

**Division of Social Justice & Racial Equity
Mayor's Office, City of Birmingham**



2022

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



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Vision:

To create a just and equitable Birmingham.

Mission

Through advocacy, engagement and implementation, the Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity seeks to employ social justice as a core principle in City of Birmingham policies, operations and decision-making.

Objectives:

1. Address community inequities affecting under served residents through an equity lens.
2. Transform our city government's approach to problem-solving social challenges.
3. Reduce violence through holistic peace strategies.
4. Improve the quality of life for all Birmingham residents.
5. Create access for residents to engage city government.
6. Establish advisory groups and commissions that advise Mayor Woodfin.



Division of Social Justice & Racial Equity
Mayor's Office, City of Birmingham

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

Dear Birmingham,

It is my honor to serve as your Mayor. When I first took office, I promised that we would create an office that reflected the legacy of our city, one dedicated to the equity, social justice, and human rights of everyone who calls this city home. I'm proud to say that we've done that. We live in a world that has been molded by the necessity of change; a country founded on freedom and built by free labor; and a city that the world watched as its people set the standard of resilience and hope.

Here we are 60 years later, a true testament to faith, leadership, and the sacrifice of our people. It's so important to my administration and me that we continue Birmingham's fight for civil and human rights. We owe it to those brave freedom fighters who sacrificed so much to get us to this point, as well as positioning the next generation of leaders to continue the battle.

Over the past year, we continued to see the harrowing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We also saw the relentless attack on the rights of women, LGBTQ+ communities, and our immigrant populations. We witnessed communities of color continue to be plagued with systemic issues of poverty, violence, polluted environments, intentional divestments, and health disparities. Yet again, Birmingham stands at a pivotal point to be on the right side of history. The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity was created to be a voice that advocates for our residents. The work is not easy, but it is necessary. Let's continue to progress together.

Peace,



Randall L. Woodfin
Mayor



REFLECTIONS FROM OUR SENIOR DIRECTOR

In 2022, we emerged from pandemic protocols to come together and rediscover the power of community. The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity (SJRE) continues to lead Mayor Randall L. Woodfin's strategic objective of Global Legacy, Racial Equity and Social Justice. In spite of negative barometers facing the country such as inflation, political volatility, gun violence, and post-COVID health challenges, the Social Justice team will forge ahead in 2023 with courage and fortitude.

Pursuing social justice and equity is not done in isolation, but in collaboration with community members to effectively advance change. Advocacy groups such as the Women's Initiative, LGBTQ+ Advisory Board, Faith Leaders Roundtable, Human Rights Commission, and the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument Stakeholders bring unique perspectives to social justice.

We remain steadfast in our efforts to create equitable opportunities and eliminate barriers. The SJRE Division pursues changes to city processes, procedures, and systems that will increase equitable outcomes. Our efforts are focused on policy, advocacy, engagement, and providing access to city government for Birmingham residents.

As you review the 2022 highlights in this report, we know that our work is constantly evolving. We welcome you into this space to work collaboratively to improve the quality of life for the residents of Birmingham.

In gratitude,



Denise E. Gilmore, Senior Director
Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity



CULTURAL PRESERVATION

A.G. GASTON MOTEL RESTORATION

On June 30, 2022, the City of Birmingham celebrated the restoration of the historic A.G. Gaston Motel. Over 400 people joined the Ribbon Cutting celebration, with Mayor Randall L. Woodfin; Congresswoman Terri Sewell; U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg; NPS Acting Regional Director Lance Hatten; Birmingham City Council, Brent Leggs, National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Denise Gilmore, Senior Director of The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity. Mayor Woodfin was joined by former mayors Dr. Richard Arrington Jr. and William Bell. Gaston family members, Foot Soldiers, many elected officials, and community members were in attendance along with online viewers from all over the state of Alabama.



The A. G. Gaston Motel is the key historic site of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument. The A.G. Gaston Motel officially opened on July 1, 1954, offering 32 fully air-conditioned rooms with world-class amenities. The motel was recognized as a Green Book (a guide for African American travelers) site. The A. G. Gaston Motel is the site where Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and other civil rights leaders met in the "War Room," Room 30, to strategize and plan "Project C," (Project Confrontation) the 1963 campaign of protests and marches. These actions in Birmingham changed the world and the course of the nation in granting civil and human rights to all citizens.





RESTORATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Exterior restoration of the 1954 wing completed in December 2020.
- Installation of the replica Gaston Motel sign in March 2021.
- In September 2021, Mellon Foundation awarded a \$1.1 million grant to restore the coffee shop, original dining room and create a permanent exhibit to Dr. A.G. Gaston.
- Ribbon cutting ceremony held on June 30, 2022.
- During the World Games in July, over 4,000 visitors toured the exhibit and motel.
- Full Restoration of the 1968 wing and courtyard will be completed in 2023.

FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS NATIONAL MONUMENT

In January 2022, the City of Birmingham celebrated the five year anniversary of the establishment of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument, a collaborative partnership of the National Park Service and the City of Birmingham. The National Monument was created by former President Barack Obama on January 12, 2017, to ensure that the sites, stories, and events of the 1963 Birmingham campaign for civil and human rights would be forever preserved. The A.G. Gaston Motel is the centerpiece of the monument with the related sites of 16th Street Baptist Church, St. Paul United Methodist Church, Historic Bethel Baptist Church, Kelly Ingram Park, and the Colored Masonic Temple.

Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, traveled to Alabama to visit the historical sites of the civil rights movement. The visit was part of Secretary Haaland's week-long multi-state tour to explore how the Department of the Interior can help tell America's story. Secretary Haaland, and Assistant Secretary Shannon Estenoz was hosted by Congresswoman Terri Sewell. They traveled to Birmingham, Selma and Montgomery to meet with elected officials and community members. The group toured various sites within the National Monument, including the historic 16th Street Baptist Church, St. Paul United Methodist Church, and the A.G. Gaston Motel.

WATCH THE CELEBRATION



See how The City of Birmingham celebrated the five-year milestone with the promise of preserving stories of struggle and triumph for generations to come.





*A people without
knowledge of their past,
origin, and culture is like a
tree without roots.*

Marcus Garvey

A NEW MURAL HONORING FREEDOM RIDERS

In May, a new mural commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Freedom Rides was unveiled at Wells Fargo's Tower Motor Bank branch in Birmingham. The mural is located at a Civil Rights landmark and the historic site of the Trailways bus depot, where an assault on civil rights activists Freedom Riders took place. Senior Director Denise Gilmore brought remarks to the community attending the unveiling.

REBUILDING THE BRIDGE BETWEEN BLACK & JEWISH COMMUNITIES

Denise Gilmore, Senior Director, spoke at Sisters/Chaverim, Hebrew for "friends", at Temple Beth El in August. Sisters/Chaverim brings Jewish and Black women together to rebuild relationships that date back to historical alliances during the civil rights movement between the two communities. When formed in 2009, the group met to host dialogue sessions on social issues, but ultimately transformed into a unique group of friends. Sisters has been recognized and received awards from The Birmingham Urban League and nationally, the Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

REVISIONING LINN PARK

The City of Birmingham, in coordination with REV Birmingham, collaborated with community partners to initiate planning and design for re-visioning Linn Park, a key recommendation in the 2019 City Center Master Plan. Key project partners steering the planning process are the Mayor's Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity, the Birmingham Museum of Art, The City of Birmingham Park and Recreation Board, The Friends of Linn Park, and The Philip Morris Fund for Design Arts represented by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham. REV Birmingham is the project manager. Three public workshops were held along with focus groups and online surveys to provide community input with more than 1,000 participants. Linn Park will also be the home of the Jefferson County Memorial Project monument and gardens. The final master plan will be presented in 2023.





Georgia State University hosted the U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. Denise Gilmore, Senior Director, and Josh Coleman, Deputy Director of The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity attended the two-day forum with more than seventy preservationists, including representatives from Birmingham's historic civil rights sites. The symposium held sessions on funding, marketing, and preserving these important civil rights sites.

A promotional poster for an event titled "Urban Impact presents: Nobody Knows My Name". The poster is yellow and black. It features a photo of Denise Gilmore, Moderator, and a photo of Kristofer Butcher, National Park Service. The event is titled "Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument History and Preservation" and is scheduled for "Thursday, March 3, 2022 6 p.m. CST". It lists panelists: Rev. Thomas Wilder, Rev. Richard Lane Stryker III, and Akheem Lee. The poster also includes a Facebook logo and a collage of images related to Birmingham's history and civil rights.

Urban Impact in partnership with the Alabama Humanities Alliance hosted a panel to highlight preservation efforts, examine the historic significance and the future preservation of some of the most iconic sites in Birmingham's Historic Civil Rights District. The panel was moderated by Denise Gilmore, Senior Director of The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity and panelists included Rev. Thomas Wilder, Rev. Richard Stryker, Akheem Lee, and National Park Service Superintendent Kristofer Butcher.

