

# Community Coalition for Social Justice PO Box 160 Morgantown, WV 26507-0160 ccsjwv@gmail.com – Note New Email Address www.ccsjwv.org

**UPDATE: JUNE 1, 2022** 

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

**CONTACT Us:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@gmail.com. Please note our new email address. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

**PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES** - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations — to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

# June CCSJ Meeting is June 21st at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Here is the Zoom information:

Topic: Community Coalition for Social Justice June Meeting Time: Jun 21, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83405944721?pwd=RW54QmpvVmJqRE96UTIYb3pnbWxHUT09

Meeting ID: 834 0594 4721

Passcode: 269285 One tap mobile

+13126266799,83405944721#, \*269285# US (Chicago) +16468769923,83405944721#, \*269285# US (New York)

Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 834 0594 4721

Passcode: 269285

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kc3Kywnvt2



PLANNING IS UNDERWAY FOR "READ ALOUD" PROJECT WITH THE SHACK
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE: We will be working with The Shack
Neighborhood House during its summer program on June 22nd and

23rd to read to students in grades K-6 from books we are purchasing with funds from the FirstEnergy Foundation. Our partners at the Shack (Shawnda Cook, Devon McDaniel, and Dawn Lipscomb) have ordered the books so that each child will get two books to take home. We expect to read to about 140 children! Several of the volunteers will be meeting with Melissa Workman, director of the WVU Nursery School, to learn more about reading to children.

We also have the opportunity to receive another \$2,000 from the FirstEnergy Foundation and are considering ideas on how to use that, including a possible social justice/environmental justice "fair" at Morgantown's Ruby Amphitheatre on September 11th. If you are interested in that idea, please contact Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com.

**BOOK LISTS UPDATED:** We have updated our lists of books at the Morgantown Public Library system that focus on social justice topics. These will soon be available under the "Resources" tab of our website at www.ccsjwv.org/resources.html.



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY 2023: We are beginning to think about Martin Luther King, Jr., Day 2023 and have signed our contract to be back at the Metropolitan Theatre on January 16th.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for "Community Coalition for Social Justice" under "Groups" and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group "leader."

# **LOCAL NEWS**



**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, **June 16th** at 6:30 p.m. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission.

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-

commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF

Here are the events for June:

**LGBT Pride Month** – Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Pride Day is the last Sunday in June.

**June 1: Stand for Children Day** – A day to emphasize the importance of standing up for children by supporting systemic change and increased funding for public education.

**June 5: World Environment Day** – Observance promoting an awareness of the impact of environmental conditions on individual and community well-being and food sources which make life possible for current and future generations.

**June 8: World Oceans Day** – Call for awareness of the importance of protecting oceans from pollution and rising sea levels to prevent individuals and entire communities from loss of property, housing, livelihood and food supplies.

**June 12: Loving Day** – Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision *Loving* v. *Virginia* which struck down the miscegenation laws in 16 states barring interracial marriage.

**June 14: Race Unity Day** – Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.

**June 19: Juneteenth** – Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the United States to honor African-American freedom and achievement.

**June 20: World Refugee Day** – Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.

**June 26: United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**- A day to remind people that human torture is not only unacceptable –it is also a crime and a universal violation of a human right.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM):** Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwvmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.



Morgantown NOW Chapter: The next meeting will be June 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the Monongalia Friends' Meeting at 648 E. Brockway, Morgantown. You can join via Zoom at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86073927096?pwd=bXNhNVAvUVg0TENzYU84QWlwQ1dsQT09 Meeting ID: 860 7392 7096; Passcode: 525312

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/. Details and agenda are available through the weekly newsletter or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.

NOW members attended the West Virginia legislature's interim meetings in Morgantown in May.



Morgantown Now is also sponsoring a Berlin-Style Ping Pong Tournament at 123 Pleasant Street in Morgantown on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

"Come join an exciting ping-pong experience in support of Holler Health Justice's fund to provide access to abortions in WV. Participants receive a commemorative MNOW paddle. Bring a friend and come for the fun!

