



**CRISPUS ATTUCKS**

COMMUNITY CENTER

a program of  
Community Action Partnership

*Like life, racial understanding is not something  
that we find but something that we must create.*

– Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

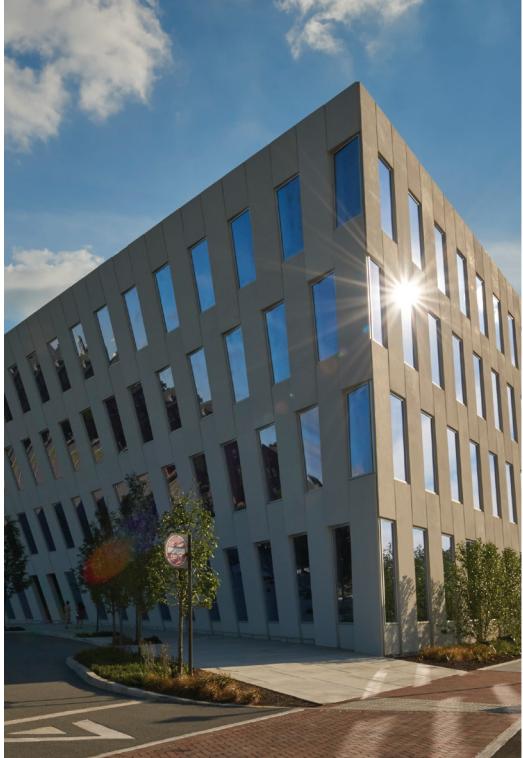
# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE: **Chaos or Community?**

Keynote Speaker - Heather C. McGhee

## **33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL**

### **REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BREAKFAST**

Monday, January 18, 2021 – Virtual Event



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Presented by Crispus Attucks Community Center

Monday, January 18, 2021 – Virtual Event

## **PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

<b>Welcome</b>	Danielle Woods, Anchor, WGAL News 8
<b>Lift Every Voice and Sing</b>	McCaskey Voices of Hope
<b>Invocation</b>	Pastor Roland P. Forbes, Jr., Ebenezer Baptist Church
<b>Welcome</b>	Ron Ford, Honorary Event Chair
<b>Remarks &amp; Reflections</b>	Vanessa Philbert, CAP CEO, Josh Hunter, CACC Director

### ***Presentation of Essence of Humanity and Ruby Payne Cook Awards***

<b>Keynote Introduction</b>	Danielle Woods
<b>Keynote Address</b>	Heather McGhee
<b>Question &amp; Answer</b>	Heather McGhee and Vanessa Philbert
<b>Appeal</b>	Ismail Smith-Wade-El, Lancaster City Council
<b>Performance</b>	Chaos Praise, Crispus Attucks Community Center
<b>Benediction</b>	The Rev. Shayna Watson, St. James Episcopal Church
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Danielle Woods

We invite you to join us in helping to foster a vibrant, diverse and prosperous community, rich with cultural heritage and educational opportunities, by making a gift to Crispus Attucks Community Center.

**To do so, please text MLK to 243-725 or you may mail a check, made payable to Crispus Attucks Community Center, to CACC MLK Donation, 601 South Queen Street, Lancaster PA 17603.**

Your gift will help CACC improve the quality of life for youth and families in Lancaster by providing services that promote community prosperity and physical and mental health, and by offering programs and cultural events which preserve the African American heritage.

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE: Chaos or Community? In Context

The theme of our program today is “*Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*” This is the title of Dr. King’s fourth and final book, published less than a year before his assassination. In this work, written in isolation in a rented house in Jamaica, Dr. King analyzes American race relations and outlines his dreams for America’s future, including better jobs, higher wages, decent housing and quality education.

