



A Bold Vision

There comes a time when a nation, a people or a city has to make committed decisions to step out of the ordinary and dare to engage the extraordinary. We are convinced that such a time has come for the Beloved Community Center (BCC) and for the City of Greensboro, North Carolina.

We at the BCC believe that we can stretch across the historical ditches of division in our city and join hearts, heads, and hands with others in a conscious commitment to engage the challenging work to guide Greensboro into a new era. We envision an era characterized by equity, justice, peacefulness, and a deep caring for the welfare of each other. We understand that this process is linked by a thousand threads to systems and institutions, all linked to money.

This vision cannot be realized with just a few people. It requires a diversity of many people in our city (and beyond) working together to leave the confusion, falsehoods, fear, racism, rivalry, exploitation, and violence of our current culture and walk together into a new future. Our nation desperately needs local places to STAND UP!

Although many are required, we are convinced that a vision must be initiated by a few with the hearts, heads, and hands to set into motion processes to cause such qualitative change to occur. Social scientists estimate that a consensus of approximately three percent is required to create substantial and enduring social change. In Greensboro that means 9,000 people will be required to work towards this vision. About 300 of these individuals will need to be deeply committed, highly trained people, who essentially live and breathe the vision.

Hearts are needed to both envision and hunger for a more equitable, peaceful, just and caring city. Heads are needed to understand people and to know how to organize among a broad diversity of people. And, sufficient hands are needed to build beloved communities and to actually do the day-to-day on the ground work required.

We envision that it will take from three to five years (2019-2024) for such an effort to mature to the point that most people can discern the change. We invite you, in fact, we strongly urge you, to give thoughtful consideration and to make a generous donation to help realize this vision. We must "believe and work beyond" the limitations of the culture that created the current situation and, together, envision a different, better Greensboro and nation.

Nelson and Joyce Johnson
BCC Co-Executive Directors
December 2018



The Beloved Organizing, Training and Healing Institute (BOTH) is our primary training vehicle to help guide us into a new era.



Wesley Morris (left) Director of BOTHI and Cherrell Brown (right) Are Two BOTHI leaders. BOTHI is committed to providing training to 60 primarily young leaders in Greensboro in 2019 as part of guiding the city into a new era. Interested? Contact BCC: info@belovedcommunitycenter.org or 336-230-0001.

Learning To Walk Together ...



Mayor Nikuya Walker (front right) of Charlottesville, VA, and a Delegation of 100 People Visited BCC in August 2018. The struggle for truth, justice and reconciliation continues. Charlottesville and BCC shared experiences about the rapid rise of racist violence in the United States. BCC and survivors of the 1979 Greensboro Massacre will convene a major conference on overcoming racist violence and promoting justice on the 40th Anniversary of the Greensboro Massacre in November of 2019. For more information, contact info@belovedcommunitycenter.org or 336-230-0001.



Police Accountability Community Safety and Healing Initiative (PACSHI)



Marcus Deon Smith, a 38 Year Old Black Man Was "Hogtied" and Died while in GPD Custody. The state medical examiner ruled his death a homicide. Above, a coalition of 11 local groups joined with the family of Marcus at a press conference at BCC. The tragic event has grown into a major justice movement.

... Into A New Future!

