



CMC News

A publication of the Center for MultiCultural Communities

May/June 2016

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Message from the Director

The Center for Multicultural Communities recently participated in a multiplicity of activities whose focus was to move our communities toward true egalitarianism. These important activities were the male success initiative for men of color workshops, continuing sessions to develop a personal action plan to eradicate racism, CMC's annual gala, and a one-day workshop to end systemic racism.

CMC's work with Men of Color Success Initiative is a continuing series of sessions designed to help men of color overcome barriers to success. I'm glad we were able to answer the question, "What can men of color do to make sure they will not be targeted when they become high achievers?"

Eugene Dumas

Personal Action Plan to Eradicate Discrimination and Racism

CMC decided to develop a personal plan to help to provide hope for those who want to see discrimination and racism end on a personal basis. We know from much research and experience discrimination and racism is deeply embedded. What is embedded is not easily removed; but it can be done with diligent persistence.

Our personal plans will equip attendees to go out into society as ambassadors for true egalitarianism one person at a time. This is because each person is someone's hero. People emulate and imitate the behavior of their heroes. In order for people to be motivated to continue to pursue a goal that is difficult to achieve, they must feel success is possible. This will mean as time goes by there will be a continuous decline in the number of racists in our society. It won't be easy but it can be achieved.

The Center for Multicultural Communities Annual Gala

CMC's Annual Gala was one to be remembered because it was like none we have had before. As always there were good conversation, food, and an overall, a good time for all in attendance. Our featured speaker lived as a member of the privileged class for more than 30 years of his life. Then he learned, to his surprise, that he was black, a class of people for whom privileges were denied.

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Yet, he has no identity crisis. He said to us he is Michael Fosberg, a human being. We all left with the message, there is only one race, the human race!

CMC's Annual Gala



Systemic Racism

CMC participated in a workshop that comprehensively examined Systemic Racism. This workshop revealed to all concerned how pervasive and tenacious racism is. Its long history in the United States dates back to the middle of the 17th century and is alive and well in the 21st century. We discussed and examined this debilitating malady and resolved to keep working for its eradication.

Speak Up, Speak Out

The next Speak Up, Speak Out will focus on Fostering Cultural and Racial Harmony, Part V. This series is open to the public, and the focus is on finding solutions. Please join us on Thursday, May 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Conference Center, Room 1315, at Prairie State College. Admission is free.

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Annual Meeting: A Spirit of Cooperation, Not Distrust!

The CMC Annual Meeting always features an educational component, along with a year-end summary of activities. This year, the featured topic is Enhancing Community and Police Relations. Join us to hear expert presenters provide life-saving guidelines for improving community and police relations. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 6, in the atrium at Prairie State College.

A Quote to Remember

“Only in the eighteenth century did race generally come to mean a category of human beings with distinctive physical characteristics transmitted by descent, and set in a clearly racialized hierarchy.”

– Joe R. Feagin and Clairece Booher Feagin
Racial and Ethnic Relations

An Open Invitation

Come and join us as we work to promote cultural and racial harmony. You may do so with a tax deductible contribution.

Associate membership – \$20

Graduate membership – \$30 plus completion of a workshop