What is the National Day of Racial Healing?

The National Day of Racial Healing is an opportunity for people, organizations and communities across the United States to call for racial healing, bring people together in their shared humanity and take collective action to create a more just and equitable world.

This day is a part of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s commitment to promoting racial equity. It began as part of WKKF’s Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation effort – a national and community-based process to plan for and bring about transformational and sustainable change; and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism.

When is the National Day of Racial Healing?

Jan. 22, 2019 will be the third annual National Day of Racial Healing. The day was first established in 2017 by more than 550 leaders from around the United States who wanted to set aside a day to take action together, and:

- Find ways to reinforce and honor our shared humanity and create space to celebrate the distinct differences that make our communities vibrant.
- Acknowledge that there are still deep racial divisions in this country that must be overcome and healed.
- Commit to engaging people from all racial and ethnic groups in genuine efforts to increase understanding, communication, caring and respect for one another.

Key Messages

- At the heart of racial equity is healing.
- The impact of racism that limit opportunities for all children drives our need to call for racial healing to promote racial equity.
- The National Day of Racial Healing helps bring people together and bridge divides across real and perceived differences.
- Racism divides us, racial healing unites us.
- The National Day of Racial Healing focuses on building authentic relationships and celebrating our shared humanity.
KEY MESSAGES

What’s happening for the National Day of Racial Healing in 2019?

Activities and events are being planned to take place in several communities across the country to inspire action on Jan. 22, 2019 and beyond.

This year, visionary Ava DuVernay will curate an experience supporting the National Day of Racial Healing that will amplify the conversations and action around this important campaign. The event will be livestreamed to ensure national exposure and impact. Visit dayofracialhealing.org for livestream details available prior to the event.

To learn more about what’s planned this year or to submit an event happening in your community, visit dayofracialhealing.org. Activities will take place both online and offline, in local communities. On social media, follow what’s happening around the country by using hashtag #HowWeHeal and following on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/NationalDayofRacialHealing/.

What is racial healing?

Racial healing is a process that restores individuals and communities to wholeness, repairs the damage caused by racism and transforms societal structures into ones that affirm the inherent value of all people. It makes it possible to acknowledge and speak the truth about past wrongs created by individual and systemic racism, and to address present-day consequences for people, communities and institutions.

Racial healing benefits all people because regardless of background, we are all living in and impacted by the narratives and conditions present throughout this increasingly interconnected, racialized world.

Through racial healing, we seek to appreciate our shared humanity and build authentic relationships capable of transforming communities toward promoting greater opportunities for all children.

To learn more about the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s support of fourteen communities working on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation, visit healourcommunities.org.

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