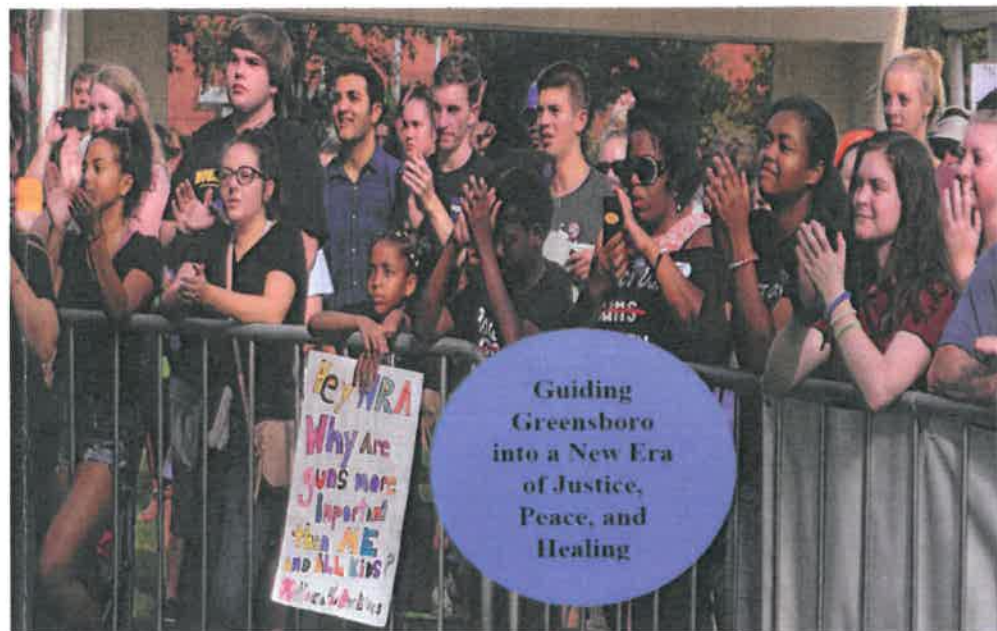


Climate Change Is Real! Pictured above are solar panels installed on the rooftop of BCC's office. On the right is one of Duke Energy's coal fired electric plants in nearby Stokes County, spewing more toxic gases. **To save our planet, we must do more now!**



Low Wage Workers' Movement Continues to Spread

All workers should be paid a living wage! The income gap between the lowest 10% and the highest 10% in our nation is obscene. Poor people and laborers, working together with others, can change this awful situation. BCC has partnered with **Working America** and **The Fight for 15**. BCC has also hosted a number of Fight for 15 training sessions, as well as gatherings of the **Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival**. On the local level, BCC collaborated with the Sanitation Workers Union, Democracy Greensboro and a number of other organizations and individuals in an effort to secure a minimum wage of \$15 an hour for all City Workers. That difficult but vital struggle continues.