\$20 for admission, \$40 for NOW Membership + admission."

NOW members are also supporting the Women's Health Center Abortion Gala at 6:00 p.m. on June 24th in Charleston.

MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS JUNE 21st: This meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group that is publicized through the NAACP listserv, and several members attended the West Virginia legislature's interim meetings in Morgantown May 22nd-24th to contact legislators about their concerns.

The branch has received \$15,000 from the Partnership of African American Churches to address health disparities in the African American community.

**Crystal Good with Black By God - The West Virginian** wrote a wonderful piece about the history of NAACP and our Branches here is West Virginia. See more here and subscribe to the newsletter: https://blackbygod.org/articles/community/west-virginia-naacp-chapters?fbclid=lwAR0ypGQbQAN34PxCfMIQZ0RUMI33IVfERRF26oTafBhpzTuaq1Ma\_TUYj18



THURSDAY JUNE 2ND, 1:30-6:30pm at the Hotel Morgan Ballroom at 127 High Street, join the Honoring Demetry Walker Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Registry. We donate blood and pledge to donate marrow to celebrate Demetry and honor the one-year remembrance of his life. Nurse Walker continues to inspire our community to donate blood and bone marrow for neighbors in need.

# **Schedule your Blood Donation:**

www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/driveresults?zipSponsor=walkerswarriors&fbclid=lwAR2Za4l8YU7M-8YuQGHuXwd8Td5FQ2-RD7zmXeofudyOLFJ0inwF3A7a6uo

# Sign up to join the Bone Marrow Registry:

my.bethematch.org/walkerswarriors

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page\_internal.

Morgantown Church of the Brethren-Mennonite: Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634\_or at www.morgantowncob.org. Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at www.morgantowncob.org. "We ask that everyone wear a mask inside the building."

Groups are again starting to use the various spaces at Morgantown Church of the Brethren. If you have a community event or meeting that needs a space to gather, contact Wes at 681-209-2029.

The church has also started a Sharing Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food.

Their "Kaleidoscope of Blessings Offerings" for June will go to Pantry Plus More.



# **UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN JUNE PROGRAMS:**

June 5: "UU Sixth Principle" by Michael Siciliano, UUFM.

June 12: "Book Club Discussion" by George Racin (TBA)

June 19: "West Virginia Day Celebration — Meaning found in hills and streams and music." Take me home down country roads .....

For more information, please contact: UUFMWV@gmail.com or UUFMWV.org.

**PFLAG:** The closest chapter now is in Fairmont, with information available at www.pflagfairmont.org. According to its website, "PFLAG Fairmont meets each month, usually on the first Thursday of the month at 7p.m. on the 2nd floor of the Ruth Ann Musick Library on the campus of Fairmont State University."



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER: Please join in to hear JUNETEENTH EXPLAINED by Dr. Marjorie Fuller, Director of WVU's Center for Black Culture and Research. The zoom presentation, with opportunity for Q & A, will be on Monday, June 13th at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. This newly designated Federal holiday, which celebrates the end of slavery, will be observed a week later. The link to participate is. https://bit.ly/DRTMonthlyProgram



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE:** For information on this group, go to www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\_internal or www.morgantownwvpride.org. Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en.



There are "Raising Trans Kids" events scheduled for July 9th and August 13th on Zoom from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. "The Raising Trans Kids Community Group is for West Virginia parents, guardians, and families who are raising transgender or gender diverse kids (of any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse." Email raisingtranskids@gmail.com to get the meeting information.



### MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER EVENTS: SEE EMAIL

A golf tournament to benefit the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center (MCCAC) is being planned for July 23, 2022.

On August 1, 2022, MCCAC will host a Tour/Information Night at the Center at 909 Greenbag Road in Morgantown "Join us to learn about MCCAC's services, the Barbara Myers Ambassador Program, and more. Tours will also be available - come check out our new addition!"



