



**The Big Conversation Partnership
in Dismantling Racism and Privilege in Southern Maryland**

Building Bridges Resource Guide



A resource guide of organizations who are working to build bridges across racial divides in our Southern Maryland community.

Email: bigconmsp@gmail.com

Website: www.dismantleracism.org



The Big Conversation in Dismantling Racism and Privilege is brought to you by Middleham and St. Peter's Parish in partnership with: All Saints Episcopal Church, Calvert County Public Schools, CalvertHealth, Calvert Interfaith Council, Calvert Library, Calvert NAACP, Community Mediation Center of Calvert, Community Mediation Center of St. Mary's County, Charles County Community Mediation Center at CSM, Charles County Library, Charles County NAACP, Concerned Black Women of Calvert, CSM Equity and Inclusive Diversity Office, Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church, Historic Sotterley, Patuxent Friends (Quaker) Meeting, St. Mary's Library, St. Mary's County Public Schools, St. Mary's NAACP and the Remnant Center of Excellence, Inc.

The following is a listing of individuals and organizations working to build bridges across racial divides in our Southern Maryland community. Many collaborate on a range of initiatives. Each of them represents an opportunity for others to join in serving the community.

Organization	Point of Contact	Focus Area	Remarks
Big Conversation Partnership on Dismantling Racism and Privilege in Southern Maryland	Diane Davies bigconmsp@gmail.com	A partnership to promote the dismantling of racism and privilege in Southern Maryland	Local organizations working to strengthen organizations and individual efforts to dismantle racism and privilege through education and by working together. Quarterly meetings.
Big Conversation Partnership Clearinghouse	Clearinghouse www.dismantleracism.org	This website supports the continuing conversation on issues of race by disseminating resource and event information to sustain the effort to dismantle racism and privilege in Southern Maryland.	Event submissions from other partners and organizations relating to Dismantling Racism and Privilege are welcome. Send all submissions to: bigconmsp@gmail.com Include your contact information: name, location, email, and phone

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All Saints Episcopal Parish	Rev. Ken Phelps phelpsjrko@gmail.com	Project to Reconcile Our Past	Discover and reconnect to our history, particularly the role of African Americans free and slave in the life of the Parish. Big Conversation Partner.
Black Immigration Network (BIN)	Terican Gross therailroadpeople@gmail.com	"Exploring concepts of citizenship and freedom through the lens of the Diaspora experience."	Migration, food sovereignty, sustainability, historical reclamation, environment, art, restorative justice
Boy and Girls Club	Crystal Jordan crystaljordan68@gmail.com	To inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.	
Calvert Library	Robyn Truslow rtruslow@calvertlibrary.info Carrie Willson cwillson@calvertlibrary.info	Community building through partnerships, classes and discussions on difficult topics.	Big Conversation Partner.
Calvert Interfaith Council	calvertinterfaith@gmail.com	Interfaith collaboration for peace and social justice.	Safe Nights and the Calvert Community Ministries were formed from this group. A Big Conversation Partner.

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Calvert County Public Schools Community Engagement	LaCoria Contee conteel@calvertnet.k12.md.us	Engage individuals and organizations from community (volunteers, donations, mentors etc.) to assist students.	Questionnaire is available for prospective system partners.
Calvert County Public Schools Equity and Diversity Program	Sandy Walker walkers@calvertcounty.education	Striving to ensure equal opportunity for all students. Provide equitable learning opportunities to all students; Promote a culturally responsive workforce; and promote equitable allocation of resources.	Big Conversation Partner
Calvert County Public School Board	Pamela Cousins cousinsp@calvertnet.k12.md.us	Priorities and resource requirements for quality programs and student opportunity	There is a need for male role models to mentor youth.
Calvert Collaborative for Youth	Guffrie Smith calvertkids@outlook.com	Focus upon development of youth in our community	Multicultural exposure to educational development.
Calvert Mentors Program	Tia Myers, LGPC, Program Director calvertmentoringpartnership@gmail.com	The East-John Youth Center Calvert Mentors is a community mentoring program committed to recruiting, screening, and training caring adults from the community to engage in one-to-one mentoring with school aged youth of Calvert County.	