We share these dreams of Dr. King and know we have a long way to go to fulfill them in a way that is equitable to all our neighbors. We are inspired by Dr. King’s words as we move forward with the work of creating a community where we all can prosper:



*We will be greatly misled if we feel that the problem [of racial injustice] will work itself out. Structures of evil do not crumble by passive waiting. If history teaches anything, it is that evil is recalcitrant and determined, and never voluntarily relinquishes its hold short of an almost fanatical resistance.*

*A society is always eager to cover misdeeds with a cloak of forgetfulness, but no society can fully repress an ugly past when the ravages persist into the present.*

*We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now.*

*With every ounce of our energy we must continue to rid our nation of the incubus of racial injustice.*

*When evil men conspire to preserve an unjust status quo, good men must unite to bring about the birth of a society undergirded by justice.*

*Life's piano can only produce the melodies of brotherhood when it is recognized that the black keys are as basic, necessary and beautiful as the white keys.*

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.*

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# Program Participants



## Danielle Woods

*Anchor, WGAL News 8*

Danielle Woods has been an anchor for WGAL News 8 since 2015. Originally from New Jersey, Danielle earned her bachelor's degree from Saint Peter's University, then headed to the Empire State where she earned her master's degree from Syracuse University. Danielle knew she wanted to be a reporter since she was a kid. Every morning she would watch the news with her mom before school: it was a key part to starting the day on the right foot.



## Pastor Roland P. Forbes, Jr.

*Senior Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church*

A native of Norfolk, Va., Pastor Forbes was called to become Senior Pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Lancaster in 1990. Under his leadership, the ministry of Ebenezer has grown into a multi-cultural ministry dedicated to meeting the needs of the community. Pastor Forbes is active within the Lancaster community and has served as Chair of the Minorities & Women Businesses Economic Committee. He is also a past President of the NAACP, where he is still an active member. He and his wife Sandra have six children and 12 grandchildren.



## Ron Ford

*Honorary 2021 Event Chair*

Ron Ford was born in Lancaster City and graduated from Scotland School for Veterans Children, Scotland, Pa. and Morgan State University, Baltimore, Md. He was employed by CNH Inc. for 21 years in Human Resource Management. In 1975, he became the first African American to be elected to Lancaster City Council, and in 1991, he became the first African American elected President of Lancaster City Council. Ron created the Crispus Attucks Community Center's Southeast Area Wall of History, served on the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology's Board of Trustees, and currently serves on the Barney Ewell Legacy Committee. He and his wife Mary Ann have two children.