A ribbon cutting was held at the 16th Street Baptist Church parsonage to honor the completion of the restoration and repurposing of the historic 1914 structure. The Social Justice and Racial Equity team provided operational planning support to 16th Street Baptist Church for the ribbon cutting. The parsonage displays an exhibit that tells the stories of three men who helped build Birmingham's Black community in the late 1800s and early 1900s: Wallace A. Rayfield, the second formally educated practicing African American architect in the United States and the designer of the church building and parsonage; William Pettiford, founder of the Alabama Penny Savings Bank and former pastor of 16th Street Baptist Church; and T. C. Windham, the contractor for the building project and chairman of the church's trustee board.



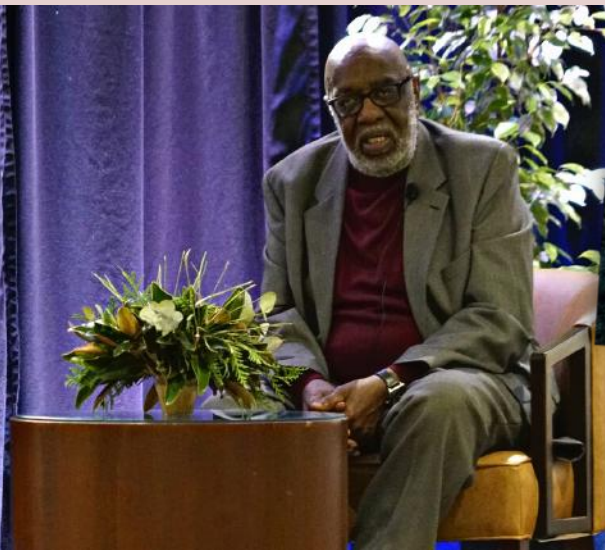
SOCIAL JUSTICE

AWAKEN

The first football game between Alabama A&M University and Alabama State University was played in 1924. It has been an annual tradition since 1945 and has taken place at Legion Field since 1940. The Classic is the largest HBCU event in the nation attracting nearly 200,000 participants. Each year, The Magic City celebrates this time-honored tradition.



A highlight of The 2022 Magic City Classic was an event hosted by The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity, AWAKEN Family Reunion: Stories Never Told. The event kicked off with Mayor Randall L. Woodfin honoring the incredible contributions of Dr. Shelley Stewart. "Shelley the Playboy," as he was known during his radio career, was the radio voice of the civil rights movement. The morning continued with the crowd hearing never told or seldom-shared stories from family members of civil rights activists during a panel discussion. The Next Generation panel featured multiple generations of legacy families: author and speaker Lisa McNair, city councilor Clinton Woods, restaurateur Charles Morgan III, attorney Daron Drew Jelks, and recent Howard University graduate Herschell Oneal Hamilton. The panel was moderated by historian Barry McNealy.



WATCH





INAUGURAL SHUTTLESWORTH DAY

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth was born in Mt. Meigs, Alabama on March 18, 1922, and departed this life on October 5, 2011. Shuttlesworth was a central figure in Alabama's Civil Rights movement, founding the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights in Birmingham after the NAACP was outlawed by the State of Alabama.

Alongside Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Reverend Ralph David Abernathy, Shuttlesworth orchestrated the Birmingham Civil Rights Campaign of 1963. Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth suffered many physical and legal attacks including his home being destroyed by a terrorist bomb on December 25, 1956; his wife was stabbed, and he was brutally beaten by a mob in 1957 when he tried to enroll two of his children in an all-white school; he was arrested for following the decree of the U. S. Supreme Court that buses should be integrated. Shuttlesworth had more cases to go before the U. S. Supreme Court and was dubbed "the most courageous freedom fighter in the Southeast."

Reverend Shuttlesworth's commitment to standing up against injustice has been a model and inspiration for his family, friends, and for people around the world who stand up for what is right even when that means standing alone.

Because of his enduring legacy, The City of Birmingham, in partnership with The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and Bethel Baptist Church, adopted proclamations naming March 18th as Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth Day. On what would have been his 100th birthday, we encouraged strategic civic engagement; visits to the historic sites within the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument; and the examination, acknowledgment, and appreciation for his legacy in commemoration, so that it may be sustainably kept in contemporary focus by all.



FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

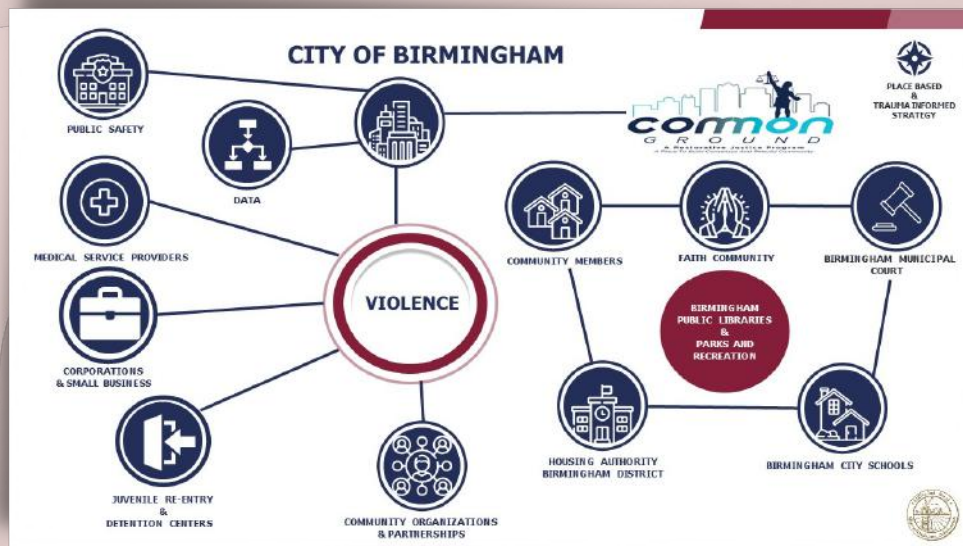
With the leadership of Mayor Randall L. Woodfin, The City of Birmingham Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity took steps to help stop human trafficking. Restrooms in the City of Birmingham buildings now display signage to increase awareness and help victims get information that can help them escape safely. During a month-long Birmingham operation surrounding the World Games in July dozens of violators were arrested, multiple human trafficking victims were identified and helped, and missing children were reunited with their families.



HOSPITAL-LINKED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

The City of Birmingham is providing \$2.3 million to support the launch of Alabama's first hospital-linked violence intervention program (HVIP) over the next three years. The HVIP will launch in early 2023 and be led by UAB Trauma, Jefferson County Department of Public Health, and the City of Birmingham. Offender's Alumni Association has been selected as the community-based service provider.

emergency departments throughout the country with an increased risk of violent injury. They engage patients while they are still in the hospital, often just hours after a violent injury, to reduce the chance of retaliation and violent injury recurrence. They are based on the premise that there is a unique window of opportunity to engage victims of violence in the immediate aftermath of a traumatic injury. HVIPs elevate the issues of the revolving door of violence while addressing inequity and building partnerships with communities and survivors of violence.



COMMON GROUND: A VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY

The Woodfin administration has prioritized a three-pronged effort to address violent crime through investments in prevention and reentry programs as well as enforcement. The strategy is called Common Ground and builds on the research and collaboration from PEACE: A Strategy for Peace 2019-2023 and the report and recommendations from the Birmingham Safe Neighborhoods Task Force.

Common Ground is a trauma-informed strategy supported by community-based organizations. The city's 2023 Operating Budget represents a commitment to invest in areas to support not only enforcement but prevention and reentry. Combined, the investment in each of these initiatives supports an overall engagement to focus on the root causes of violence to enhance the continuum of care to better address prevention and reentry.



A COMMITMENT TO JUVENILE REENTRY

The Jefferson County Family Resource Center will soon serve as the lead agency for a service program being funded by the City of Birmingham. The **RESTORE** (Reduce, Educate, Support, Train, Organize, Realize, Empower) is a pilot program created to address systems-level issues that affect the lives and realities of the families involved with Family Court. The RESTORE Program will bring together a group of agencies that have contact with high-risk populations to create a multidisciplinary team capable of crafting a comprehensive, coordinated approach to, and understanding of, the social and socioeconomic realities of families in our community. The program will serve 120 justice-impacted youth at high risk of being perpetrators or victims of gun violence.

2022 BY THE NUMBERS YOUTH MURDERS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

86%

36 VICTIMS
(age 13-22)

93%

28 PERPETRATORS
(age 22 & under)

Incidents involving youth with prior Family Court involvement between January 1st and August 26th

INCREASING PEACE IN THE MAGIC CITY

Leaders in Birmingham City Schools and the City of Birmingham partnered to spend several months during the 2021-2022 school year talking with students throughout the district and raising awareness of the impact of gun violence in the community. As part of the city's Increase Peace initiative, Birmingham Mayor Randall L. Woodfin and Superintendent Dr. Mark Sullivan participated in listening sessions at local high schools, attended by hundreds of students. The city and the school district worked together to produce media spots to raise awareness of violence, featuring teachers, students, and principals impacted by violence. Mayor Woodfin said the objective was to listen students and provide resources that help them peacefully navigate each day.



