



Anti-Oppression Backlash: Nourishing Our Souls in a Time of Despair

A Beyond Diversity Summer Institute

Hilton Garden Inn, Westampton, New Jersey
Nearest major airport: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

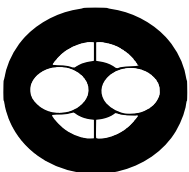
July 23 and 24, 2024 (Tuesday and Wednesday)

Sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

A Unique Training for a Unique Era

Deep Discussions; Experiential Exercises

Learn from master facilitators in a lively, interactive setting.



Beyond Diversity Resource Center

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856 235-2664

Registration: \$450

Anti-Oppression Backlash: Nourishing Our Souls in a Time of Despair

People who work on anti-oppression issues are dedicated to eliminating oppression. That has never been easy, especially during the last several years, which produced a cascade of catastrophes:

- A global pandemic killed over 7,000,000 people.
- Racist, sexist, homophobic, and transphobic attacks and hate-fueled murders were too common.
- Police shootings and killings of unarmed Black people continued and were sometimes televised.
- Leaders blamed Asian Americans for the global pandemic; anti-Asian hate crimes skyrocketed.
- Mass shootings occurred in places of worship, schools, grocery stores, malls, and other public venues.
- Legislative attacks on civil rights, freedom of expression, and bodily autonomy became common.
- Trans people were made scapegoats for societal problems.
- Book bans, school board takeovers, and gag rules on teachers and medical practitioners became tools for oppression.
- An insurrection attempt occurred at the U.S. Capitol.
- Fascists and dictators became emboldened across the globe.
- Environmental disasters increased and created more climate refugees.
- Economies collapsed.
- Wars and military incursions churned.
- Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia escalated.
- Truth became a rare commodity; lies became “alternate facts.”

Despite how disheartening the past years have been, anti-oppression practitioners have found ways to survive, prosper, and remain hopeful. This Summer Institute will focus on how anti-oppression practitioners can remain resilient.

We will explore despair as a gift that can provide clarity and resolve, and compel us to demand truth and authenticity from the people around us. (Martin Luther King, Jr. recognized this capacity in his I-Have-a-Dream speech when he said, “We will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope.”) We will explore pessimism as a way to help us create innovative solutions to the complex problem of oppression. We will explore disillusionment as an opportunity for revitalizing anti-oppression efforts.

The three-day institute will be of special interest to participants who want to discuss how the backlash against inclusiveness and the attack on social justice values have affected their lives. We will offer a place for lively

conversation and learning for anti-oppression practitioners who seek understanding, compassion, and expression among supportive colleagues.

Special Note: The Institute is designed for participants who have a well-established general knowledge about forms of oppression and cultural privilege. Participants must have a desire to discuss how the past few years have affected their personal and professional lives. If you are unsure, please contact Robin Parker to discuss.

The workshop series will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Westampton/Mount Holly, New Jersey, 111 Hancock Ln, Westampton, NJ 08060. 609 702-1600

Registration Fee: \$450

[Register on Eventbrite.](#)

Facilitators:

Robin Parker is the Executive Director of the Beyond Diversity Resource Center. His work focuses on building a more inclusive society through anti-oppression training and organizational development. He is a coauthor of *The Anti-Racist Cookbook*, a guide for conversations about race. Prior to joining the Center, Parker was a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, and Chief of the Office of Bias Crime and Community Relations. Parker is a graduate of the University of Illinois Law School and Rutgers University.

Pamela Smith Chambers is the Training Director Emeritus of the Beyond Diversity Resource Center. Prior to joining the Center, Chambers was the Supervising Program Development Specialist in the New Jersey Office of Bias Crime and Community Relations. Chambers also previously served as Director of Counseling and Education Services at the YWCA of Trenton. There she co-founded and implemented training in the Racial Justice Program in addition to directing the YWCA's Sexual Assault Care Program and its Breast Cancer Awareness Program.

Toi-Sing Woo is a bi-lingual consultant on racial justice issues. Ms. Woo has over 30 years experience working in communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, and low-income communities on social and racial issues. She has developed and presented anti-oppressions trainings, facilitated group discussions focusing on racial equity, developed leadership classes for monolingual participants, and provided her skills and experiences in organizational capacity building, board development, program development, and public policy.

To register online, [follow this link.](#)


Workshop Registration: \$450 (Does not include lodging or transportation. The fee is refundable only if Beyond Diversity cancels the Institute.)

If you have questions or would like to register with a check or over the phone, please call us at 856 235-2664.

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Praise for the Beyond Diversity's Work

With the current level of race bias in this country...the work of the Beyond Diversity Resource Center is more important than ever.—Michael T. Smith



The groundbreaking work of the Center offers revolutionary and sustainable approaches to understanding and dismantling societal oppression. The Center is a national leader in the field of social justice, and I am proud to have the opportunity to work with such competent, talented individuals.—Lauranita Katende

I can attest to the quality of the Center's programs and to the expertise of the facilitators. The Center's seminars and trainings are thought-provoking, challenging and enlightening. In addition, the facilitators are respectful of all cultures, knowledgeable, and caring. —Patricia J. Deeney

The training was amazing! It created a bond within a very diverse group of people who were from varied backgrounds. —Leland S. McGee