by Encouragement Speaker Derrick Hayes

Please also "like" our Facebook page, The Blogging Carnival for Nonviolence, and share it with your networks.

Thanks. @Zhana21 and @ZhanaHeals
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
An intergenerational group met in Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss ways to prevent violence in their communities. William Kellibrew (far right of photo) and Kenneth Fiske, served as Co-Chairs, Atlanta Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee.

Forum on Violence PSA made by Atlanta, Steering Committee

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKI6xXFolvc&feature=em-upload_owner&app=desktop
Special thanks to our Atlanta Steering Committee

Kenneth Fisk III, Co-Chair
William Kellibrew IV, Co-Chair
JuRon McMillan
Carlton Cosby
Abiodun Koya

Participants in Atlanta discuss causes of violence and trauma experienced by victims of violence.
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
Baltimore Mayor Supports Peace Pledge

Coppin University Professor Dr. Hattie Washington, BW4PC Co-Chair Education, shares Week of Non-Violence Peace Pledge with Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake

BW4PC Networker Dr. Hattie Washington Presents “On 2nd Thought” shortfilm produced by BW4PC to Coppin State University Professors, Baltimore, Maryland
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

CHICAGO, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
On Thursday, October 21, 2015, Cook County, Illinois State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez, Chair of the Cook County Week of Non-Violence and Chicago State President Dr. Wayne Watson joined students at Week of Non-Violence film screening of “On 2nd Thought,” at Chicago State University. Garvin Ambrose, Esq., Sandra Lewis, and Sierra Wallace Esq., helped coordinate event with Week of Non-Violence Cook County Steering Committee.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 19, 2015

State’s Attorney Partners With National Advocates To Promote Week Of Non-violence In Schools And Churches Across Cook County

More than 50 faith leaders to participate

State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez has joined forces with a national anti-violence coalition and stakeholders across Cook County to sponsor and promote a week of non-violence aimed at encouraging a peaceful culture among at-risk youth and adults who are exposed to violence in their communities.

The State’s Attorney’s Office has joined forces with Black Women for Positive Change, a national interfaith, multi-cultural organization dedicated to strengthening families within the African American community and changing the culture of violence in America. The group is coordinating a week of non-violence in cities across the nation.

Starting today and continuing through Oct. 25, the State’s Attorney’s Office is partnering with educators, religious leaders and community partners to hold a series of events that will promote non-violence. More than 50 leaders from the faith community have joined the effort and will promote the events in their respective churches and designate a sermon to spread the message of non-violence to their congregations. Honorary co-chairs for the effort include Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago Police Chief Eugene Williams and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement officers (NOBLE).

“It is clear that law enforcement alone cannot solve the crisis of violence that is plaguing so many of our communities and terrorizing so many of our young people,” Alvarez said. “It is going to take every resident, faith leader and advocate to discuss this problem openly and to develop strategies that can change the culture of violence and make a lasting difference.”

As part of the week’s activities, the State’s Attorney’s Office will be coordinating with Chicago State University and the University of Illinois at Chicago to present a film titled “On 2nd Thought,” which focuses on resolving conflicts through peaceful means. The video will be shown during simultaneous events at both universities from 5-7 p.m. on Oct. 21. The events are open to everyone, and churches, schools, and interested parents are encouraged to bring groups of young people to interact and learn from one another in a peaceful setting.
Chicago Peace Rally—Week of Non-Violence
CHAIR
Anita Alvarez
Cook County State’s Attorney

HONORARY CO - CHAIR
Rahm Emanuel
Mayor City of Chicago

CO-CHAIRS
Chief Eugene Williams, President
CPD/NOBLE - National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Colleen Daley, Executive Director
ICHV - Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence

Claude Robinson, Jr., Executive VP of External Affairs & Diversity
UCAN - Uhlich Children’s Advantage Network

COMMITTEE
Garvin G. Ambrose, Chief of Staff
Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office

Sandy D. Lewis, Director of Community Affairs
Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office

Sierra Wallace, Assistant State’s Attorney
Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office

Danni Stipe, Program Associate
Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence

Sgt. Saadia Carter, Community Relations
Chicago Police Department/NOBLE

Vanessa Westley
Chicago Police Department/NOBLE

Janey Rountree, Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Safety
City of Chicago, Office of the Mayor
Annette Nance Holt, Founder/Executive Dir.  
Purpose Over Pain  
(Mother of crime victim, Blair Holt)

Cleopatra Pendleton, Founder  
Hadiya’s Promise  
(Mother of crime victim, Hadiya Pendleton)

Dr. Wayne D. Watson, PH.D, President  
Chicago State University

Patricia Walsh, Director of Security  
Chicago State University

Kwesi Harris, Dir. of African American Male Resource Center  
Chicago State University

Marlita White, LCSW  
Dir. of the Office of Violence Prevention  
Chicago Department of Public Health

Barbara Abrajano, Executive Director  
Inter faith Connect

Rev. Michael Eddy  
Peoples Church of the Harvest

Maryam Sousan, Mentoring & Educational Coordinator  
UCAN

Fred Long, Dir. Of Development & Gov. Affairs  
UCAN

Stephen Gazaway, Executive Director  
KLEO (Formerly the Kleo Barrett Angel Foundation for Victims of Domestic Violence)

**STUDENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

DENVER, COLORADO
BW4PC Networkers Wherda Utsey, Rose Andom and Patricia Duncan (not pictured) present Non-Violence Peace Pledge to Students at East High School, Denver, Colorado
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

THE DMV: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA
CHAIRMAN FRANKLIN’S PRESS RELEASE ABOUT BWFP AND PRESS CONFERENCE

3 messages

Fri, Oct 9, 2015 at 9:02 AM
To: bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MEL FRANKLIN JOINS BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE ANTI-VIOLENCE PRESS CONFERENCE

For Immediate Release: 10/8/2015 5:00 PM

Contact: Karen D. Campbell 301-952-5182 CouncilMedia@co.pg.md.us

“Changing the Culture of Violence in America…and the World” – National Week of Non-Violence Event

Prince George’s County Council Chairman Mel Franklin (D) – District 9, will join Black Women for Positive Change, a national multicultural, interfaith, volunteer and advocacy network based in Washington, D.C., dedicated to promoting violence prevention and awareness, for an anti-violence press conference on Friday, October 9, 2015, at 11:30 a.m., at the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Included among announced event participants are: Attorney Benjamin Crump; DC Mayor Muriel Bowser; Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, VA; DC City Council Chair Phil Mendelson; Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie; Rev. Frank Tucker, Pastor, First Baptist Church; Imam Talib Shareef, Head, Masjid Muhammad; Rabbi Batya Steinlauf, Jewish Community Relations Council; Patty Johnson, Canon, Washington National Cathedral; and Rev. William Lamar, Senior Pastor, Metropolitan AME Church.

The press event is convened by Black Women for Positive Change and Attorney Crump to highlight the 2015 National Week of Non-Violence and the Summit on Non-Violence in the DMV Saturday, October 17, 2015 at the historic Metropolitan AME Church, 1518 “M” Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, 9am -2pm.

This event is free and open to the public.

WHAT:

WHO:
Prince George’s County Council Chairman Mel Franklin
Other Announced Participants:
Attorney Benjamin Crump
Alexandria Mayor William Euille
DC Mayor Muriel Bowser
DC City Council Chair Phil Mendelson
DC Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
Rev. Frank Tucker, Pastor, First Baptist Church
Imam Talib Shareef, Head, Masjid Muhammad
Rabbi Batya Steinlauf, Jewish Community Relations Council
Patty Johnson, Canon, Washington National Cathedral
Rev. William Lamar, Senior Pastor, Metropolitan AME Church.

WHEN:
Friday, October 9, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE:
John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 (Pennsylvania Avenue steps)

My Government
Mayor Bowser Endorses 2015 Week of Non-Violence

BW4PC Reps met with Mayor Muriel Bowser, District of Columbia, for her endorsement of the 2015 Week of Non-Violence. (Left to Right) Kimberly Bassett, Director, Office of Women’s Policy; Bernadette Tolson, BW4PC Co-Chair, Events and Media, Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, BW4PC Chaplain, Mayor Muriel Bowser, WDC; Dr. Stephanie Myers, Nat. Co-Chair, BW4PC; Karen Carrington, Co-Chair, BW4PC Media & Events; Kris Henning, Esq. Member, DMV Steering Committee, Week of Non-Violence.

Flyer announces Third DMV Summit on Non-Violence in Washington, D.C.
(Left to Right) Singer Songwriter Naimah, Charity Blackwell and Aysha N. provided positive, non-violence song and spoken word at Harmony Jam. Co-Producers were Tyrone Thomas and Marty Lamar.
2015 SUMMIT ON NON-VIOLENCE

“Changing the Culture of Violence”

Sponsored by

Black Women for Positive Change and DMV Steering Committee

Saturday, October 17, 2015, 9 am–1 pm

Historic Metropolitan AME Church, Washington, DC
1518 M. Street, NW, Washington, D.C

www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org

Sponsors
ATWinds Foundation; Bishop Edwin Bass, Church of God in Christ;
Chairman Mel Franklin, PG County Council, Giant Foods; Estella E. Lee;
Holman United Methodist Church; Metropolitan AME Church; National Steelworkers Union;
Panera Bread; Poise Foundation; Dr. Hattie Washington, Aunt Hattie’s Place;
R.J. Myers Publishing & Consulting Co.; Rev. Frank Tucker, First Baptist Church, of DC.;
Shoppers Food Warehouse

Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com;
www.facebook.com/BlackWomen4PositiveChange
Opening and Welcome

Welcome: Rev. Aisha Karimah, Associate Minister, Metropolitan AME Church
Purpose of Summit: Dr. Stephanie Myers, Nat. Co-Chair, Black Women for Positive Change
Invocation: Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, Chaplain, Black Women for Positive Change

Panel One
“What Roles Do Youth, Millennials and Parents Play To Promote or Prevent Violence?”
Moderator: Mrs. Eunita Winkey, Co-Chair, BW4PC Mental Health and Development Committee

Voices of Youth

14 year old Avonte
13 year old Mya

Voices of Millennials

Jessica Ann Mitchell
PR Executive & Founder, Black Bloggers Connect
Devonte Torriente, Chair
Million Hoodies, American U.