POLISH DELEGATES VISIT THE MAGIC CITY

Delegates from Poland visited Birmingham with the Open World Program to discuss policies surrounding refugee and immigration issues and overall effective drivers to further support world transformation, proper policies and support of all residents. This visit was prompted by the Russia-Ukraine Conflict and an influx of refugees going into Poland.



THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE

Appointed by Mayor Randall L. Woodfin to address issues that impact women in Birmingham, the Women's Initiative partnered with the Tri-County (AL) Chapter of the Links, Inc. to host a sanitary products distribution. The Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Birmingham Metropolitan Chapter, National Hookup of Black Women Birmingham Chapter, Forest Park Neighborhood Association, and Dr. Wilson Wright also contributed to the effort. The team distributed feminine products, COVID supplies, and dental products to nearly 300 girls and women.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History came to life at Huffman High School in February. Students received community support to expand the reach of their program. Mayor Randall Woodfin spoke to the audience. The Huffman High School Fine Arts Department presented "My Voice Will Cry Out: Young, Gifted and Dreaming in Black." The show, directed by Theatre Director Latosha Benedict, included re-enactments of historical events in Black History, and it also gave students an opportunity to present original poetry. In addition to the dramatic presentation, students had an opportunity to engage in a Fireside Chat with Ms. Odessa Woolfolk, discussing history and culture.



Ms. Woolfolk is a civic leader, founding Board Chair and President of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, and former teacher at Ullman High School. Students at Huffman High who performed in the program were invited to tour the Birmingham Civil

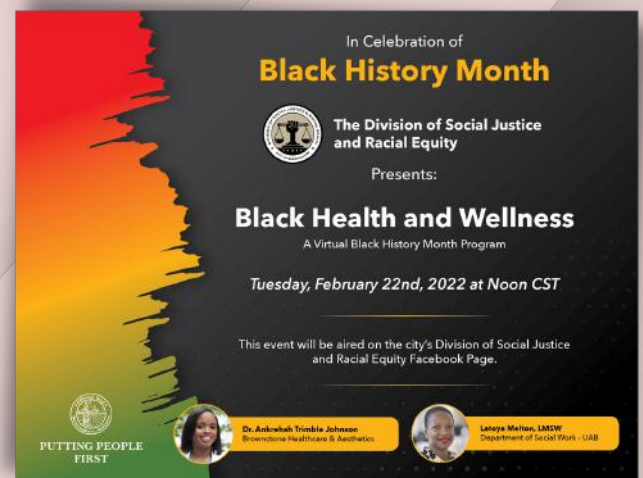
Rights Institute. This event was supported by the City of Birmingham and its Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity, the National Park Service, Make It Happen Theatre Company, United Way of Central Alabama, and the J. Mason Davis Leadership Society.

The February episode of This Birmingham featured two area healthcare providers. In Celebration of Black History month, Black Health and Wellness, was the topic. The episode featured Dr. Ankehah Trimble Johnson of Brownstone Health and Wellness and Latoya Melton, LMSW, with UAB.

WATCH THE PROGRAM



See the Huffman High School Vikings Black History Month Program.



COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

FAITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mayor Woodfin established a coalition of faith leaders in the City of Birmingham in 2019. The purpose is to collaborate and join the mayor in roundtable conversations that will help advance the city. These conversations allow for the mayor to provide input in matters that affect the community. There are more than 200 faith leaders of diverse religious beliefs that have been engaged. Three roundtables were held in 2022 with Mayor Woodfin and faith leaders.



INAUGURAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR GUN-RELATED HOMICIDE VICTIMS

The City of Birmingham joined Mayors Against Illegal Guns as well as cities across America for the Inaugural Day of Remembrance for Gun-Related Homicide Victims on Friday, December 30, 2022. Mayor Randall L. Woodfin, along with faith leaders from the Birmingham community, reflected on and remembered those who lost their lives to violent crimes in 2022 by reading their names and offering prayers to their loved ones. Thank you to Mayor Randall Woodfin and members of our faith community for honoring those who have fallen to gun violence.



UNITY DAY

The US United, Housing Authority Birmingham District, Community Faith Leaders, and the Birmingham Police Department worked to clean up the Elyton Housing Community. Dedicated community volunteers then attended the USFL game featuring the Birmingham Stallions held at the Historic Legion Field.



US United works to "build the brand for unity" and rally all who share in the belief that unity is the path forward to advocates for residents to stand up and join the fight for unity in their communities. They lead by example to make unity "cool" in the community, the media, and the culture.

LGBTQ+ AFFAIRS

RESTROOM ORDER

Seeking to continue building a fairer, more inclusive Birmingham, Mayor Randall L. Woodfin signed an executive order designating all single-occupancy restrooms in city-owned facilities as "All Gender" restrooms.