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Charles County Community Mediation Center	Julie Walton jawalton1@csmd.edu	Mediation, Community Conferencing, Dialogue Circles, Conflict Management Workshops all free of charge.	Work with CSM, Charles County Public Schools, Detention Center, Department of Social Services and various other county government and community organizations. Big Conversation Partner.
Charles County Library	Abigail Worden, Program Coordinator aworden@ccplonline.org	Serving a diverse community, providing information, programs and classes.	A Big Conversation Partner
Circle of Angels Initiative	Roseanna Vogt director@circleofangels.org	Befriend the lost, bring our strengths to initiatives, promote solutions, work to empower people, mentor in community initiatives and entrepreneurship	And always ROAR (Resources Or Aid Referral)
Closing the Gap Coalition	Glenda Fields info@ctgc-closingthegapcoalition.org	Supports the Calvert County Public School (CCPS) system, parents, and families to address the systemic barriers to achievement for all students.	Meets with the Superintendent and his Administrative Staff bi-annually
College of Southern Maryland Equity and Inclusive Diversity Office	Sybol Anderson, Executive Director ssanderson1@csmd.edu	Works to nurture an environment at CSM that is welcoming, inclusive, and respectful of all students, staff, faculty, and visitors— a college community that is free from discrimination, intolerance, and harassment.	A Big Conversation Partner

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Community Mediation Center of Calvert	Sheri L. Tardio, Executive Director 443-295-7456 or sheriaticmcc@gmail.com	Voluntary, confidential mediation at no charge to participants. Mediation and conflict resolution training for community members, organizations, and schools. Group facilitations, IEP facilitation, and community conversations. Restorative justice programs, including community conferencing and peace circles.	A Big Conversation Partner.
Community Mediation Center of St. Mary's County	Mia Bowers, Executive Director mia.smsmc@gmail.com	Conflict resolution services offered free of charge. Numerous community partnerships (see remarks) to support a youth center, Reentry mediation from Detention Center.	Partners with South Hampton community, NAACP, Walden Sierra, the Sheriff's Office, Southern Maryland and the Tri-County Youth Services Bureau and others. Big Conversation Partner.
Concerned Black Men of Calvert County	George Carter info@concernedblackmen.org	Provide a holistic approach to services which support and strengthen the African-American family.	Specifically serve African-American youth.

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Concerned Black Women of Calvert County	<p>Pamela Cousins cbwpres@gmail.com</p> <p>Inez Claggett cbwvicepresident@gmail.com</p>	Problem solving by using programmatic action, dissemination of information, networking to connect people in need with resources and services.	<p>Cultural influence by sharing our heritage and its impact on today's society, training and personal development.</p> <p>Big Conversation Partner.</p>
Conversation Starters	<p>Taylor Gregg taylor3579@netzero.net</p>	The mission of "The Conversations Starters" (TCS) is to have an inclusive, raw and honest dialogue on race in order to promote healing and the rebuilding of a relationship between racial and ethnic groups.	The grassroots movement holds monthly community public forums to facilitate the conversation. We welcome collaboration with the efforts of other groups. Monthly forums are held at various locations in St. Mary's County.
Daughters of Abraham	<p>Roseanna Vogt daughtersofabrahamofsomd@gmail.com</p>	The Daughters of Abraham seek to inform and promote friendship and understanding among women of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the three great Abrahamic faiths.	Meet monthly. All are welcome.

