



## Community for New Direction

A message from the Board of Directors of Community for New Direction:

We stand in solidarity with the Black community in the fight against racial injustice.

CND has been working with youth and families in Franklin County since 1989. A significant portion of CND's service line focuses on providing prevention, intervention, and treatment, with wraparound services, to Franklin County children and adults, including persons of color, dealing with the effects of poverty, drug and alcohol abuse and violence.

### **BLACK LIVES MATTER.**

#### **BLACK CHILDREN MATTER.**

Thanks to our primary funder, the ADAMH Board of Franklin County, CND hosts a 6-week Summer Day Camp for youth ages 5-14. Our summer camp gives our community's at-risk youth the chance to have an unforgettable summer full of learning, growing, and playing, built around critical prevention programming and education to keep kids drug and violence free. We also operate an in-school and after-school program providing similar prevention services year-round to youth. 50-70% of the youth we serve in these programs are Black.

#### **BLACK DREAMS MATTER.**

For the past 28 years, over spring break, CND has taken 35 high school students on a college tour, including many Historically Black Colleges and Universities. It is important for our youth to see possibilities beyond their neighborhood, including ones that include a diversity of people and perspectives. Recent CND graduates are now attending HBCU's like Clark-Atlanta University and Central State University, along with other top academic institutions like Ohio State University and Capital University. In 2019, 86% of students on the tour were Black.

#### **BLACK HEALTH MATTERS.**

CND's Adult Outpatient Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program serves adults in the Medically Underserved Area of the Near East Side of Columbus, where 58% of the community lives below subsistence. Without CND, essential community mental health resources may not be accessible. Our not-for-profit mission allows us to provide care regardless of one's ability to pay. With culturally sensitive, personalized care, we give our clients the best chance at success in recovery. In 2019, nearly 30% of clients in mental health treatment were Black and 38% of those in substance use disorder treatment were Black.

#### **BLACK SAFETY MATTERS.**

CND's Intervention work includes partnering with the Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks' APPS (Applications for Purpose, Pride and Success) program focusing on young adults ages 14-24. APPS staff spend time in gang-controlled areas, building relationships and engaging in outreach with active gang members. With the

goal of reducing violence through intervention and providing alternative opportunities through other wraparound services, youth are linked with both employment and education services. Last year, 100% of our APPS clients were Black.

Young Ambassadors for Peace (YAP) is a nine-week anti-bullying, violence prevention and leadership development curriculum provided in a small group format during the school day. This program reaches nearly 500 students annually, half of them Black.

### **BLACK FUTURES MATTER.**

During the school year, 35 high school students from around Columbus complete an evidence-based curriculum called Winning Futures, as part of our FOCUS (Future Opportunities Created for Urban Students) program. This program prepares students for the job force and higher education, and even comes with bi-weekly stipend through funding from the City of Columbus and the Ohio Department of Education. CND awards a scholarship to a few FOCUS students annually, 72% of whom are Black.

### **BLACK LIVES MATTER.**

CND is committed to combatting disparities, including ones based on race, by serving those neighborhoods in greatest need. Collectively, CND serves individuals of a variety of ethnicities and races including Black, White, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, African, and Bi-racial. We recognize that our work intersects with and is a combatant against a multitude of public health crises including racism.

Respectfully,

CND Board of Directors:

Tracy Cloud, Chairman  
Lisa Carter, Vice Chair  
Michael Bryant  
Kailee Goold  
Michael Gross  
Jason Guagenti  
Amy Harkins  
Eric Potts II  
Chay Rankin  
Sandy Simpson  
Jessica Wilkins-Bibbs  
Bryant Young