Voices of Parents

Dr. Hattie Washington, Professor/Author
Mom and Foster Mom of Aunt Hattie’s Place
Tyrone Parker
Dad and Director, Alliance of Concerned Men

“What Is the DMV Community Saying About Causes of Violence and Prevention Strategies?”

DC City Councilman Kenyan McDuffie, Chair, Committee on the Judiciary, WDC
Introduction by: M. Bernadette Tolson, Co-Chair BW4PC Media and Events

Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com;
www.facebook.com/BlackWomen4PositiveChange
Panel Two

What Roles Do Faith Leaders, Law Enforcement, and Civic Leaders Play to Promote or Prevent Violence?

Moderator: Rev Frank Tucker, Managing Chair, DMV Week of Non-Violence Steering Committee; Chair of Wednesday Clergy Fellowship; Pastor, First Baptist Church of WDC.

Voices of Faith Leaders

Pastor Jackie Russell
Peace Christian Center Church

Nana Rudolpho Stewart III
Victory New United Baptist Church

Voice of Law Enforcement

Dwayne A. Crawford, Executive Director
Nat. Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)

Voice of Civic Leaders

Laura Morris, Past President
The Brady Campaign; Volunteer, Moms Demand Action

Salim Adolpho, Nat. Vice Chairperson
Black United Front

Open Discussion: 10 Ideas that can Help Prevent Violence
Facilitator: Karen Carrington, Co-Chair, Media and Events
Youth Questioner: Alex J. Edmundson
Recommendation Recorders: Janell Mayo Duncan and Akua Coppock

Bkwomen4poschange@gmail.com;
www.facebook.com/BlackWomen4PositiveChange
The 2015 Week of Non-Violence is organized by Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC) in collaboration with the Positive Change Foundation and National Steering Committees in Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Denver, CO; Hampton Roads, VA; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; St. Louis, MO; Washington, D.C. and the United Kingdom

WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS
Bishop Charles E. Blake, President Bishop and Apostle, Church of God in Christ
Attorney Benjamin L. Crump, President, National Bar Association

DMV STEERING COMMITTEE
Mayor Muriel Bowser, Honorary Chair, Week of Non-Violence, DMV

DMV STEERING COMMITTEE HONORARY CO-CHAIRS
Mayor William Euille, Alexandria, VA
Chairman Mel Franklin, Prince Georges County, MD
D.C. City Council Chair Phil Mendelson
D.C. City Councilman Kenyan McDuffie
Rev. William Lamar, Pastor, Metropolitan AME Church

BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE/DMV STEERING COMMITTEE
Dr. Stephanie E. Myers, National Co-Chair, BW4PC
Delegate Daun S. Hester, National Co-Chair, BW4PC
Rev. Frank Tucker, Managing Chair, DMV Steering Committee & Good Brother, BW4PC
Kimberly Bassett, DC Mayors Office of Women’s Policy and Initiatives
Karen Carrington, Co-Chair, Media and Events, BW4PC
Charisse Carney-Nunes, Esq., Social Media Committee, BW4PC
Kateleigh Hewins Clark, National Victims Rights of DC
Akua Coppock, Esq., National Bar Association
Carolyn Eaves, Social Media Committee, BW4PC
Rachel Graber, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Ernest and Phyllis Green
Rev. Donald Isaac, D.C. Office of Religious Affairs
Canon Patty Johnson, Washington National Cathedral
Kris Henning, Juvenile Justice Clinic, Georgetown Law School
Marie Johns, Esq., Leftwich and Ludaway
William and Hadiah Jordan, MelaNet
Aisha Karimah, Director, Community Affairs, NBC
Marty Lamar, Music Director, Metropolitan AME Church; Co-Producer, Harmony Jam
Rev. William Lamar, Metropolitan AME Church
Janell Mayo Duncan, Living Well Black & Co-Chair, Health Committee, BW4PC
Jessica Mitchell, Social Media Committee, BW4PC
Roy J. Myers, R.J. Myers Publishing & Consulting Co.
Tyronne Parker, Alliance of Concerned Men
Rev. Barbara Reynolds, Chaplain, BW4PC
Amatullah R'id, Social Media Committee, Steering Committee
Rev Donald Robinson, Wednesday Clergy Fellowship & Good Brother, BW4PC
Jon Rutherford, Media Committee & Good Brother, BW4PC
Imam Talib Shareef, Masjid Muhammad, The Nation’s Mosque & Good Brother, BW4PC
Rabbi Batya Steinlauf, Jewish Community Relations Council and Active Member, BW4PC
Mayu Takeda, Generation Progress
Tyronne Thomas, Co-Producer, Harmony Jam
Bernadette Tolson, Co-Chair, Events and Media, BW4PC
Leonard "Tony" Upton, Capstone Institute & Good Brother, BW4PC
Dr. Hattie Washington, Aunt Hattie’s Place and Co-Chair, Education, BW4PC
Richard Washington, Good Brother, BW4PC
Eunita H. Winkey, CEO, ATWINDS Foundation & Co-Chair Mental Health, BW4PC
Multi-generational voices discussed causes of violence

14 year old Avonte talked about the need to establish relationships with trusted adults. Listening to Avonte are Dr. Hattie Washington, Professor, Coppin State University and Tyrone Parker, Executive Director, Alliance of Concerned Men. (Photo by Carolyn Eaves)

BW4PC Networkers Eunita Winkey, Jessica Mitchell and Dr. Hattie Washington discuss impact of violence on families and individuals.