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Historic Sotterley	Nancy Easterling, execdirector@sotterley.org Jeanne Pirtle education@sotterley.org	Historic site and non-profit museum in St. Mary's County that interprets and educates the public on the history of its people, free and enslaved, from 1699-1960.	Site of slavery and remembrance, education, healing and heritage. A Big Conversation Partner.
Leap Forward, Inc.	Rhonda Thomas leapforwardinc@yahoo.com .	Serving minority youth from underrepresented ethnic and cultural backgrounds through personal mentoring and providing them with social and cultural enrichment activities.	Education advocates who provide opportunities to you with scholarships and introduction to science, technology, engineering and math careers.
Middleham & St. Peter's Episcopal Parish	Diane Davies bigconmsp@gmail.com	The "Big Conversation" series to examine and address issues that polarize our community.	Economic Inequality, Immigration, Health Care, Veterans, Gun Violence, Race and Privilege, etc.
NAACP Calvert County	Michael Kent Mgkent57@gmail.com	Empowering Change in Our Community	Big Conversation Partner.
NAACP Charles County	Joe Sampson Jr. Joseph.sampson.jr@gmail.com	To secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.	Big Conversation Partner.

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NAACP, St. Mary's County Branch #7025	Dr. Janice Walthour lwalthour@md.metrocast.net	Advocate for justice until all, without regard to race, gender, creed or religion enjoy equal status.	Big Conversation Partner.
Office of Inclusion, Diversity & Equity, St. Mary's College of Maryland	No contact info at this time.	Diversity collaborations and initiatives between the College and community	Leadership for new ideas and uncommon collaborations that bring people together for service to others.
#OurCommon Calvert	Pat Pease 2patpease@gmail.com	Multi-generational organization building young leaders while examining multiple issues.	Race, sexual identity, school resources, interfaith community, etc.
Remnant Center of Excellence, Inc.	Will Wiggins rce@remnant.team	Empowering and elevating the career and life trajectory of underrepresented and minority youths through career exposures and technology immersion. Within its scope of activities, Remnant offers exposure to careers in aviation, space, health, and education.	Big Conversation Partner

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St. Mary's Health Department	Visit: www.smchd.org 301-475-4330 or smchd.healthdept@maryland.gov	Promotes healthy choices, opportunities and environments for all who live, work and play in St. Mary's County. Within the scope of its resources, the health department delivers a variety of services to our community based on local health needs and federal, state, and county regulations. As the county's leader in public health, our agency is committed to ensuring that residents have access to personal and community-based services and health information.	
St. Mary's Human Relations Commission	Cynthia Brown, Youth and Local Management Board Coordinator Cynthia.Brown@stmarysmd.com	The purpose of the Commission is "to encourage and ensure equal treatment to all, without regard to race, color, religion, ethical or moral conviction, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical or mental handicap.	Promotes understanding and harmony of relationships between the people of the county and to use its influence and persuasion to direct the community's efforts to the solution of problems that cause racial and other tensions stemming from acts of discrimination within the county.

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St. Mary's County Public Schools	Adrianne Mathis Dillahunt, Education Equity Assurance Coordinator, amdillahunt@smcps.org	Know the learner and the learning, expecting excellence from both. Accept no excuses, educating all with rigor, relevance, respect, and positive relationships. Ensuring that achievement is raised for all students while addressing implicit bias and eliminating the achievement and opportunity gaps for all students; working together to build mutually valued relationships with our students, families, and communities to ensure that each student is prepared to become a lifelong learner and an active, productive member of the community and workforce.	Big Conversation Partner

The mission of the Big Conversation Partnership in Dismantling Racism in Southern Maryland is to cultivate public understanding of the need to uproot racism personally and in the systems that derive benefit and, therefore, perpetuate racism and privilege.



Compiled by Vicki and Dusty Rhoades, Community Mediation Center of Calvert (CMCC), for the Big Conversation at Middleham and St. Peter's Parish Hall, Lusby, Md. in Jan. 2018. Revised May 2018, January 2019 and August 2020.

If you or your organization would like to be added to this Resource Guide, please contact Vicki Rhoades at dustyvicki@comcast.net.

You can also get this guide on the Big Conversation Clearinghouse website: www.dismantleracism.org