



**The Big Conversation Partnership  
on 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.

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The Big Conversation on Dismantling Racism and Privilege is brought to you by Middleham and St. Peter's Parish with The Big Conversation Partnership for Dismantling Racism in Southern Maryland including: All Saints Episcopal Church – Sunderland, Calvert County Public Schools, Calvert Library, Calvert NAACP, Community Mediation Centers of Calvert and St. Mary's Counties, Concerned Black Women of Calvert Co, Emmanuel SDA Church – St. Leonard, Harriet Elizabeth Brown Scholars, Patuxent Friends (Quaker) Meeting, St. Mary's NAACP.

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 <a href="mailto:bigconmsp@gmail.com">bigconmsp@gmail.com</a>	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 <a href="http://www.dismantleracism.org">www.dismantleracism.org</a>	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: <a href="mailto:bigconmsp@gmail.com">bigconmsp@gmail.com</a> Include your contact information: name, location, email, and phone
All Saints Episcopal Parish	Rev. Ken Phelps <a href="mailto:phelpsjrko@gmail.com">phelpsjrko@gmail.com</a>	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.

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Black Immigration Network (BIN)	Terican Gross <a href="mailto:therailroadpeople@gmail.com">therailroadpeople@gmail.com</a>	“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 <a href="mailto:crystaljordan68@gmail.com">crystaljordan68@gmail.com</a>	To inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.	
Calvert Library Prince Frederick	Robyn Truslow <a href="mailto:rtruslow@somd.lib.md.us">rtruslow@somd.lib.md.us</a>  Carrie Plymire <a href="mailto:cplymire@somd.lib.md.us">cplymire@somd.lib.md.us</a>	Multiple Subject Areas. Partners with several community organizations.	Community conversations on difficult topics.  Big Conversation Partner.
Calvert Interfaith Council	Rev Jennifer Wilder <a href="mailto:revjenn@broadviewmaryland.org">revjenn@broadviewmaryland.org</a>	Interfaith collaboration for peace and social justice.	Meets every other month at various places of worship in Calvert. Safe Nights and the Calvert Community Ministries were formed from this group.
Calvert County Public Schools Community Engagement	LaCoria Contee <a href="mailto:conteel@calvertnet.k12.md.us">conteel@calvertnet.k12.md.us</a>	Engage individuals and organizations from community (volunteers, donations, mentors etc.) to assist students.	Questionnaire is available for prospective system partners.

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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.
Calvert County Public School Board	Pamela Cousins <a href="mailto:cousinsp@calvertnet.k12.md.us">cousinsp@calvertnet.k12.md.us</a>	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 <a href="mailto:calvertkids@outlook.com">calvertkids@outlook.com</a>	Focus upon development of youth in our community	Multicultural exposure to educational development.
Charles County Community Mediation Center	Julie Walton <a href="mailto:jawalton1@csmd.edu">jawalton1@csmd.edu</a>	Mediation, Community Conferencing, Dialogue Circles, Conflict Management Workshops all free of charge.	Work with College of Southern Maryland, Charles County Public Schools, Detention Center, Department of Social Services and various other county government and community organizations.
Circle of Angels Initiative	Roseanna Vogt <a href="mailto:director@circleofangels.org">director@circleofangels.org</a>	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)

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Closing the Gap Coalition	Glenda Fields <a href="mailto:info@ctgc-closingthegapcoalition.org">info@ctgc-closingthegapcoalition.org</a>	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 Institutional Equity and Diversity	Contact info not available at this time.	Multiple opportunities for students of all races, class, sexual identification	Education, leadership, etc.
Community Mediation Center of Calvert	Sheri Tardio, Executive Director <a href="mailto:sheriaticmcc@gmail.com">sheriaticmcc@gmail.com</a>	Conflict resolution services offered free of charge. Peer mentoring program in Northern High School, Community Conferencing, Yardley Hills Youth Development.	Facilitation of community conversations on difficult topics. Partners with numerous organizations on community building events and programs.  Big Conversation Partner.
Community Mediation Center of St. Mary's County	Susan Rork, Executive Director <a href="mailto:susan.cmsmc@gmail.com">susan.cmsmc@gmail.com</a>	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.

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Concerned Black Men of Calvert County	Linwood Beverly, President	Provide a holistic approach to services which support and strengthen the African-American family.	Specifically serve African-American youth.
Concerned Black Women of Calvert County	Pamela Cousins <a href="mailto:cbwpres@gmail.com">cbwpres@gmail.com</a>  Inez Claggett <a href="mailto:cbwvicepresident@gmail.com">cbwvicepresident@gmail.com</a>	Problem solving by using programmatic action, dissemination of information, networking to connect people in need with resources and services.	Cultural influence by sharing our heritage and its impact on today's society, training and personal development.  Big Conversation Partner.
The Conversation Starters	Taylor Gregg <a href="mailto:taylor3579@netzero.net">taylor3579@netzero.net</a>	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.

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Daughters of Abraham	Roseanna Vogt <a href="mailto:daughtersofabrahamofsomd@gmail.com">daughtersofabrahamofsomd@gmail.com</a>	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.
Historic Sotterley	Jeanne Pirtle <a href="mailto:education@sotterley.org">education@sotterley.org</a>	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.
Leap Forward, Inc.	Rhonda Thomas <a href="mailto:leapforwardinc@yahoo.com">leapforwardinc@yahoo.com</a> .	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.

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Middleham & St. Peter's Episcopal Parish	Diane Davies <a href="mailto:bigconmsp@gmail.com">bigconmsp@gmail.com</a>	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.
The Mentoring Partnership of Calvert County	Tia Myers <a href="mailto:calvertmentoringpartnership@gmail.com">calvertmentoringpartnership@gmail.com</a>	To ensure youth mentoring programs are sustainable, demonstrate best practices, and meet the needs of youth in Calvert County.	The Calvert County Mentoring Partnerships was formed in 2005 and is made up of 24 government and non-profit agencies.
NAACP Calvert	Michael Kent <a href="mailto:Mgkent57@gmail.com">Mgkent57@gmail.com</a>	Empowering Change in Our Community	Big Conversation Partner.
NAACP, St. Mary's County Branch #7025	Dr. Janice Walthour <a href="mailto:lwalthour@md.metrocast.net">lwalthour@md.metrocast.net</a>  Mia Bowers <a href="mailto:advocatemiab@gmail.com">advocatemiab@gmail.com</a>	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	Ken Coopwood, Sr <a href="mailto:kdcoopwood@smcm.edu">kdcoopwood@smcm.edu</a>  Lisa Smith <a href="mailto:lsmith3@smcm.edu">lsmith3@smcm.edu</a>	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	Rev. Jennifer Wilder <a href="mailto:revjenn@broadviewmaryland.org">revjenn@broadviewmaryland.org</a>	Multi-generational organization building young leaders while examining multiple issues.	Race, sexual identity, school resources, interfaith community, etc.



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Remnant Center of Excellence	Will Wiggins <a href="mailto:WWigcrew@comcast.net">WWigcrew@comcast.net</a>	Encouraging minority youth, particularly male, toward careers in education.	A community-centric effort to enhance classroom diversity.
St. Mary's Human Relations Commission	Kelsey R.M. Bush, Youth and Local Management Board Coordinator <a href="mailto:Kelsey.Bush@stmarysmd.com">Kelsey.Bush@stmarysmd.com</a>	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.

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

You can also get this guide on the Big Conversation Clearinghouse website: [www.dismantleracism.org](http://www.dismantleracism.org)