Audience Participants added their voices to the discussion about causes of violence and ideas for prevention. (Photo by Carolyn Eaves)
An emotional Jessica Ann Mitchell (right) is comforted by Dr. Stephanie E. Myers as she recalls the night of her brother's fatal carjacking during the 2015 Summit on Nonviolence at Metropolitan AME Church in Northwest D.C. on Oct. 17. "He was only 23 at the time of his death,” Mitchell said. Photo by Travis Riddick

Almost 30 years later, Arthur Ward, 62, of Northeast still reels from the pain of the unsolved murders of his son and daughter. However, he finds solace in advocating for victims – something he did during the recent observance of nonviolence week here in the District.

Black Women for Positive Change kicked off their national week of nonviolence on Saturday, Oct. 17 at Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in Northwest.

“My daughter died in 1986 at age 12 and my son in 1997 at age 17 but I still haven’t heard anything about who did it,” Ward said. “The only reason I am still here is by the grace of God.”

Ward, a member of Union Temple Baptist Church in Southeast, said he came out to the day-long panel discussion to possibly save someone else’s child.

“I’m here for the young people, because I care. Nobody should have to bury their child,” Ward said.
“Can you imagine the pain that caused me and my wife? But my faith still stands because God has shown himself to be faithful,” Ward said. “He has sent human angels to minister to me to help me through this.”

BWFPC, formerly known as Black Women for Obama, decided to change its name and revise its mission after the 2012 re-election of President Barack Obama.

“We wanted to effect positive change,” said Karen Carrington, national co-chair for media and events. “We address all violence, sexual and domestic, and police brutality because it is a big problem in our communities.”

Carrington believes the Non-Violence Summit will not be just another panel discussion but one that will provide solutions.

“We’re here to educate our community on how to deal with violent situations and how to recover if you are a victim,” Carrington said.

The Network for Victim Recovery of DC served as one of the exhibitors present at the event to assist as a resource for those in need.

“We are working with Black Women for Positive Change as an outreach effort to let people know we’re here in the District,” said Kateleigh Hewing Clark, outreach support specialist. “The services we provide are free legal and case manager representation ranging from people who have been stalked to victims of domestic, sexual and physical violence.”

“We also provide victims with their rights as stated in the Crime Victims’ Rights Act, and outside support unlike a prosecutor who is a lawyer for the government,” Clark said.

Along with providing on-site support, BWFPC will draft 10 recommendations developed during the summit that will be submitted to the city council, mayor and other local officials which they believe will thwart crime in the District.

Carrington insists certain systems have to be broken down such as public housing projects for change.

“When you have thousands of people living together with the same societal ills what do you expect will come of it?” Carrington asked. “Mixed-income housing and diversity among people will inspire others to do better.”

“We know that problems like violence comes from lack of education and poverty, but it also derives from a lack of self-respect,” she said. “Self-respect starts and is taught in the home.”
Black Women for Positive Change [BW4PC], led by co-chairs Dr. Stephanie E. Myers and Delegate Daun S. Hester (D-VA), along with attorney Benjamin L. Crump, president of the National Bar Association [NBA], assembled on the steps of the John A. Wilson Building in Northwest D.C. on Friday to kickoff events related to the 2015 National Week of Non-Violence.

The weeklong observation (Oct. 17 – 25) will culminate with an area-wide summit at Metropolitan AME Church in Northwest. However, a number of other meetings, rallies, training sessions and even protests will take place throughout the Greater Washington Area.

At the same time, other cities across the U.S., including Atlanta, Chicago and St. Louis, will hold their own programs focusing on non-violence.

Myers, who spoke on behalf of BW4PC, a D.C.-based national, multicultural, interfaith, volunteer and advocacy network dedicated to promoting violence prevention and awareness, said she and her group’s supporters have grown weary of the frequency of violent acts in their communities.

“Like Fannie Lou Hamer once said, we’re ‘sick and tired of being sick and tired,’” Myers said. “From the news that almost daily cites examples of our youth being killed to people attacking our schools and therefore our children or law enforcement officials overstepping their bounds, we believe that our society has reached a crisis situation.”

“But throughout American history, Blacks have shown that we can bring positive change to our society. We have transformed this nation for the better during the days of slavery, the Reconstruction, the civil rights era and even today. Our goal is to change the culture that allows non-violence to flourish in America and around the world,” Myers said.

D.C. Council member Kenyon McDuffie noted that in the U.S., the lives of Black males remain particularly at risk.