## Ismail Smith-Wade-El

*City Council President, Lancaster*

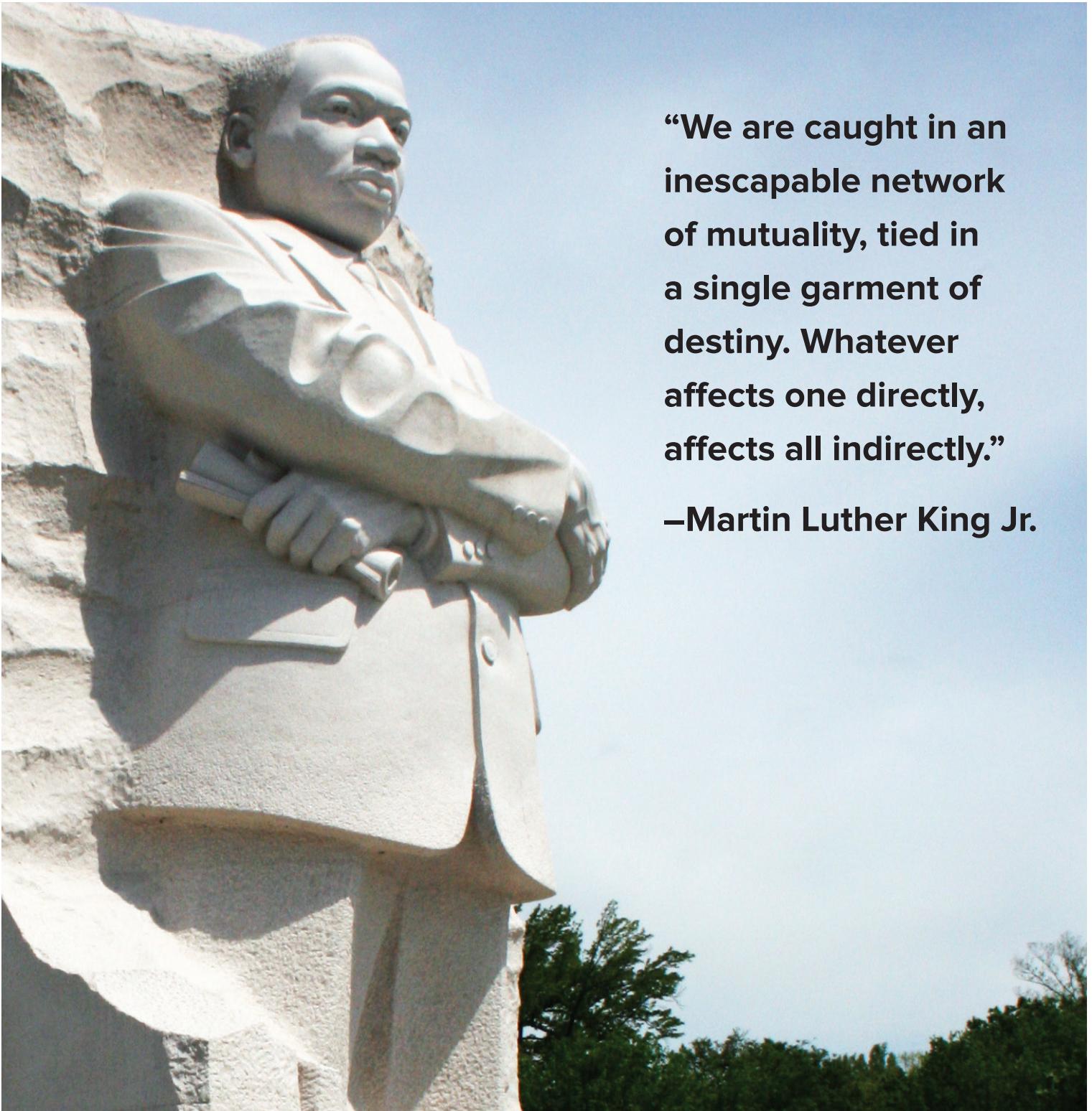
Ismail Smith-Wade-El is a lifelong resident of Lancaster, a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and a devoted public servant. He proudly leads the Council of the City of Lancaster as its President, and is excited for the role that Crispus Attucks will play in the future of our community.



## The Rev. Shayna J. Watson

*Associate Rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster*

With a background in hospice and hospital chaplaincy, The Rev. Shayna J. Watson is a priest in Episcopal Church of the Anglican Communion, currently serving as the Associate Rector at St. James Episcopal Church, under the leadership of Rector, The Rev. David W. Peck. As a community activist she serves on various boards that advocate for children and youth, the arts, and racial and gender equality. Rev. Watson is the creator and founder of GeoCon (pronounced Thee-Oh-Con): Where Theology Meets Pop Culture Convention, one day comic book convention-style event, a first of its kind.



**“We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”**

**—Martin Luther King Jr.**

In appreciation of the many ways Crispus Attucks Community Center and other community organizations partner to enhance the health and well-being of Lancaster County.

# Keynote Speaker: Heather McGhee



What if, in the middle of your live TV appearance, someone called in and asked for advice in overcoming racial prejudice? For today's keynote speaker, public policy expert Heather McGhee, the response was natural: she helped. In the wake of that exchange (viewed over 8 million times), Starbucks approached her to institute a company-wide anti-bias training program. From the personal to the corporate, McGhee kickstarted a much-needed cultural effort towards putting systemic repair into action—with urgency, the latest research, and sensitivity to all involved.

As the former president of the inequality-focused think tank Demos, she drafted legislation, testified before Congress, and became a regular contributor on shows like *Meet the Press* and *Real Time with Bill Maher*. She also led Demos' own racial equity organizational transformation, resulting in a doubling of the organization's racial diversity and growth across all measures of organizational impact. McGhee's riveting talks communicate this with passion and seriousness, "challenging the paradigm of racial competition in this country."

Racism doesn't just hurt us on a personal level. It divides and alienates companies and their employees, employees and their clients, clients and brands. The trickledown, explains McGhee, is far-reaching. In her upcoming book *The Sum Of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone And How We Can Prosper Together* (February, 2021), McGhee will explore the self-destructive bargain of racism, and the rising cost to all of us.

