

AN IMPORTANT NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings 4DL family.

We mark the end of Black History Month on the brink of WWII. What I hope that each of you understands deeply is that the world we envision ourselves creating for future generations, is only achieved by collective, direct action. At any given time, we are only a shot fired away from the end of democracy, we are only a set of legislative efforts away from civility, we are only ever a set of inactions away from being completely off the path toward Dr. King's dream, that even he admitted at times felt like a nightmare. As we face the reality of unnecessary tragedy unfolding in Ukraine, please act. Please don't sit idly by. Please make your voice heard. Please don't forget or ignore the myriad travesties facing our world:

- The 10-year anniversary of the death of a 17-year old child named Trayvon Martin
- The stalled status of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act
- The ethnic genocide of Uighurs
- The senseless killings in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- The children STILL looking for their parents at our nation's southern border
- The "Don't Say Gay" Bill that passed Florida's house legislature
- Rampant human trafficking
- COUNTLESS OTHERS

If you are tempted to be overwhelmed and throw your hands up at the gravity of human rights crises that have been previously dubbed our "century's global disorder", don't. In fact, what this means is that you have innumerable opportunities to participate in changing our world for the better. Please, I beg you, act, don't turn away. Yes, it's hard on your eyes to watch, but it's harder on your soul to ignore.

Here are a few simple ways to help immediately:

1. SPEAK UP

- a. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>
- b. <https://www.prosperitycandle.com/pages/mission>

2. Tune in to social movements

- a. <https://www.instagram.com/blklivesmatter/>
- b. <https://www.instagram.com/amnestyusa/>
- c. <https://www.instagram.com/p/Bqp6VA2HN5k/>
- d. <https://www.hrw.org>

3. Volunteer

- a. <https://www.rd.com/article/how-to-help-ukraine/>
- b. <https://www.hias.org/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-us-mexico-border>
- c. <https://nationalhomeless.org/taking-action/volunteer/>

4. Donate to causes aligned with your values

- a. <https://www.oxfamamerica.org>
- b. <https://www.unicef.org>
- c. <https://www.charitynavigator.org>

5. Take your local legislators to task

#DoMore24DE

JOIN US IN THIS YEARS DO MORE 24 FUNDRAISING EVENT!

This year, 4th-Dimension Leaders is participating in the 24 hour fundraising campaign, #DoMore24DE. For 24 hours from **6pm March 3rd through 6pm March 4th, we are asking you to do more with us!**

4DL is raising funds for the Equity Practitioner Program's Facilitator Training Institute, which will launch in May 2022. Funds raised will go directly towards materials for the institute that is going to expand the Equity Practitioner Program, and reach more schools, students, and communities throughout Delaware.

[Check out 4DL's page](#), and click the "remind me to donate" button for an automatic reminder on March 3rd!



EPP
Doing the work.

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBER OF 4DL, LISA!



This month, we welcome our newest team member, **Lisa Hastings-Sheppard, as the Director of Programs** at 4th-Dimension Leaders. Lisa spent 22 years at Delaware Technical Community College as an instructor, executive communications manager, assistant vice president of marketing, and senior programs director. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Instruction, both from the University of Delaware. Lisa served on the Commission for Early Education and the Economy during the Markell administration and currently is a member of the Board of Directors at Wilmington Montessori School.

RDE 2

This past Saturday, we invited 5 panelists to join us for our 2nd Dialogic Seminar session, exploring the concepts of *Muted Narratives*. Our thoughtful 5th cohort members engaged with rich texts as well as the complex experiences of our guests to facilitate discussions of identity and difference. A special thanks to Norma Flores Lopéz, Samanta Lopez, Dorian Rojas, Carlos Beato, and Jon Chavez, for sharing your stories and supporting our learning!