“Reports from the CDC tell us that Black males, 15 to 34, lead the nation in the homicide rate,” he said. “We need the government to marshal every available resource to stem the tide of homicides and gun violence. Here in D.C. we have our own challenges as the number of homicides has reached 120 deaths – that’s 45 percent higher than our total for all of 2014.”

“We’ve got to have more Black men step up to the plate as we form partnerships like the one you see today so that we can put an end to senseless violence. We cannot arrest our way out of this problem,” McDuffie said.

Crump, who rose to fame after representing the family of Trayvon Martin and who now leads the NBA, the largest organization of Black attorneys, judges and legal professionals in both the U.S. and the world with over 66,000 members, said it’s vital that more dialogue be held that focuses on violence.

“Acts of violence continue to hit our [Black] communities the hardest,” Crump said. “Therefore our message is a simple one: our children matter. We have to show them that they matter. And we can’t just talk about it. My organization, in partnership with Black Women for Positive Change, and with the support of local leaders like the mayors of Washington, D.C. and Alexandria, are committed to teaching skills of conflict resolution and making more resources available where they’re needed.”

“People across this nation, especially our youth, must witness a sermon, not just hear one, that firmly says we will not condone solving our problems through violent means,” he said.
Greater Washington Area Chapter, Women Lawyers Division, National Bar Association

The Greater Washington Area Chapter, Women Lawyers Division, National Bar Association ("GWAC") Presents:

Why Black Women Stay...

In recognition of Black Women for Positive Change’s Week of Non-Violence and Domestic Violence Awareness Month, please join GWAC for a powerful discussion on the impact of domestic and intimate partner violence ("DP/IPV") in the African American community; specifically as it relates to the alarming and disproportionate rate in which black women suffer and die from DP/IPV as well as the decreased numbers of reported DP/IPV incidents when the victim is a black woman.

Opening Remarks by the Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby
Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Featuring:
- Tonya Turner, Assistant Attorney General (OAG), Domestic Violence Section
- Laura Morris, Domestic Violence Advocate

October 19, 2015 at 6:30pm at the D.C. Court of Appeals
150 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004- Courtroom #1
Please RSVP to Alena Coppel at membership@gwacbar.org

Why ‘Black Women Stay’ Event featured Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Councilman Kenyan McDuffie, Tonya Turner, Ast. Attorney General, Dr. Roger Mitchell, Medical Examiner, DC and BW4PC Networkers Barbara Marshall and Laura Morris,
Kenyan R. McDuffie invites you to
Week of Non-Violence Youth Summit
Saturday - October 17th
Calling All Youth!
R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center
2700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20032
Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Moderator: Sunnian&TheCity
Radio Personality - WPGC 95.5
Let Your Voice Be Heard!
#YouthSpeakDC
Youth Summit Kicks Off Non Violence Week in D.C.

by: Linda Poulson Special to the AFROYouth panelists (Courtesy Photo)   Oct 21, 2015

An intergenerational crowd of youths and adults came together on Oct. 17 to hear what teens and millennials had to say about issues such as education, drugs, and the lack of resources to stay out of trouble. The summit, given by Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie (D-Ward 5), was a two-hour session at the R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center in Southeast Washington, D.C.

The National Week of Non Violence, from Oct. 17 – 25, was announced by the Black Women for Positive Change (see “Spiking D.C. Violence Spurs Calls for Culture Change” on afro.com). As of Oct. 21, the D.C.’s homicide count reached 124, a 44.2 percent gain from 2014.
The youth summit was moderated by WPGC radio personality Sunni and the City. A panel of 11 youths spoke on topics such as K2[synthetic marijuana], hip-hop, better education, getting in trouble, being bored, and the lack of resources at recreation centers.

“They want to see something other than their neighborhood,” a female panelist said. “Everybody don’t wanna see the same stuff every day.”

The highlight of the summit was a dance given by local hip-hop artists HDMickey and HDFLII. They were also on the panel. “As with the music, we’re very active in our community, I’m still in high school…,” said HDMickey.

The 17-year-old attends Maya Angelou Charter School in Northeast D.C. “I’m basically showing people what I feel, where I’m coming from, and we need to talk to people. And the dance that we do comes from the neighborhood.”

“I think it went well, anything that’s positive is good, it was a different crowd but people still responded, so it was a good turnout,” said HDFLII, 21. He added the dance actually came from a friend of his who was murdered in 2012. “His name is Steven Wilson, he passed away, and we do the dance to keep his spirit alive. We like to call it the Steve Dance.”

398 total views, 13 views today

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2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA
Hampton Roads, Virginia Law Enforcement Officers meet with Youth, Virginia Delegate Daun S. Hester and Members of Norfolk Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Public Service Sorority, to discuss strategies to reduce violence.
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
The 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration is broadcast LIVE on KJLH Radio Free 102.3 FM and worldwide on www.kjlhradio.com

TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY IS SPONSORED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE
NATIONAL WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE

"The non-violent resistor not only avoids external, physical violence, but he avoids internal violence of spirit. He not only refuses to shoot his opponent, but he refuses to hate him. And he stands with understanding, goodwill at all times." Martin Luther King, Jr.

