

Year of Unity News

Project Unity

Unity Begins With You!

July 2017 News

Together We Heal

Event to Honor Fall Officers and Heal Community

Plans are well underway for **Together We Heal** taking place on Saturday, July 15, at the American Airlines Center. Activities begin at 11 a.m. The program begins at noon.

Over 2,000 people are expected to attend this free event that is geared to honor our fallen officers of the 7/7 tragedy and continue the efforts of healing the city of Dallas by bringing the community and law enforcement together.

The community is invited to take part in the remembrance and reflections ceremony, as well as enjoy the variety of interactive activities with the Dallas Police and performances by the Mavs ManiAACs, dancers, drum line and Champ.

Other activities include face painting, balloon artists, photos with the Mavs trophy, free throw on the court, and more. Everyone will receive a

free hot dog, drink and goody bag.

Special appearances by NBA Sacramento King's Assistant Coach Nancy Lieberman, **U.S. Gold Medalist and Year of Unity Honorary Co-Chair Michelle Carter**, Dallas DA Judge Faith Johnson, WNBA Dallas Wings players and others.

The event is free, but everyone must have a ticket due to limited seating. Ticket information is available at www.yearofunity.com.

The event is made possible by the support of the United Way, Dallas Mavericks and the American Airlines Center, and in partnership with the Dallas Police Department, Dallas Police Association, Fraternal Order of Police and the Black Police Association of Greater Dallas.

Upcoming Events

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Every Friday

Together We Pray
9 a.m.

Dial In – (641) 715-3580
Code – 295-041-092#

Saturday, July 15

Together We Heal
American Airlines Center
12 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Doors open at 11 a.m.

Thursday, July 27

“Let’s Talk” Dallas Police
and Youth Forum
AT&T Performing Arts Cnt
9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Hosted by Dallas PD

Thursday, August 24

Together We Read
SMU McFarlin Auditorium
6 p.m.

Sunday, August 27

Together We Ball
P. C. Cobb Field House
2 p.m.

Saturday, September 23

Together We Learn
St. Paul UMC
12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

August Programs on the Go! Community Invited to Attend!

TOGETHER WE READ

Project Unity proudly partners with Southern Methodist University on its annual summer community reading tradition. Coined as **Together We Read** as part of the Year of Unity program partnership, SMU invites book enthusiasts to read the compelling New York Times best seller book entitled, *Evicted*, by Matthew Desmond.

In the book, the author follows eight families in Milwaukee as they struggle to maintain a place to live.

The community is invited to attend a presentation by the author on Thursday, August 24, at 6 p.m. on the campus of SMU at McFarlin Auditorium. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Participants are asked to register online at <http://www.smu.edu/events/mureads> to receive information on special events and gatherings. You will also qualify to purchase the book at a special 10% discount through the SMU Barnes and Noble bookstore.

TOGETHER WE BALL

The 3rd Annual **Together We Ball** basketball game and community day is scheduled for Sunday, August 27, from 2-6 p.m. at P.C. Cobb Field House, 1702 Robert B. Cullum Blvd. near Fair Park. This widely anticipated basketball event features pastors, community and business leaders, elected officials and police officers playing basketball together while showing a collective spirit and unity for the community.

Everyone is invited out to spend an afternoon building relationships and watching an entertaining game of basketball. Educational information for adults will be provided by various Dallas PD outreach departments, and the kids will enjoy face painting, coloring stations, and balloon artists. The event will kickoff with two local high school basketball teams playing in a 30-minute exhibition game. Free t-shirts and goody bags will be available.

Need more information?
charlene@projectunity.net.

Together We Dine June Event A Success!

On Tuesday, June 20, Project Unity partnered with the Dallas Bar Association and Highland Park United Methodist Church to host another **Together We Dine**. Over 160 culturally diverse people from across Dallas including facilitators from the Dallas Bar, St. Paul UMC and Highland Park UMC participated in this thought provoking dining event.

Bold and courageous conversations were had that evening. A wide sentiment among participants is that *"there is a strong desire to change race relations in America, and that we need to listen to others and speak up for what is right."*

70% of participants responded to the event survey. When asked if they learned a new/different perspective on race relations by listening to someone else's story that night, 89% of those surveyed said they agreed. *"We need to make an effort to have hard conversations to really understand others,"* commented one participant.

