



## What is the Anti-Racism Committee on the Providence Human Relations Commission?

The Anti-Racism Committee on the PHRC (Providence Human Relations Commission) has a **MISSION** to promote racial equity through strategic policy analysis, innovative education, and community ownership.

Our **VISION** is to address the needs of Providence’s diverse communities, contribute to the positive growth of publicly-funded institutions and organizations, and advance policies that are equitable within our communities.

### Anti-Racism Committee Priorities

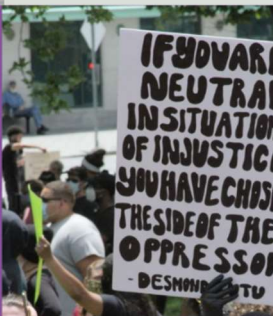


#### GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

The only way we can trust the system to work for all of us is for the system to be accountable to all of us. By working on government accountability, we are ensuring one of the major systems works for the people who need it to work the most.

#### POLICY REFORM

Policy is a major pillar of racism and in order to deconstruct systems of oppression, we have to make bold, courageous policy reforms to get there.



#### Racism is a public health crisis

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH

From COVID-19 to mental health, our communities are subject to staggering health disparities. The Anti-Racism Committee will work to heal and prevent these disparities and strengthen the health of our communities.

## Why is the Anti-Racism Committee Necessary?

The Anti-Racism Committee is necessary because the community is not satisfied with what’s been happening locally to effect change on the real issues that matter. Racism is a long-standing problem and it won’t be fixed unless we confront it head-on.

## How the PHRC Anti-Racism Committee Came to Be

The PHRC Anti-Racism Committee was first met on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> in response to the growing lack of accountability surrounding police violence towards the Black community, including here in Providence. Since then, the Committee has met with members of the community and outlined three strategic priorities: government accountability, police reform, and community health.

## Who is on the PHRC Anti-Racism Committee?

**Patricia LaSalle**, a community servant for over 20 years, currently serves as Chair for the Providence Human Relations Commission. By day, Patricia is the Confidential Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Providence schools. A proud mother of three college students, Patricia is also pursuing a Master's degree in Public Administration at the University of Rhode Island.

**Kelia Bravo** is a passionate community servant with a BA in community development and certifications in municipal and emergency management. She currently works for the Providence Emergency Management Agency increasing community resilience to disasters and emergencies and has 15 years of experience working in non-profits providing services to our underserved communities.

**Celeste Terry-Lo** has been active with the PHRC Commission for three years and was the first Chair of the Providence Equal Pay Task Force. Ms. Terry-Lo has a doctorate in Organizational Leadership and is an Alum of the national organization New Leaders for New Schools. She has over twenty years of experience in education and mental health services.

**Kai X. Lo Muscio** is currently a lead technician Brown University Media Services where he has worked in A/V for almost 20 years. He enjoys serving as a Providence district leader for the Soka Gakkai International Buddhist organization which focuses on creating value in daily life. Kai is a longtime LGBTQ advocate focusing on trans health. He also enjoys DJing and working sound for the queer community.

**LaJuan Allen** became the first person in his family to graduate from college earning a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Public Policy and Sociology from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. He attends the University of Massachusetts; Dartmouth and plans to graduate with a Masters in Public Policy. He currently is the Community Relations Coordinator for Mayor Jorge Elorza serving as the team's liaison specific to community outreach, education, youth & cultural organizations and social justice efforts.

In addition to committee members, we welcome all to come collaborate with the Anti-Racism Committee. Past and ongoing collaborations have included the South Providence Neighborhood Association and the African American Ambassadors Group's Police Advisory and Youth Voice Subcommittees.

## Learn more and get involved



The PHRC Anti-Racism Committee welcomes your participation. The PHRC Anti-Racism Committee typically meets every first and third Thursday of the month, currently via zoom due to COVID-19 guidelines. For more information and a link to participate, please contact Executive Director Andi Wheeler at [awheeler@providenceri.gov](mailto:awheeler@providenceri.gov) or 401-489-1482.

To learn more about the Providence Human Relations Commission and the work of the Anti-Racism Committee, please visit <https://www.providenceri.gov/hr-commission/>.