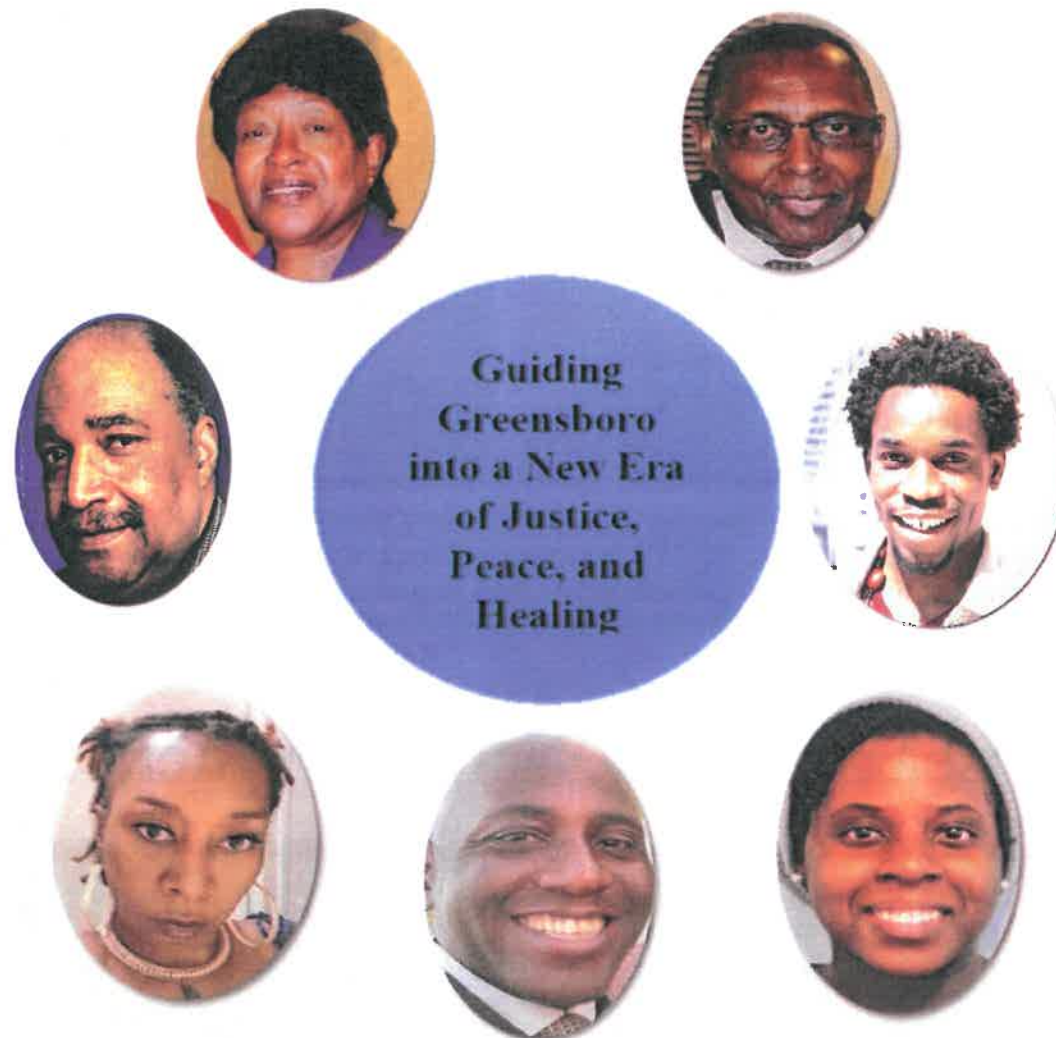


Guiding Greensboro into a New Era of Justice, Peace, and Healing

BCC's Community Archiving and Grassroots History

Pictured above is part of a youthful crowd gathered when Parkland High School youth "March for Our Lives" visited Greensboro. BCC's grassroots historian and activist-archivist, Lewis Brandon, shared with both local and national "March For Our lives" youth delegations. Lewis has accumulated a treasure trove of documents, pictures and recordings that chronicle the history of the freedom movement, especially in Greensboro. Over 300 people, especially youth, experienced BCC's Grassroots History Tour in 2018.

The Beloved Community Center (BCC) is grounded in its core values. With those values, we strive to affirm and respect the dignity, worth and enormous, often unrealized, potential of every person and of the diversity of peoples that make up the entire human family.



Guiding Greensboro into a New Era of Justice, Peace, and Healing

The BCC Core Team of Organizers, Trainers and Administrators is pictured above. At bottom from left to right and around are Ingram Bell, Terence "TC" Muhammad, Niesha Williams, Wesley Morris, Nelson Johnson, Joyce Johnson, and Lewis Brandon. Rooted in our values, we seek to stand with the poor, but we strive to do so in ways that stand for the good of the whole. In that spirit, we work with a broad variety of local groups, institutions and people, often encountering misunderstandings, disagreements and conflicts, but always working toward a deeper and broader unity that equips us to help guide Greensboro into a new era.

Some of Our State and National Partners

- Blueprint North Carolina
- North Carolina WARN
- Poor People's Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival
- Campaign for Black Male Achievement
- North Carolina NAACP and Greensboro NAACP
- Pulpit Forum of Greensboro and Vicinity
- Black Workers for Justice

Beloved Community Center's 2018 End of Year Report: A Challenging but Successful Year



Guiding Greensboro into a New Era of Justice, Peace, and Healing

The Beloved Community Center of Greensboro
417 Arlington Street, Greensboro, NC 27406
www.belovedcommunitycenter.org
info@belovedcommunitycenter.org
336-230-0001