The next dining event will take place in the fall.

Together We Dine The Conversation Continues

As a result of the June 20 dining event, over 40 attendees expressed a desire to **continue the conversation on race relations**. Project Unity and Highland Park UMC will host post dinner **“Unity Groups”**.

Over the course of 6-weeks, small “Unity” groups of participants from June 20 will meet at Highland Park UMC and St. Paul UMC on designated evenings or mid-day to discuss materials that focus on race and race relations. Each week has a different assignment and at the end of the six weeks, the groups will participate in a culturally diverse outing.

Partner Events Spread the Word...

July 13, Shots Fired

Cry Havoc Theater Company announced a panel conversation about the Dallas police shootings, its impact on the community, and its inspiration for the production of *Shots Fired*. The second run of the acclaimed production is a co-production with Kitchen Dog Theater and opens July

7th, on the one-year anniversary of the event.

The panelists on July 13th include Mark Hughes (wrongfully identified by police and the press as a suspect), Shetamia Taylor (one of the civilians shot that day), and **Dr. Brian Williams** (the surgeon on call at Parkland Hospital that night who tended to the officers). The panel will be moderated by **Pastor Richie Butler**, Sr. Pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church and founder of Project Unity. The panel will be held on Thursday, July 13th at 7:00 p.m. before the 8:00 p.m. performance of *Shots Fired*.

Admission to the Panel Conversation is free for those who have purchased tickets to the July 13th performance. Performances of *Shots Fired* are July 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15 at 8:00 p.m. and July 9 at 2:00 p.m. All performances will take place at the Trinity River Arts Center, 2600 N. Stemmons Fwy, Ste.180, Dallas, TX 75207. Tickets are currently on sale on Kitchen Dog Theater’s website <http://www.kitchendogtheater.org> / or via the KDT Box Office at 214-953-1055.

“Let’s Talk” Dallas Police & Youth Forum

The Dallas Police Department is preparing for its 3rd Annual “Let’s Talk” Dallas Police and Youth Forum. The event takes place on Thursday, July 27, from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the AT&T Performing Arts Center – Winsper Opera House (2403 Flora St).

This is a free forum for youth ages 10-15 years old. The theme this year is #CommunityFirst. Youth will learn about some of the DPD community engagement efforts, but most importantly Dallas PD will highlight kids/individuals that are putting their community first and being of service to their neighborhoods.

Last year, over 700 youth participated. This year, DPD would like to engage 1500 youth. Youth groups are highly encouraged to attend. Register your group today at [DPDLetsTalk](#)

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact **Year of Unity Ambassador Joli Robinson** at joli.robinson@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us

Volunteers Needed

Project Unity Needs U!

Wondering how you can personally get involved or get your company/organization involved in the Year of Unity programs and events? Just let us know!

We currently need volunteers to assist with all of our programming. Some needs are small in number, and others will require larger groups of volunteers. Contact us today if you or your group can assist with any of the following upcoming events:

July 15 – Together We Heal (100+ volunteers needed)

August 27 – Together We Ball (25 + volunteers needed)

September 23 – Together We Learn (10 volunteers needed)

October 21 – Together We Serve (Several hundred volunteers – To be announced)

Additional facilitators are needed for the **Together We Dine** events. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please email Charlene at charlene@projectunity.net. Other programs and events will be announced early fall.

Join the movement! Year of Unity.



YOU CHALLENGE

Take The Year of Unity Challenge!

Throughout the year, we simply challenge you to:

1. Listen to someone else's story
2. Learn about someone else's situation – walk in their shoes
3. Engage in constructive dialogue and activities to improve race relations

Post a photo or log your experience at [#DFWYearOfUnity](https://twitter.com/DFWYearOfUnity) or [@DFWYearOfUnity](https://www.instagram.com/DFWYearOfUnity)

Stay Connected!

Project Unity Doesn't Work Without U!

Follow us, Tweet us, Like our Instagram posts, connect on FaceBook, watch us on YouTube

[#DFWYearOfUnity](https://twitter.com/DFWYearOfUnity) ~ [@DFWYearOfUnity](https://www.instagram.com/DFWYearOfUnity)

YOU Website

Visit www.yearofunity.com

Full Calendar of Programs & Events • Refer a Volunteer • Make a Donation



YEAR OF UNITY

Contact Us!

Charlene@projectunity.net