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 18, 2015

The 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration is broadcast LIVE on KJLH Radio Free 102.3 FM and worldwide on www.kjlhradio.com

TODAY’S RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY IS SPONSORED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE
NATIONAL WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE

“...full of belief, confident that we’re presentable inside and out. Let’s keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:22-25 (THE MESSAGE)
City Leaders Joined Together to Host Town Hall During Week of Non-Violence

Rev. Kelvin Sauls, Pastor, Holman United Methodist Church joins panelists on live radio show in Los Angeles to discuss Abuse and Violence
Mayor Eric Garcetti addresses a town hall meeting at Holman United Methodist Church Oct. 19 on community issues. The meeting was disrupted by members of the activist group Black Lives Matter. (Courtesy photo)

SOUTH LOS ANGELES — A group of local ministers planned to gather Oct. 22 to denounce members of Black Lives Matter for disrupting a community town hall meeting at Holman United Methodist Church Oct. 19, forcing Mayor Eric Garcetti to leave the meeting early.

The Rev. K.W. Tulloss, president of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Action Network, will lead the group of clergy members denouncing the local activists for disrespecting the Rev. Kelvin Sauls, pastor at Holman United, and his congregation.

Los Angeles police had to clear a path for Garcetti do leave the meeting. Once outside, police had to clear another path for the mayor’s car to pull away from the church.

Najee Ali, a longtime South L.A. activist who was at the Oct. 19 meeting, said “I have never seen such a disrespectful and idiotic display of activism in my life.”

“Hundreds of residents came to hear the mayor speak and have their questions answered. They didn’t come to hear Black Lives Matter. Those activists in that group betrayed and disrespected the black community and church.”

The Rev. Sauls, who said he was threatened by Black Lives Matter members, denounced the group in an email to members of his
congregation.

"In light of the violation of the Holman sanctuary and pulpit, and more important, silencing the majority of the community present, I’m committed to move forward only with community partners committed to constructive and productive dialogue with the dignity, decency and civility," he said in the email.

"While I believe there’s a lot of room for disagreement, I don’t believe there’s any room for disrespect. Until such a covenant is explicitly stated, and because the lives of black people matter, I will continue the struggle for a more just and fair society through other pathways and with other partners."

The town hall meeting was called by Garcetti to give residents of South L.A. a chance to question him about issues of concern. But a group of less than 50 members of Black Lives Matter dominated the meeting.

At first, they stood with their backs to the mayor facing the back wall of the church’s sanctuary. Then they began to chant and shout and finally they began to walk toward the front of the church and its altar, which is when the mayor and his security team decided to leave the meeting.

Once outside, a member of Black Lives Matter briefly jumped on the trunk of the mayor’s car as it was trying to pull away from the scene.

Garcetti issued a statement the next morning acknowledging the hundreds of residents who attended the meeting.

"I was there last night and will continue to be there to hear those concerns and find solutions to our most pressing problems. We must move forward and I remain committed to our shared concerns," he said.

Speaking to reporters Oct. 20 at a groundbreaking ceremony for Kaiser Permanente’s Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw medical office building, Garcetti said, "People will shout, and people sometimes will be upset, and oftentimes it will come from a real place. I’m just going to continue doing the work that I was elected to do.

"As mayor that’s part of the job — sometimes people scream, sometimes people shout, but as long as I continue to do good work to improve the quality of life for people, to make this a safer community with more jobs like we’re doing here today, then I feel a great honor to represent the city."

Melina Abdullah, a Cal State Los Angeles professor and an organizer for Black Lives Matter, defended the group’s actions.

"Our lives are on the line," she told the Los Angeles Times. "We cannot live in a city that has such disregard for black life."

She said the group did not attend the Oct. 19 meeting with the intent of shutting it down, but Garcetti began touting his own accomplishments rather than letting members of the public speak.

Black Lives Matter has disrupted several recent meetings of the Los Angeles Police Commission, causing the panel to adjourn early or take lengthy recesses until the disruption ended.
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE presents
NATIONAL WEEK OF NON VIOLENCE
"CHANGING THE CULTURE OF VIOLENCE"
OCTOBER 17TH—24TH 2015

KICK OFF EVENT: “YOUTH SPEAK & WE LISTEN”
Thursday, October 15, 2015
10—11:30 A.M.
Community College of Allegheny County
Allegheny Campus (North Side)
808 Ridge Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

“CHANGE THE CULTURE OF VIOLENCE”
Friday, October 23, 2015
Westinghouse Academy (Homewood)
1101 North Murtland Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

“YOUTH LEADER SHIFT: ENDING VIOLENCE”
Saturday, October 24, 2015
1—4:00 P.M.
Baptist Temple Church (Homewood)
7241 Race Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Steering Committee
Natalia Rudiak, Councilwoman
Daniel Lavelle, Councilman
Ed Gainey, Pennsylvania State Representative
Diane Powell, Black Women for Positive Change
Melanie Steven Cosner, YMCA Pittsburgh
Ulish Carter, New Pittsburgh Courier
Jay Gilmer, Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce Crime (PIRC)

Pittsburgh Event/Effort
Rev. Rodney Adam Lyde
Pastor of Baptist Temple Church, Co-Chair
Cam McLay
Chief of Pittsburgh Police, Co-Chair
Pittsburgh Police Chief Mclay, Co-Chair, Pittsburgh Week of Non-Violence sits on panel with Pittsburgh youth during 2015 Week of Non-Violence, to discuss causes of violence. Dr. Myers served as Moderator.