The City has an interest in furthering the fair treatment of all residents, including those in the LGBTQ+ community. This fair treatment extends to providing alternatives for residents to engage in their most basic needs without pushing gender-binary assumptions. The designation of single-occupancy restrooms as "All Gender" to be gender inclusive will provide safe spaces for transgender and non-binary residents.



WELCOMING THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations Independent Expert on Social Orientation and Gender Identity (IE SOGI), Victor Madrigal-Borloz, visited five American cities this summer to document and report on the state of LGBTQ+ rights in the United States. Without question, The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) determined Birmingham to be among the most appropriate communities for his visit.

The proliferation of anti-LGBTQ+ laws and policies in the United States is of deep concern to the international community. As a result, The United Nations deployed their IE SOGI to the United States to conduct a fact-finding mission to seek an understanding of how our nation can combat violence and discrimination against LGBTQ+ persons, while identifying both best practices and gaps. We are grateful to the IE SOGI for his focus on Alabama as we confront discriminatory laws targeting LGBTQ+ youth, particularly transgender youth, in education, sports, and health care.

Josh Coleman, LGBTQ+ Liaison welcomed Mr. Madrigal-Borloz to The Magic City and participated in roundtable conversations to provide an overview of the City of Birmingham's efforts to combat discriminatory legislation and bolster equality initiatives throughout the state. This helped to inform the IE SOGI's data collection regarding the state of LGBTQ+ rights in Alabama.

Members of the Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity team joined the Human rights Campaign and other partners for an evening reception to commemorate the historic trip of the IE SOGI to Alabama.



SUPPORT FOR AIDS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity joined by Mayor Woodfin and other members of the Mayor's Office toured Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO) to view first-hand transforming work being done in the community. In 1985 BAO was founded as a "grass-roots" response to the devastating and fatal impact HIV/AIDS was having on the Birmingham community. Today BAO provides free services to over 800 HIV-positive individuals and touches thousands of lives through community events, HIV testing, and prevention outreach. The mission of BAO is to enhance the quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS, at-risk, affected individuals, and the LGBTQ community through outreach, age-appropriate prevention education, and supportive services.



PRIDE IN THE MAGIC CITY

The City of Birmingham and the Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity participated in Pride 2022. Mayor Woodfin, Council members Crystal Smitherman and Hunter Williams presented Central Alabama Pride a proclamation recognizing June as Pride Month in the City of Birmingham.



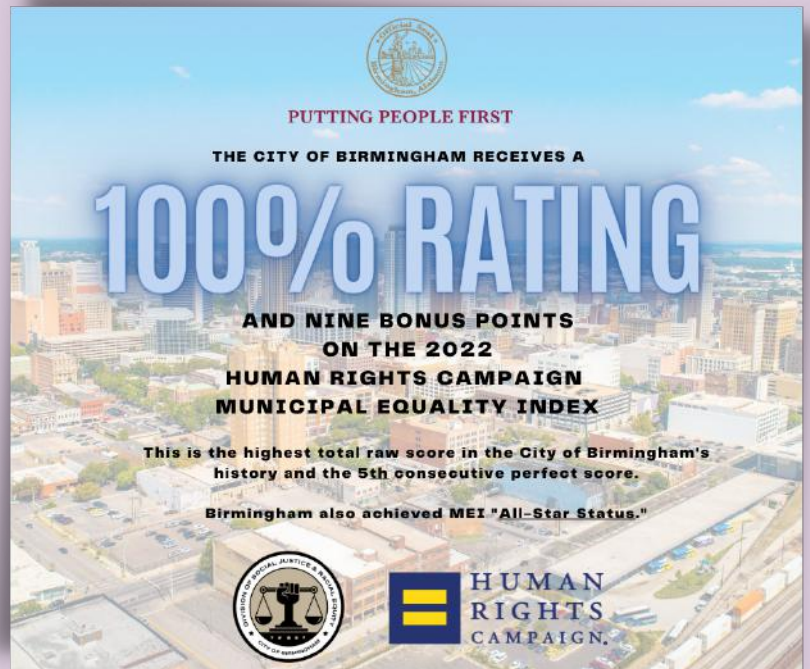
TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

On the annual awareness day celebrated around the world, members of the Social Justice and Racial Equity Division joined T.A.K.E Resource Center for a Trans Day of Visibility event in Eastlake. The day is dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments of transgender and gender-nonconforming people while raising awareness of the work that still needs to be done to achieve trans justice.



