

8:00 a.m. Gathering & Breakfast

Registration support provided by the Providence Alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

8:30 a.m. Welcome

By Maxine Richman, Co-Chair

8:35 a.m. Invocation

By Swami Yogatmananda, Vedanta Society of Providence

8:40 a.m. Collective Song

Led by Sharon Mazyck, Allen AME Church, and Earl Bright, Prism of Praise

9:00 a.m. Introduction of Keynote Speaker

By Rev. Ebony Grison, Warwick Central Baptist Church & First Baptist Church of East Greenwich

National Keynote

By Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.

Respond & Reflect

Introduced by Imam Farid Ansari, Muslim American Dawah Center of RI

Discuss: What did you take away from the keynote speaker's remarks? What questions do you have? Write questions.

10:25 a.m. Action Moment

*Led by Rabbi Jeff Goldwasser, Temple Sinai, Cranston
Featuring videos prepared by Signs of Providence and HOPE
Take action in support of the no-fare bus pass!*

10:35 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Workshops

- Immigration 101: From Refugees to Dreamers, DACA to Driver's Licenses, an Introduction to Key Immigration Issues in RI
 - *Moderator: Bishop Herson Gonzalez, Calvary Worship Center, Woonsocket*
 - *Leonela Felix, Policy Director, Progreso Latino*
 - *Omar Bah, Founder & Executive Director, Refugee Dream Center*
 - *Bahaa Al Deen Kube, AHOPE- Americans Helping Others ProspEr*
 - *Rodrigo Pimentel, Student, University of RI*

- *J. Alejandro Tirado-Alcaraz, Assistant Professor, RI School of Design*
- **Fair Pay for Work: (Re)Considering RI's Minimum Wage**
 - *Moderator: Rabbi Howard Voss-Altman, Temple Beth-El, Providence*
 - *Justice Gaines, Jobs with Justice*
 - *Charles Jones, Burger King Employee & Jobs with Justice Activist*
 - *Heiny Maldonado, Executive Director, Fuerza Laboral*
 - *George Nee, President, AFL-CIO*
- **Racial & Economic Disparities in Education & Housing: How De Facto Segregation Functions and How It Harms Our Children**
 - *Moderator: Rev. Chontell Washington, President, RI State Council of Churches*
 - *Sharon Conard-Wells, Executive Director, West Elmwood Community Development Corporation*
 - *Anna Cano Morales, Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity, Rhode Island College*
 - *Dr. Joanne Pope Melish, Associate Professor of History and American Studies, University of Kentucky*
- **Growing Older in Community: Transportation Challenges, Food Security Issues & Isolation Risks for Low-Income Seniors**
 - *Moderator: Rev. Betsy Aldrich Garland, Moosup Valley Congregational Church, Foster, and Co-Chair*
 - *Ray Gagne, Lead Organizer, RI Organizing Project*
 - *Pam Jennings, SNAP Outreach Coordinator, URI Feinstein Center for a Hunger-Free America*
 - *Maureen Maignet, Co-Leader, Age Friendly RI Coalition*

12:00 p.m. Break

12:10 p.m. Q&A, Gathering & Sending
Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.

Closing Song

Led by Sharon Mazyck, Allen AME Church

12:30 p.m. The conference is finished; the work continues!

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About Us

We are a coalition of diverse religious communities and advocacy partners throughout the state who have come together to fight poverty. We connect, educate, empower, organize and advocate. As people of faith, we believe all Rhode Islanders deserve these fundamentals: affordable housing; nutritious food; accessible healthcare; equitable education; and work with decent wages. In our unique faiths we each find the common call to work for social justice – and the strength to sustain us on that journey. The RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce poverty was formed in 2008 to serve as a faith-based voice on systemic issues that underlie poverty.

Also on Twitter @RIInterfaithCo and Facebook

*The Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition
to Reduce Poverty*

**9th Annual
Interfaith Poverty Conference
May 11, 2017**