Not long after McGhee's television appearance went viral, Starbucks founder Howard Schultz asked her to advise the company as it designed an anti-bias training for 175,000 employees in the wake of the unjust arrest of two Black men in a Philadelphia store. McGhee co-authored a report with recommendations for how Starbucks can apply a racial equity lens to their businesses, and how other companies both large and small can benefit from doing the same thing. Her talks address this with clear takeaways, like how to make the process mission-critical, how to get buy-in from your teams, and how to do it all with joy. For the latest updates on Heather's writing, speeches, and media appearances, visit [www.heathermcghee.com](http://www.heathermcghee.com)

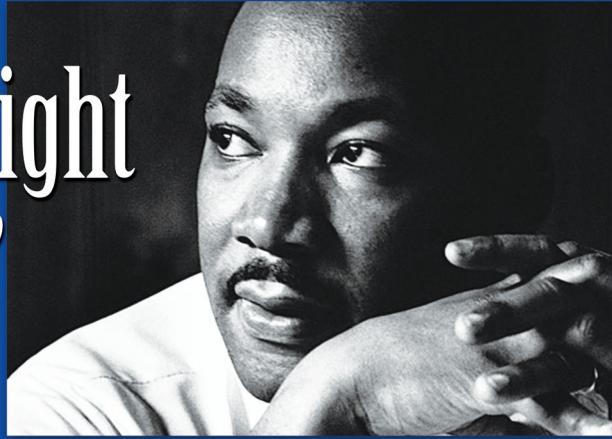
Now a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Demos, McGhee holds a B.A. in American Studies from Yale University and a J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley School of Law. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Civic Participation, and serves on multiple boards of trustees, including the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Indivisible.

## THANK YOU, RON MARTIN!

This year, you may notice we are missing a familiar face! Ron Martin, who emceed the MLK Breakfast for many years, retired from WGAL in November after more than 37 years. In addition to the Breakfast, Ron was active with Crispus Attucks Juneteenth celebrations and the Crispus Attucks golf tournament, and he was always happy to lend a hand to support the cause. We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement!



**“The time is always right  
to do what is right.”**



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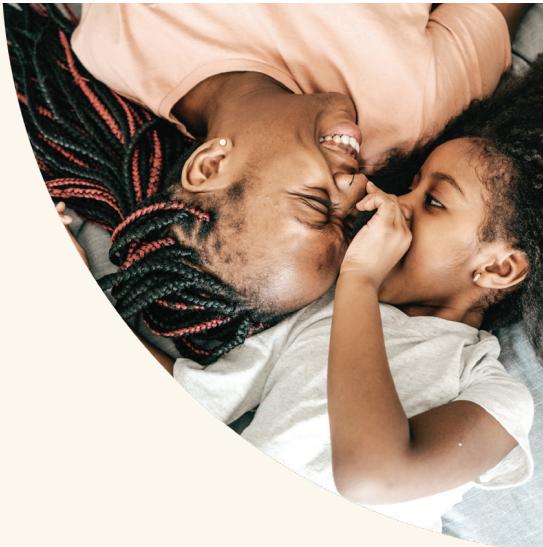
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Wholecare.**

# Reflections



## JOSHUA HUNTER, CACC Director

Growing up in the southeast has been an honor and a very humbling experience. I am standing here today as the director of the Crispus Attucks Community Center, a place I attended as a child and worked as a junior counselor. I value this center for its work, which closely aligns with Dr. King's vision of neighbors working together to build a better future. Having a direct tie to the neighborhood makes this work that much more meaningful to me.

This holiday for me is not only for tribute and remembrance but also education. Seeds of hope and healing were sowed many years ago and I believe it is places like CACC that have spent many years providing the water for those seeds. There is a unique opportunity for reflection on this day, and it is time to re-commit ourselves to the work that remains. Dr. King's work is unfinished, and the issues he marched for are still affecting many folks of color today. I return to the center knowing that the work can be exhausting, but it is necessary. And as an African American man I am honored to walk in this role.