**WVU LIBRARIES' FOOD JUSTICE IN APPALACHIA EXHIBIT:** This exhibit is available in the WVU Downtown Campus Library through June 2022. To see an online exhibit and the presentations at the exhibit opening in October, go to exhibits.lib.wvu.edu/exhibits/food-justice-in-appalachia.

# STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** West Virginia NOW is online at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow and wvnow.org.

**BLACK By God: The West Virginian Newsletter (Print Edition) Celebrates One-Year Anniversary:** Crystal Good created this newsletter, which is celebrating the one-year anniversary of the print edition. The Juneteenth issue is in production. To learn more, go to blackbygod.org.

**JUNETEENTH IN FAIRMONT ON JUNE 18TH:** This event will be from noon to 11:00 p.m. in Windmill Park, 920 Ogden Avenue, Fairmont.



**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES PRIDE MONTH EVENTS:** Please go to fairnesswv.org/pride/ for the calendar of events for June and the form to order your Pride Month swag. At "press time," there were no events scheduled in Morgantown. The closest event on the calendar is a Pride Picnic in the Park sponsored by Fairmont PGLAG on June 18th from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the East Marion Park.



**ACLU QUEER YOUTH SUMMIT REGISTRATION IS OPEN:** "This free camp will bring together young West Virginians either identify as LGBTQ+ or come from LGBTQ+ families from across the state, and give them the tools they need to organize and advocate for the issues they care about.

"Campers will learn how to talk to legislators, run effective meetings, tell powerful stories, and more, and will participate in a collective action to better the lives of LGBTQ+ people after the camp concludes. Perhaps most importantly, AQYS campers will get to be themselves for a weekend

around people who understand them.

"The 2022 Summit will take place at Jackson's Mill in Lewis County from late morning on August 1st to the afternoon on August 5th."

For more information and the registration link, please go to action.aclu.org/webform/wv-aqys-2022.



The ACLU of West Virginia Equity and Justice Fellowship is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, law students, and nontraditional students or citizen activists who identify as being in a historically marginalized community that is underrepresented in West Virginia advocacy and policy-making spaces.

Depending on fellows' areas of study and career goals, fellows can work with ACLU-WV staff on legal advocacy, policy advocacy, research, communications, community education, organizing, development, or nonprofit management matters.

The application is available at action.aclu.org/webform/wv-fellowship. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply.

Please contact Mollie Kennedy at mkennedy@acluwv.org with questions.

**SUFFRAGIST MEMORIAL PLANNED FOR CAPITOL GROUNDS:** The West Virginia Legislature passed a resolution in 2021 and asked the Governor to appoint a committee to work on this. The West Virginia Suffragist Memorial Committee has been meeting for several months and is now seeking public input into the kind of memorial they might construct. The goal is to have the memorial finished by 2024. To learn more about the committee's work, go to westvirginiasuffragistmemorial.com. If you have ideas, please send them to Dr. Renate Pore, committee co-chair, at renatepore@gmail.com.

# **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2022**

From www.diversityresources.com/2022-diversity-calendar/

LGBT Pride Month: commemorates the Stonewall Riots and seeks to recognize the impact LGBT people have had around the world

Caribbean American Heritage Month: recognizes the significance of Caribbean culture and history in the U.S.

6/2 – Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 (Native Americans): granted the right of citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. However, the right to vote was not granted until 1957

6/12 – Loving Day (Black American): anniversary of a historic court decision for interracial marriage Puerto Rican Day Parade (Puerto Rican): largest demonstration of cultural pride in the United States. It promotes prominent, historical figures and seeks to raise awareness of critical issues in the community

6/19 – Juneteenth (Black American): marks the anniversary of when African Americans first learned of the Emancipation Proclamation. It was more than two years after it was initially issued.

6/27 – Birthday of Helen Keller (People with Disabilities): while known as being both blind and deaf, Keller was one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's leading humanitarians and co-founder of the ACLU