



STANDING FIRM IN OUR VALUES

A Note From Our Executive Director, Angela Perry

At 4DL, we do the work. Our goal, simply, is to disrupt discrepancies in opportunity, full stop. Whether we are training and certifying assistant principals and principals to lead high need schools in a new way, working with concerned parents and community members to forge better educational options for their children, training facilitators to lead powerful discourse, or working with adult learners to deeply understand history and civics in a way that changes how they move in their work, we are committed to doing the work we believe in. And we won't capitulate away from that in the face of uncertainty. We won't be gaslit. We won't wrap our work of coalition building in language that seeks to appease those who will never be appeased.

I am the daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter etc. of freedom fighters, civil rights activists, public servants, community helpers, domestics, preachers, poets, artists, and people who were and are relentless in their convictions. I won't acquiesce to tyranny. I won't indulge threats. I don't sit in a liminal space between commitment and uncertainty, for I am clear: societies that learn and grow and evolve to better ways of being and living do so when honesty, transparency, intellectual curiosity, empathy, and love are in the front seat driving.

4DL won't engage in contrition during this time of fear-mongering. We won't bend the knee to those who don't share our values. We will fight to the end because we are clear about our share and our path. We'll be here until we can't anymore. 4DL is open for business!

If you're as clear as we are, see you soon.

If you're on the fence, we wish you the clarity and strength you need to decide.

If you're a detractor to our work, we send you love and light; we'll be here when you're ready to work with us.

This is MY executive order.
Always coalition building,

THE 2024-25 EQUITY LEADERSHIP RETREAT

This year, 4DL is excited to host our 2nd annual Equity Leadership Retreat, a series of three 3-day sessions to afford school leaders the opportunity to reflect and recharge in order to increase the efficacy of their work and the longevity of their commitment. For our second session earlier this month, we were proud to partner with 7GenLegacy's Shawna Wells who led school leaders through a process of naming, claiming and learning what it means to live their legacy daily.



Ready to maximize the potential of your leadership team? Email lisa@4thdimensionleaders.org.

WELCOME EPP 11, OUR LARGEST COHORT YET!

In January, 4DL kicked off our spring cohort of **The Equity Practitioner Program**, and it was one for the books -- with a group of **nearly 60 educators** joining our coalition of changemakers! A shout out to our teams from Brandywine, Cape Henlopen, Christina, Colonial, and Red Clay School Districts along with Kuumba Academy.

How Does EPP Work?



1. Teams of three to five join the cohort-based, six-month program.



2. Participants explore the origins and nature of structural and systemic inequities.



3. Deep learning experiences are coupled with planning and practical application through a direct action project.



4. Teams strategize with their organizations on executing the Direct Action Project.



5. Teams work with their school or district to execute Direct Action Project, advancing equity and increasing internal capacity.

As the most senior participant in cohort 11, I can say the future of education in Delaware still has hope. The passion, trust and the truth that was spoken today causes us all to pause.

The faces of the young people I was given the opportunity to dialog and think with showed me the power of love and service to our children.

— Ken Brown, Kuumba Academy

We are proud to partner with the Redding Consortium for Educational Equity to expand our 11th cohort. The Consortium is named after Wilmington, Delaware native, Louis L. Redding who became the first black lawyer in Delaware and, in 1954, assisted Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall in the Brown vs. Education case, which struck down the "separate but equal" system of public school segregation across the country. The Consortium fights to ensure Redding's vision for educational equity actualizes and remains true and is making it possible for educators and staff from Bayard, Harlan, Lewis, Pritchett, P.S. DuPont, Pulaski, Stubbs, Warner and Kuumba to join us this spring.

Want to learn more about EPP? Join us on June 7 for our EPP 11 Closing Ceremony!
Email lisa@4thdimensionleaders.org.

IT'S HAPPENING! 4DL'S 2025 FACILITATOR TRAINING INSTITUTE

Interested in leveling up your skills as a facilitator?

At 4DL, we believe that the ability to both lead and engage in thoughtful discourse is critical for a society that seeks to learn and grow with its people. If you're interested in learning to use 4DL's method of facilitation or becoming a facilitator with 4DL, please share your interest here. Our annual FTI will take place on **May 30-31, 2025**, and we can't wait to see you there. Seats fill on a first come, first served basis, so share interest now with lisa@4thdimensionleaders.org!

DO MORE WITH US! MARCH 6-7

4DL is excited to once again participate in the DoMore24 statewide campaign this March 6-7, 2025. With fewer foundations, smaller grants and formerly localized investments now leaving the state, the impact of individuals like you is more important than ever in ensuring school-level change and continuing the work of 4th-Dimension Leaders.

For 24 hours from 6pm March 6th through 6pm March 7th, we're asking you to do more with 4DL! Stay tuned for details!