Dr. King took many risks, and his work has afforded me the opportunity to be part of the conversation vs. the conversations being about me. I have the ability to affect change, and just as Dr. King knew the issues of concern wouldn't be solved with one march, I too know that it won't happen simply with breakfast. It is all of our responsibility to not only celebrate his life and legacy but also to stand for social justice, equality and humane treatment. We have experienced the chaos and showed how resilient we can be as a community. The center takes immense pride in our mission to improve the quality of life for youth and families. Just as Dr. King lived his life serving others, we owe it to him today and every day to carry that torch and continue to light the path for others. Thank you for attending today's breakfast.



## VANESSA PHILBERT, CAP CEO

Last year on this day, we were gathered together. The room was buzzing with energy, celebration and community - a feeling that has illuminated our celebration for decades as we celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Today we come together in a different way, through a technology platform, socially distant and a bit later than our usual early morning start time. For the large majority of us, the last 10 months have presented unexpected and unprecedented challenges. The realities of COVID-19 have altered how we do business, how we connect with our families and how we serve our community.

However, in some ways there hasn't been enough change. On May 25, 2020, our hearts ached with grief and frustration. The life of George Floyd was snuffed out by injustice in a way that felt too familiar, especially to the Black and Brown community. Like so many I was outraged and exhausted by these tragic events. I began to question our progress, our commitment to justice and the state of our humanity. In moments of distress I have found the best strategy is to seek wisdom from those who came before us. I found a piece of wisdom in a letter penned by MLK on April 16, 1963, as he sat in a Birmingham Jail, a response to the Birmingham Campaign:

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." These few lines remind me that our shared humanity was designed for unity and connection, where we are our brother's keeper. We all deserve a life full of peace, prosperity and potential.

Today - more than ever - I hope you are moved to action because injustice anywhere is STILL a threat to justice everywhere. Thank you for joining us this morning.

# Essence of Humanity Awards

The Essence of Humanity Award is intended to recognize those individuals who - beyond the requirements of their work - demonstrate remarkable courage, love, strength, determination, encouragement, inspiration, and persistence when dealing with adversity, and to recognize those who demonstrate the spirit of caring and provide inspiration to such individuals on a daily basis. This award is made possible by the High Foundation.



## KYONNA BOWMAN

Kyonna Bowman believes that it's important to lift others as we climb. As the Executive Director of The Mix at Arbor Place, she stewards opportunities for youth in our community and helps people overcome obstacles, something she keenly understands. Kyonna became a mother at 16, which she credits with teaching her many life and leadership experiences. "Although it was one of the hardest experiences that I had to navigate through, it taught me things about myself that I don't think I would have learned otherwise" - including bravery, resiliency, courage and the ability to truly care for others. "It also showed me that we can turn our own adversity into the power of owning our future," Kyonna says.

In nominating Kyonna for this prestigious award, Josh Hunter wrote: "Kyonna played a very influential role in my life while I was under her leadership during my time as a summer counselor at Crispus Attucks Community Center. I was pushed to walk in excellence by finding my passion, and Kyonna helped shaped what that looked like by making us pay attention to detail, operating in timeliness, accomplishing goals and bringing them to completion, and taking ownership of results. She has embodied what leadership is by holding herself accountable first."

Kyonna's personal values include faith, family, purpose and perseverance, and she hopes to leave a legacy of loving and leading well. "I hope to invest my life in such a way that the people behind me are better and closer to God because I was there," she says.



## RACHEL FARMER

Rachel Farmer is on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic. As the Unit Clerk in the Trauma Neurosurgical Unit at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, Rachel says she discovers God in each of the stories she hears. Rachel was born in Brooklyn, NY, and came to Lancaster in 1979. The daughter of a single mother - who Rachel credits as her role model - she grew up poor, remembering some nights when dinner would be biscuits with syrup, a few beans, and strawberry Nestle Quik. Of her mother, who is the daughter of sharecroppers from rural Alabama, Rachel says, "She has lived in obscurity most of her life. She never became famous or rich. But she strived to always do the right thing. To be kind, to help those in need, to sing to the glory of her God, and to protect her girls from all of the evils of this world."

A former Ms. Crispus Attucks pageant participant, Rachel participated in fundraising concerts for Crispus Attucks in 2019, where she lent her beautiful singing voice to the cause. She recently earned her Master's in Divinity from Lancaster Theological Seminary.

