

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-A100
Title: Grants for Becoming Beloved Community
Proposer: Presiding Officers' Advisory Group on Beloved Community Implementation
Topic: Racism, Reconciliation

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-D002 Request Funding for Racial Reconciliation Initiatives
2015-A182 Address Systemic Racial Injustice
2015-C019 Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation
2015-D040 Develop Anti-Racism Youth Ministry Curriculum

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2012-A127 Recommit to Anti-Racism Work
2006-A123 Study Economic Benefits Derived from Slavery
2003-A010 Continue Anti-Racism Program
2000-A047 Extend Anti-Racism Commitment for Another Nine Years
1994-A047 Establish Overcoming the Sin of Racism As a Priority in Parishes
1991-D043 Urge Dioceses to Commit to Ending Racism

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

A100 - Grants for Becoming Beloved Community

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Presiding Officers' Advisory Group on Beloved Community Implementation

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: Yes

Cost: \$400,000.00

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 09 - Racial Justice & Reconciliation

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention affirms that building the Beloved Community is a primary way this Church fulfills “the mission to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ” (Book of Common Prayer, page 855); and be it further

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention recognizes, affirms and encourages the pursuit of racial healing, justice and reconciliation being carried out in creative and powerful ways at the local level; and be it further

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention supports these local efforts with finances, and the human resources of the Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention budgets the sum of \$400,000.00 to be administered by the Presiding Officers’ Advisory Group for Beloved Community Implementation exclusively to make grants to churches, agencies, dioceses, and other affiliated entities of The Episcopal Church for the work of Becoming Beloved Community.

Explanation

The grants made possible by 2018-D002 during the last triennium were impactful, and by the end of 2021 will have empowered over 100 ministries across the country. The grant-making process itself revealed a plethora of serious and creative initiatives to address racism in local communities. Funds granted made it possible for programs to get off the

ground, or to be strengthened for greater impact. Because the process was not able to fund all the worthy applicants, it is clear that another pool of funds would be well utilized for the building of the Beloved Community.



Resolution Number: 2018-D002
Title: Request Funding for Racial Reconciliation Initiatives
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance allocate \$5.0 million for the triennium for the implementation of additional work of organizing our efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a Beloved Community of healers, justice makers and reconcilers for the implementation of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That such monies shall be utilized exclusively to make grants to agencies and dioceses and other affiliated entities of The Episcopal Church for the establishment of such programmatic activities aimed at addressing the issue of Racial Reconciliation. Such activities may include, but not be limited to, speaker series, sacred conversations, Racial Reconciliation Workshops, and other activities that promote the purposes of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That this General Convention directs, consistent with established policies and procedures, that the Executive Council be charged with the establishment of all criteria, and procedures associated with the awarding of such grants, and that such criteria and procedures be established as soon as practical, after the conclusion of this 79th General Convention such Committee or Office that Executive Council shall designate with implementation of the grants shall have published the criteria and be ready to accept applications submitted for such grants, and that the entities receiving such grants shall report back to the Committee or Office that Executive Council shall have designated on the usage of its grant, and that the Executive Council shall report back to the General Convention in 2021 on the usage of the \$5.0 million allocation.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 465.



Resolution Number: 2015-A182
Title: Address Systemic Racial Injustice
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church recognize that many Episcopalians find it challenging to understand or know how to respond to 21st century systemic racial injustices that still occur in multiple contexts including but not limited to education; employment; housing; health care; banking; voting rights; immigration; policing, courts, and prisons, etc.; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention affirms that the Gospel, our Baptismal Covenant, and our Marks of Mission call individuals, churches, dioceses, provinces, and the wider Church to find more effective and productive ways to respond to racial injustice as we love our neighbors as ourselves, respect the dignity of every human being, and transform unjust structures of society; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention declare that “not knowing” and “not having the eyes to see and ears to hear” are serious obstacles to transforming unjust structures and therefore direct the Church at every level for this triennium to commit to increase the use of study, education, research, anti-racism training, liturgies, and Christian formation instruction that specifically address systemic racial injustice; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge the Church at every level to increase the number of dialogues about systemic racial injustice it has with local, state and national bodies within the public and private spheres and that these dialogues be used to identify, examine, and offer correctives to policies and practices within and among these bodies that result in systemic racial disparities and injustices; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge dioceses and congregations to create vehicles for listening to diverse neighbors and developing reconciling relationships; such options might include (a) listening campaigns in local communities, (b) partnerships with churches and organizations comprised predominately of a different race or culture (especially those targeted by oppression), (c) neighborhood prayer walks, (d) storytelling and speak-out events designed to facilitate truth-telling, healing and action, (e) and others with which leaders throughout the Church are familiar; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourage Justice and Advocacy Ministries to partner with other church offices and organizations as appropriate to host, resource, and moderate an ongoing online forum for Episcopalians dedicated to the ministry of racial justice and reconciliation, with spaces dedicated to sharing about local and diocesan efforts and resources; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourage Justice and Advocacy Ministries to partner with Youth Ministries to commission a gospel-centered, Internet-integrated, action-oriented, anti-racism youth ministry curriculum for congregations throughout The Episcopal Church, including those not in the United States, to be provided in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music produce and post online a set of prayers for racial reconciliation and justice, suitable for inclusion in the Prayers of the People; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge the Executive Council to conduct its own internal audit to assess to what extent, if at all, racial disparities and systemic racial injustices exist within the Church (including but not limited to clergy salaries and deployment); and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request that the Executive Council report back to the 79th General Convention on the results of the internal audit; what concrete steps it and the wider Church took to address systemic racial injustice in the wider culture; and how effective those steps were.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 438-439.



Resolution Number: 2015-C019
Title: Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church confesses that, despite repeated efforts at anti-racism training as well as racial justice and racial reconciliation initiatives including the passage of more than 30 General Convention resolutions dating back to 1952, the abomination and sin of racism continue to plague our society and our Church at great cost to human life and human dignity; we formally acknowledge our historic and contemporary participation in this evil and repent of it; and be it further

Resolved, That in the wake of the brutal, overtly racist murders of nine of our Christian brothers and sisters of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on June 17, 2015; numerous inexcusable deaths of unarmed black men and youth at the hands of law enforcement personnel; and the moral atrocity of mass incarceration in which a hugely disproportionate number of persons of color have been unfairly caught in the net of an unjust criminal justice system, the 78th General Convention affirms as a top priority of The Episcopal Church in the upcoming triennium the challenging and difficult work of racial reconciliation through prayer, teaching, engagement, and action; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church understands and affirms that the call to pray and act for racial reconciliation is integral to our witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to our living into the demands of our Baptismal Covenant; and be it further

Resolved, That the Presiding Bishop, President of the House of Deputies, Vice President of the House of Bishops, and Vice President of the House of Deputies be charged to lead, direct, and be present to assure and account for the Church's work of racial justice and reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$1.2 million for the Triennium for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 310-311.



Resolution Number: 2015-D040
Title: Develop Anti-Racism Youth Ministry Curriculum
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention continue the work of Anti-Racism training adopted at the 75th and 76th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Officer for Youth Ministries and Missioner for Racial Reconciliation partner with other church offices and organizations as appropriate to commission a gospel-centered, Internet-integrated, action-oriented, anti-racism youth ministry curriculum for congregations throughout The Episcopal Church, including those not in the United States, to be provided in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole; and be it further

Resolved, That in addition to printed versions of youth educational materials and curricula for Anti-Racism, online versions of the educational materials and curricula be made available on The Episcopal Digital Network; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to allocate \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 453.