ACCLAIM FROM HRC

The City of Birmingham has proudly achieved its highest-ever total raw score of 109, on the Human Rights Campaign Municipal Equality Index (MEI). Additionally, Birmingham achieved MEI "All-Star" status for its perfect score, despite Alabama's status as a state without non-discrimination statutes that expressly protect LGBTQ people. The 11th edition of the MEI examines how inclusive municipal laws, policies, and services are of LGBTQ people who live and work there. To learn more, please visit HRC.org/mei



HOLIDAY MEALS WITH PRIDE

The Social Justice and Racial Equity team was pleased to join the Central Alabama Pride Board of Directors as they once again offered a safe space for members and allies of our LGBTQ+ community to enjoy a holiday meal on Thanksgiving and Christmas Days at The Magic City Acceptance Center. These meals not only supported and expanded collaborative efforts to uplift our LGBTQ+ residents; they also offered a place for those with no other option for fellowship during the holidays.

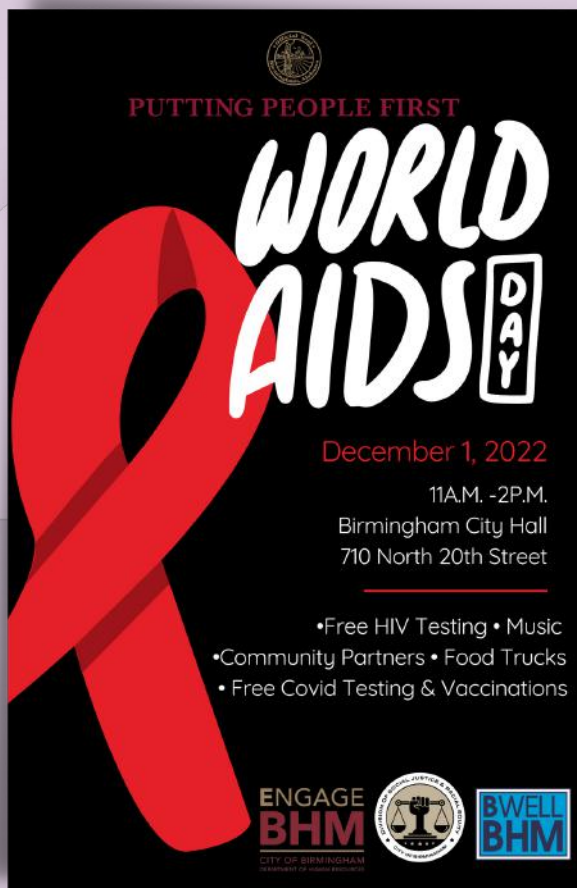
On February 26, 2022, Mayor Randal L. Woodfin delivered the Keynote address at the 2022 Human Rights Campaign National Dinner in Nashville, Tennessee. Mayor Woodfin, joined by Josh Coleman, Carmarion Anderson-Harvey, and Patrick Scarbrough shared the Magic of Birmingham.



How dare I serve as the mayor of Birmingham, a city whose legacy has been built on the audacity of hope, and not extend that fight to our LGBTQ+ community? How could we not push for change in a city where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sat in a Birmingham jail and penned a powerful letter than explicitly said, 'Any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust.' In his words, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'

Mayor Randall L. Woodfin - 2022 HRC National Dinner.





WORLD AIDS DAY

Each year, the City of Birmingham's Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity, in conjunction with the City of Birmingham Human Resources Department hosts a World AIDS Day event to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. It honors those that we have lost, demonstrates international solidarity in the face of this ongoing epidemic, advocates for continued advancements in HIV treatment & prevention, and most importantly, celebrates the resiliency and vibrancy of all those currently living with HIV. We are proud of the remarkable advancements made in prevention & treatment since the emergence of HIV, but we recognize that without universal, affordable access to these lifesaving biomedical tools, ending the epidemic will be impossible. We stand in solidarity with everyone living with and at risk for HIV. We will continue to be an ally in the fight for equity, the fight to end stigma, and the hope for a future free of HIV. Mayor Woodfin presented a proclamation declaring December 1st as World AIDS Awareness Day in the City of Birmingham.

AIDS QUILT DISPLAY

In partnership with The Southern AIDS Coalition and the National AIDS Memorial, The City of Birmingham was honored to display a section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt inside city hall as part of the Change the Pattern initiative.

Change the Pattern brought sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to communities throughout the Southern United States to highlight and honor Black and Brown lives lost to HIV and AIDS and reimagine the response to the epidemic in the region. The 50,000 panels of the Quilt are part of the National AIDS Memorial. The Quilt can be viewed in its entirety online and visitors can search for names on the Quilt. In-person community displays are organized throughout the year in communities across the country.