Press Conference convened by Pittsburgh Councilwoman Rudiak, Oct. 15, 2015, at “Youth Speaks & We Listen” Forum, held at Community College Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA. (Left to Right) Dr. Donna Imhoff, President CCAC, Dr. Linda Lane, Superintendent Pittsburgh Public Schools; Pittsburgh City Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak; Dr. Stephanie E. Myers, National Co-Chair, BW4PC, Diane Powell, Nat. Outreach Co-Chair, BW4PC and Pittsburgh Police Chief, Cameron Mclay.
Chief McLay gets earful at youth violence forum

Oct 22, 2015
By Christian Morrow

YOU NEED TO HEAR US—Students tell chief Cameron McLay they are angry and frustrated about their opinions and input being ignored on community violence and possible remedies. (Photo by J.L. Martello)

As one of the events in the Week of Non-Violence sponsored by Black Women for Positive Change, the “Youth Talk We Listen” forum at the Community College of Allegheny County was meant to let Pittsburgh Police Chief Cameron McLay hear from the youth on ways to reduce community violence.

He heard it—and then some.
Following a welcoming press conference that included remarks from Pittsburgh Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak, CCAC Allegheny Campus President Donna Imhoff and Black Women for Positive Change Founder Stephanie Myers, McLay joined a moderated panel of high school and college-aged students, listening to each give their thoughts on the reasons their contemporaries were killing each other and how it could be stopped.

The panelists offered their thoughts ranging from kids being desensitized to violence through movies and video games, to too many negative community influences.

“The people I see being negative and saying don’t even try are those who are unsuccessful and who don’t want anyone else to succeed,” said panelist Kevin Gales from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Then they opened the questioning up to the audience—and the script went out the window.

“The average income in the Hill is $18,000 and you all are blaming people for not achieving, when it’s about why they aren’t achieving,” said Tresa Murphy-Green. “Then you have this meeting at 10 a.m. saying it’s to hear from youth. Have it at 3:30 p.m. when kids could actually be here.”

Several students wanted McLay to address police-involved shootings of Blacks in the community rather than the Black-on-Black crime the forum was to focus on. Other students in the audience added that the community needs more transparency from the police.

“We need our questions answered. We need to express our anger,” said CAPA student Tyra Jameson. “This has to be about more than having events for the media. We should be asking the questions and when we got here we didn’t even have seats.”

Another student referencing what McLay earlier called “trauma informed communities,” said, “We’ve been in trauma since we were born.”

And when organizers tried to regain some order, noting time was running short, audience members objected.

“We are sick and tired of being quiet,” said Jameson. “If we have to yell to be heard—we will.” Eventually passions subsided and McLay announced he was forming a Youth Advisory Committee, and asked anyone there who was interested to sign up.

Diane Powell, outreach co-chair for BW4PC, said while it didn’t go as expected, it went well.

“We did want to let them know their views are valid, and they’re right—they can teach us,” she said. “What I’m hoping is they want more chances to dialog.”

Reverend Rodney Lyde, who drove some of the students in the audience, said going off-script was a good thing.
“It was great. We have to be more inclusive about how we design our forums,” he said. “That was a moment. It shifted, and I embrace that.”

Myers said BW4PC would add the sentiments and comments brought up here to those from similar forums held in other cities across the country the same day and publish a report on its website.

“As for having it at 10 a.m., we were somewhat at the mercy of people’s schedules, particularly chief McLay,” she said. “But, they are engaged. And that’s what we wanted.”

(Send comments to cmorrow@newpittsburghcourier.com.)
Edinboro, Indiana and Slippery Rock universities in Western Pennsylvania. Their base in state tuition at $7,600 a year is less than half that charged by Penn State and Pitt.

Even as the secession legislation was introduced, West Chester officials characterized the school as largely a bystander, although hundreds of emails obtained by the Post-Gazette this year and last year indicated more direct involvement in supporting the legislation by top West Chester administrators, including President Greg Weisenstein.

The West Chester University Foundation secured the Bravo contract at the request of school trustees, Jeanette Krebs, a representative of Bravo, said in March 2014. The foundation "was formed to promote the charitable, scientific and educational interests of West Chester University," something it achieves by soliciting funds and other property consistent with university policies, the foundation’s 2014 federal 990 tax form states.

The court case over obtaining the Bravo contract revolved, in part, around whether the foundation’s hiring of a lobbyist represented a governmental function performed on the university’s behalf, or whether the document was exempt from Right-to-Know disclosure.

When the Post-Gazette first sought to obtain a copy of the contract, the university claimed it had no such document. Post-Gazette attorney Frederick Frank countered that the university had possession of, or at least had to provide, the document as a public record.

The court agreed. In his opinion, President Judge Dan Pellegrini stated that foundations at State System schools "in large part are alter egos of the member universities to carry out activities that these universities want to undertake; otherwise, they would not exist."

