



Akron NAACP

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

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Dear Community Member,

In partnership with Equitas Health, Akron AIDS Collaborative, and Project Ujima, the Akron NAACP LGBTQIA+ Committee cordially invites you to participate in
“The State of LGBTQ People of Color in Greater Akron: A Discussion,”
on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation’s oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all citizens. Advocacy for equity and inclusion for our LGBTQ residents is inherent in the mission and vision of the organization.

As a community advocate, leader, and respected voice in the community, we value your participation in this initial community conversation. Participants in this invitation-only event will explore and brainstorm solutions to issues in the Black LGBTQ community, including:

- Barriers and stigma
- Lack of acceptance and inclusion
- Low representation in the community
- Lack of understanding of LGBTQ rights and laws

Effective change is dependent on the active participation of all citizens, and Black LGBTQ voices are important to build and sustain a stronger Akron area. We hope your schedule will permit you to join this candid conversation:



Saturday, April 30, 2022

9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

American Red Cross

501 West Market Street

Akron, Ohio 44303

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration is required via QR code or

Email: akronnaacp@yahoo.com

We look forward to your participation and valuable insight.

Sincerely,

Steve S. Arrington
Chair, NAACP LGBTQ
Committee, & Akron
AIDS Collaborative

Melvin Lightner
Prevention Specialist, Equitas Health

LaKesh Hayes
Executive Director, Project Ujima

Judi Hill
President, Akron NACP

Aaron Yeager
Director of Operations, Akron AIDS Collaborative

Ophelia Averitt

President Emeritus