Visit www.aidsmemorial.org to see an interactive map of where sections of the Quilt are currently on display.

CHANGE THE PATTERN

Help raise awareness and advocacy around HIV/AIDS in the South through conversation and reflection.

SEE THE QUILT DISPLAY

Birmingham City Hall - 2nd Floor, Citizens Gallery
710 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203

Wednesday, November 30th, 8am-5pm
Thursday, December 1st, 8am-5pm
Friday, December 2nd, 8am-12pm

GILEAD Creating Possible | SOUTHERN AIDS COALITION | NATIONAL AIDS MEMORIAL

ACADEMY OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGING MORE RESIDENTS IN THE MAGIC CITY

ACE (Academy of Civic Engagement) is a City of Birmingham initiative with the central goal of getting residents directly involved and engaged with their local municipal government. ACE is a citywide leadership initiative aimed at bringing everyday citizens together for a deeper understanding of how the City is working for them and how they can plug into a variety of opportunities. ACE wants to prepare residents to go out into their communities to act, serve and lead.

CONTRIBUTING DEPARTMENTS

- 311/911
- Birmingham Fire and Rescue
- Birmingham Police Department
- Birmingham Public Library
- Boards and Agencies
- Capital Projects
- City Clerk
- City Council
- Community Development
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Public Works
- Department of Youth Services
- Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity
- Equipment Management
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Innovation and Economic Opportunity



KEY AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT

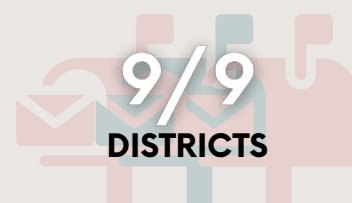
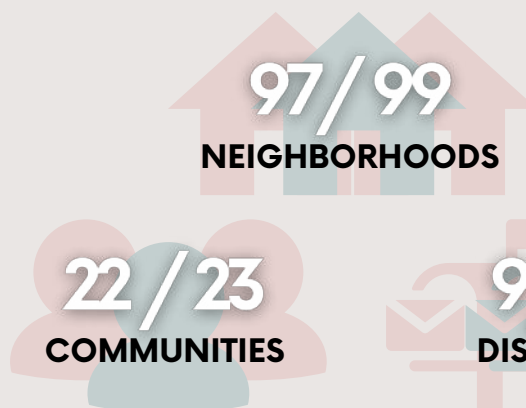
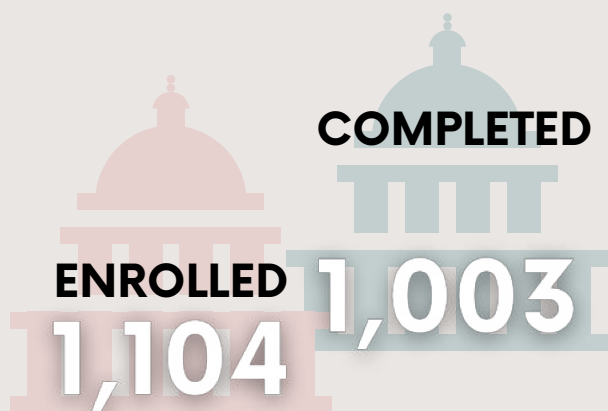
- Business of Birmingham
 - City Hall
 - Infrastructure
 - Public Safety
 - Resident Engagement
 - Cultural Institutions
 - Recreational Institutions
- Mayor's Office
 - Municipal Court
 - Office of Government Affairs
 - Office of Public Information
 - Office of the City Attorney
 - Planning Engineering and Permits





ACE was created in recognition that many residents of our city wish to know more about and have more of a say on issues like trash pickup, public safety, and neighborhood revitalization. Any resident over the age of 16 is invited to apply and participate in our citywide initiative. ACE participants get direct engagement with city leadership, including the mayor and city council as well as department leaders throughout the city. This program allows participants to have open conversations and unfiltered conversations with people who are working on the ground every day.

ACE is strategically designed to get residents involved in local government through neighborhood associations, boards, or other avenues. Participants must be a resident of the City of Birmingham. Spots are reserved for non-residents who operate a business or a nonprofit and would benefit from more understanding of city government. Our hope is for everyone to become actively engaged in good governance, no matter their socioeconomic status, zip code, or race.



SCAN HERE TO APPLY





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DON'T MISS OUR NEWSLETTER!

Authored by the Division of Social Justice and Racial Equity, and electronically distributed to a broad audience, The Magic City Advocate is your guide to cultural events, special publications, and social justice issues in Birmingham.



2022



PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST



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