As such, he said, the Office of Open Records "did not err in determining" the contract was a public record.

Lobbing is an accepted fact of life in public policy and February of next year. "The elections are on the calendar. They are coming," said Sen. Daylin Leach, D-Montgomery, who heads the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee.

Rep. Mike Carroll, D-Luzerne, who is chairman of the House Democratic Campaign Committee, said despite perceptions, campaigning and governing are separate activities. "The House Democratic Campaign Committee has absolutely nothing to do with budget negotiations. They have no role in budget negotiations," he said.

Mr. Leach also pointed out that political action committees, or outside expenditure groups, are con-
2015 WEEK OF NON-VIOLENCE EVENTS

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
During 2015 Week of Non-Violence Bishop Edwin Bass, Director, Urban Initiatives, Church of God in Christ (COGIC) discussed violence prevention awareness with faith leaders, enforcement, educators and civic leaders in Ferguson, Missouri.
WELCOME TO THE
NON-VIOLENCE SUNDAY CAMPAIGN

“CHANGING THE CULTURE OF VIOLENCE
IN AMERICA” -- A MANIFESTO

Black Women for Positive Change (BW4PC), a national civic network, declares it is time to Change the Culture of Violence in America. The historic legacy of violence in America has created a national obsession with violence that impacts adults and youth. Gun violence, physical violence and abuse must stop because it is destroying the very fabric of the nation. Therefore, BW4PC calls on national, state and local leaders to create programs and partnerships to educate the nation about non-violent principles and methods that can promote non-violence in families, schools, faith-based institutions, the workplace and neighborhoods. This manifesto recognizes violence is necessary for national security and law enforcement. However, it is the belief of BW4PC that America should incorporate nonviolence principles in daily life in order to create safe environments of peace and opportunity for children, youth, adults and elders. Therefore, BW4PC calls on parents, grandparents, youth, mentors, politicians, hip hoppers, faith-leaders, business leaders, unions, athletes, gangs, professionals, educators, entertainers, etc. to STOP THE SILENCE ABOUT VIOLENCE and work to create a cultural change in America that achieves the following goals: ☐ Immediate passage of gun control legislation and gun registration in every State. ☐ Creation of new industries of socially responsible, non-violent entertainment products including films, television, video games, music, hip hop, rap, and other forms of recreation and entertainment. ☐ Creation of “Safe Spaces” in faith institutions, community centers, malls, parks, benches, homes, backyards, schools and other venues where individuals can retreat to calm down from confrontations, verbal abuse and anger, and to have the opportunity for “2nd Thoughts” before engaging in violence. ☐ Creation of extensive state and local training opportunities in conflict resolution, mediation, parenting and reconciliation skills for children, youth and adults so, they can learn how to resolve confrontations using non-violence methods. Respectfully submitted to the American People.

BLACK WOMEN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

Goal1: Urge Pastors Across The Country To Preach Or Give Pastoral Reflections On "Non Violence Sunday“ Sundays” October 18th And/Or October 25th.

Goal2: 1,000 Churches Commit To Participate In Non-violence Sunday Campaign

Goal3: To Help To Keep The Local Church Engage In Community Matters

BISHOP CHARLES BLAKE
CHAIRPERSON

www.blackwomenforpositivechange.org
NON-VIOLENCE SUNDAY CAMPAIGN

THE PLEDGE

I Pledge To Uphold Peace In The Name Of Non-violence And To Work To Keep My Brothers And Sisters Safe. I Promise To Seek The Path Of Peace And To Treat Others With Fairness And Respect. I Pledge To Do This For The Sake Of Humanity, So We Can All Live Together In Peace And Harmony.

SERMON SAMPLE

Operation Peacemakers
Matthews 5:9
3 Things Christian Should Do Concerning The Peace In Our Nation

1. Pray for Peace
   a. 2 Chron. 7:14
   b. Righteous man prayers
      James 5:16b

2. Practice Peace
   a. Follow peace
      Hebrew 12:14
   a. Let the Peace of God rule your heart
      Colossians 3:15a

3. Promote Peace
   a. Blessed are the peacemaker
   b. Def. Peacemaker – one who restore peace or reconcile those at odds
   c. Be a community peacemaker

“You don't always have to fight to win. Give peace a chance.”
Lailah Gifty Akita

CAMPAIGN IDEALS

1. Preach A Non-violence Sermon
2. Let A Youth Read A Poem On Peace
3. Let A Youth Read The Pledge
4. A Special Prayer For Peace Over The Congregation And Community
5. Special Altar Prayer Over Youth
6. Choir Sings The “We Are One” Anthem
7. Use Sermon Sample Points During Pastoral Reflection
8. Present A Certificate Of Appreciation To A Community Peacemaker
9. Do A Special Community Project During Non-violence Weekend
10. Share the statistics on violence
11. Have members to sign the peace pledge
12. Show The BW4PC Short Film

SHORT FILM

"On 2nd Thought"--Mini Movie About Violence
Can be viewed on Youtube

We Don’t Need Another Meeting
On Peace, We Need A Movement
On Peace