In her nomination, Alisa Bair wrote of Rachel, "She loves deeply and prays passionately. Her very life is a gift to others, even as she struggles to stay healthy, make a living, and find time to be true to her calling to sing, perform and preach. She lets you see it all - the struggles, the overcoming, the love, the gratitude, the persistence, and her childlike joy of living."

# Ruby Payne Cook Awards

*Ruby M. Payne Cook served for nearly 30 years as the first Executive Director of Crispus Attucks Community Center. This award was established in memory of her commitment and dedication to the Center and the African American community. It is given annually to those who have dedicated their time and energy to serving the Center and the surrounding community.*



## PATRICIA SHORT

Dr. King said "life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" Some days the work is heavy and exhausting, and still Patricia Short shows up three days a week ready to serve others. Patricia is receiving this award because of her commitment not only to the center but also to the community. Patricia's days aren't over when she leaves the center; she is often caring for others by delivering meals, supplies and lending a helping hand or listening ear to those in need. Even in the midst of her own storms, she consistently shows up, putting others needs before her own. She brings wisdom, makes our guests feel loved, and encourages and inspires others to simply

show up. You can always hear her asking, "What do you need?" It is these selfless acts that remind us of how much we can do together.



## VIOLA JACKSON-THOMAS

Walking into the Food Bank at Crispus Attucks, you've likely been blessed with the humor and warm smile of Viola Jackson-Thomas. Dr. King said, "To serve, you only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." For nearly six years, Viola has welcomed more than 21,000 customers to the Food Bank where her heart of gold and her love has been extended every time she registers a guest to enter the center food market. When Viola is not registering and greeting guests at the registration table, she is helping place fresh fruit out on the tables or in boxes, touching more than 10,000 pounds of food each week and ensuring that every family receives a complete box. The work has been heavy, especially now as the Food Bank has seen a significant increase in numbers, but Viola remains patient, kind and gentle with everyone who walks through the doors, even when reminding guests "Masks up, 6ft please."

These are the hands that make this work possible, and we are forever grateful.

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 1982, one J.P. McCaskey High School graduating senior who had also attended Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School was awarded a \$500 postsecondary educational scholarship. It was the first and only award presented that year by King Elementary teachers; they had just begun to operate and fund a scholarship program for their former students at the urging of Principal Ray Smith.

What launched in 1982 expanded into a robust community-fueled organization that, in 2020, awarded scholarships totaling \$175,000 to 29 seniors from throughout the School District of Lancaster. The tradition continues in 2021, the 40th year the community scholarship program will invest in the future of the city's graduating high schoolers. Overall, the enduring commitment of volunteer organizers, supporters and donors has generated nearly \$1 million in scholarship money for 411 McCaskey seniors since 1982.

The organization is about "empowering students to fulfill (King's) dream," according to the website, [mlkjrfund.org](http://mlkjrfund.org). It provides scholarships for McCaskey graduating seniors "who have been accepted to an accredited higher education program and have demonstrated financial need" and who "reflect Dr. King's ideals of commitment to school, community, family, and faith." Applications for 2021 scholarships are available at [mlkjrfund.org](http://mlkjrfund.org) today through April 9.

# TRANSFORMING LIVES & COMMUNITIES

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HUSBAND, FATHER AND PROONENT OF PEACE.



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2021 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST**

# Who was Crispus Attucks?



**Crispus Attucks** (c.1723—March 5, 1770) was the first casualty of the Boston massacre in Boston, Mass. His father was an African-born slave and his mother a Native American.

His life up until he was 27 years old is a mystery, but in 1750, Deacon William Brown of Framingham, Mass., placed a notice in the Boston Gazette that his slave, Attucks, had run away. Brown offered a reward of 10 pounds as well as reimbursement for any incurred expenses to anyone who caught Attucks. No one captured Attucks, and by 1770, he was working as a sailor on a whaling ship.

On March 5th, he was having lunch near Boston Common along with other sailors from his ship, waiting for good weather so they could set sail. When he heard a commotion outside, Attucks went to investigate, discovering a crowd of Americans clustered near the British garrison. The crowd had gathered after a barber's apprentice accused a British soldier of not paying for a haircut. The soldier struck the boy in anger, and a number of Bostonians, seeing the incident, gathered and shouted at the soldier. Other British soldiers joined their comrade, and they stood, as the crowd grew larger.

Attucks joined the crowd. He took leadership of the group, and they followed him to the customhouse. There, the American colonists began throwing snowballs at the soldiers guarding the customs house. The British soldiers opened fire on the crowd, killing Attucks first and then four others. Attucks became a hero to the colonials during the American Revolution. They saw him as gallantly standing up to abusive British soldiers.

Attucks became a hero to African Americans. He is widely believed to be the first person who gave his life for American independence, even as he himself had been born into the oppressive system of American slavery. Dr. King recognized Attucks in his book *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?* for the role he played in the history of our nation.

“The time is always right  
to do what is right.”

- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

**MAKE IT A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF**

JANUARY 18, 2021



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**Ismail Smith-Wade-El**, Lancaster City Council

**Joshua Hunter**, Crispus Attucks Community Center

**Kimberly Fletcher**, HDC MidAtlantic

**Kristy Aurand**, Community Action Partnership

**Dr. Leroy Hopkins**, Millersville University

**Lydia Yeager**, Millersville University

**Nakiyah Parris**, WGAL-TV

**Vanessa Philbert**, Community Action Partnership

**Willonda McCloud**, Bright Side Opportunities Center

## CRISPUS ATTUCKS STAFF

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**Vincent Derek Smith**, Assistant Director

**Andre Gilbert**, Custodian

**Dexter Gillis**, Head Cook

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# LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

by James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing,  
Till earth and Heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet,  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God,  
True to our native land.



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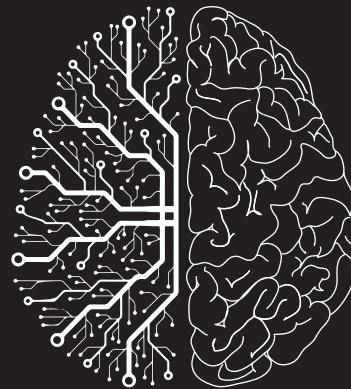
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You will change your smile, laugh, and  
ways but no matter what you change,  
you will always be you."**

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.

*Coretta Scott King*

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# **33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST**

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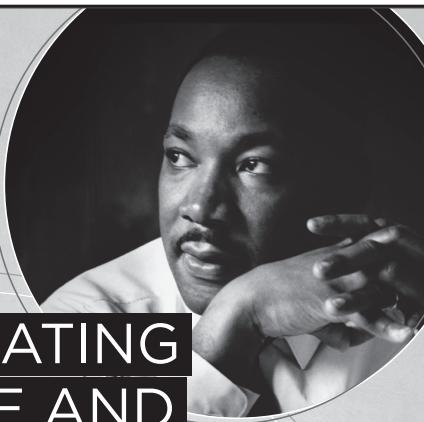
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Food pantry volunteers and Crispus Attucks staff sort and pack boxes for pick up.



Crispus Attucks packed and distributed 375 Thanksgiving meal boxes for the community.



Due to COVID-19, Crispus Attucks shifted from providing free eat-in lunches twice weekly to providing grab-and-go takeout lunches.

# Year in Review

32nd Annual Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Breakfast. Crispus Attucks was honored to host more than 600 members of the community at Millersville University for a keynote from Dr. Fania Davis on Jan. 20, 2020.





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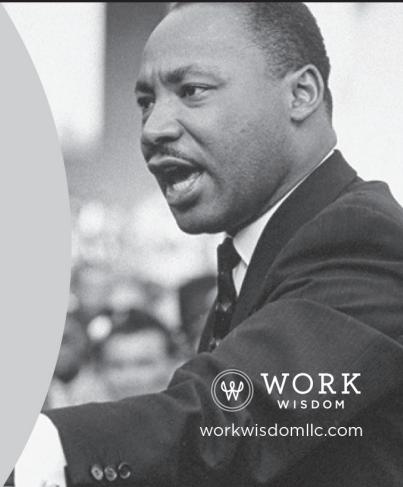
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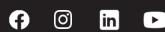
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– Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

# Thank you for joining us!

