

Let Us Make Man

The Gathering to Reclaim Black Manhood



“Behold, the only thing greater than yourself!”

The Art of Community
Organizing for Social Change

www.letusmakeman.net

Let Us Make Man Community Organizing Module

Presented by Pastor Derrick Rice and Attorney Mawuli Davis

Leadership Qualities- *The Art of Leadership* Oba T' Shaka

"The people respond with love for toward leadership that thinks, speaks, and lives the truth"- Art of Leadership

The foundation to organizing are the principles and traits lived by servant leaders.

- 1) Honesty & Sincerity in character
- 2) Consistency- balance in life allows for longevity in struggle
- 3) Flexible and Non-Compromising- Be prepared to manage the unexpected but holdfast to core values and principles
- 4) Work and Study-
- 5) Recognizing Talent
- 6) Firing People Up
- 7) Speaking
- 8) Listen to People
- 9) Know People
- 10) Humility
- 11) Self-Motivation
- 12) Following the group
- 13) Self-transformation
- 14) Improvisation
- 15) Patience
- 16) Love



Study and Understand the history of organizers who came before you including:

Ella Baker

Amilcar Cabral

Fannie Lou Hammer

Kwame Toure

Malcolm X

Mary McLeod Bethune

Marcus Garvey



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Six Steps for Nonviolent Direct Action

STEP ONE: INFORMATION GATHERING- Identify the issues in your community and/or school in need of positive change. To understand the issue, problem or injustice facing a person, community, or institution, you must increase your understanding of the problem. Your investigation should include all sides of the issue and may include formal research and listening to the experiences of others.

STEP TWO: EDUCATE OTHERS- It is essential to inform others, including your opposition, about your issue. In order to cause change, the people in the community must be aware of the issue and understand its impact. By educating others you will minimize misunderstanding and gain support and allies.

STEP THREE: PERSONAL COMMITMENT- Check and affirm your faith in the philosophy and methods of nonviolence. Causing change requires dedication and long hours of work. Meet with others regularly to stay focused on your goal. Prepare yourself to accept sacrifices, if necessary, in your work for justice.

STEP FOUR: NEGOTIATIONS- Using grace, humor and intelligence, confront the individuals whom need to participate in this change. Discuss a plan for addressing and resolving these injustices. Look for what is positive in every action and statement the opposition makes. Do not seek to humiliate the opponent but call forth the good in the opponent. Look for ways in which the opponent can become an ally.

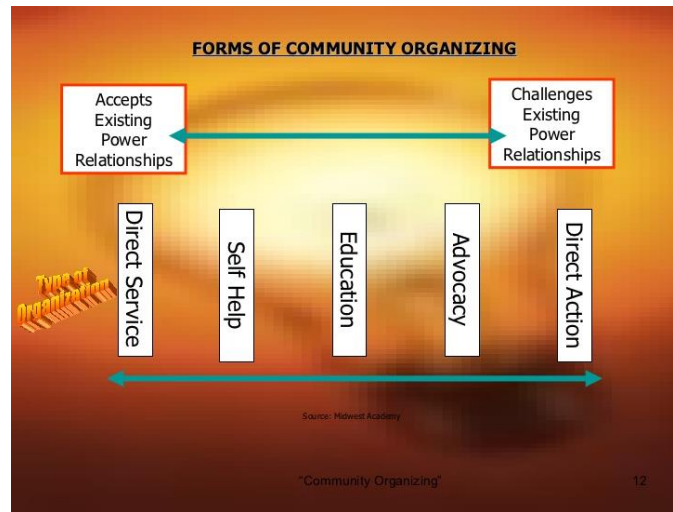
STEP FIVE: DIRECT ACTION- These are actions taken to convince others to work with you in resolving the injustices. Direct action imposes a “creative tension” into the conflict. Direct action is most effective when it illustrates the injustice it seeks to correct. There are hundreds of direct action, including: • Boycotts --- refusal to buy products • Marches and rallies • Letter-writing and petition campaigns • Political action and voting • Public art and performance

STEP SIX: RECONCILIATION- Nonviolence seeks friendship and understanding. Nonviolence does not seek to defeat the opponent. Nonviolence is directed against evil systems, oppressive policies, and unjust acts, not against persons.

Adapted from the essay, “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”, Martin Luther King Jr.

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Direct Service	A service organization that provides direct service to its members. This may be an organized Food Coop or Community Garden organization which focuses on providing discounted or fresh food to its members.
Self-help	These types of organizations are assembled to aid its members, for example, in reducing the cost of services or resources to the community. Self-help organizations may also take the form of establishing a car-pool group to help reduce the cost of daily transportation to and from work.
Advocacy	This form of organizing may advocate for a particular need or issue. For example, advocacy groups may organize individuals to meet with legislators or testify in hearing regarding an issue impacting its citizens.
Public Interest	This form of organizing takes advocacy to the next level to also include writing the legislation regarding an issue critical to its members.
Direct Action	The people with the problem organize, agree on a solution that meets the needs and, with strength in numbers pressure the politicians and officials responsible.

ACTIVITY: THINK OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT FITS EACH CATEGORY

Can you think of an individual, group or organization that may fit in one of these categories?

Direct Service Organizations	
Self Help Organizations	
Advocacy Organizations	
Public Interest Organizations	

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Check List for Choosing Issues- Midwest Academy Manual for Activists

ISSUE1	ISSUE 2	ISSUE 3	Will the Issue
			1. Result in real improvement in people's lives?
			2. Give people a sense of their own power?
			3. Alter the relations of power?
			4. Be worthwhile?
			5. Be winnable?
			6. Be widely felt?
			7. Be deeply felt?
			8. Be easy to understand?
			9. Have a clear decision maker?
			10. Have a clear time frame that works for you?
			11. Be non-divisive?
			12. Build leadership?
			13. Set your organization up for the next campaign?
			14. Have a pocketbook angle?
			15. Raise money?
			16. Be consistent with your values and vision?

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1. Goals		
a. Long-term		
b. Intermediate		
c. Short- term		
2. Organizational Considerations		
a. The Expenses		
b. The Income		
c. List what resources you have to put into the effort-campaign		
3. Constituents, Allies and Opponents (A group of people, ideally, who are already organized)		
a. Who cares about the issue?		
b. What do they stand to win or lose?		
4. Decision Makers (Your Primary Target. Always "Personalize" The Target)		
a. Even if the power to give you what you want is actually held within an institution or organization. The person with the power to give you what you want		
b. Secondary Target: The person who has more power over the decision maker than you do but whom you have more power over them than you have over the primary decision maker.		

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THERE ARE FIVE MAJOR ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER WITH DEVELOPING A STRATEGY CHART

GOAL	ORGANIZATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS	CONSTITUENT	TARGET	TACTICS
Holding you own rally	Budget	Turnout plan for the event	Identify the people with power for whom the event is aimed. Whom you may want to involve	The list of things you will do at the event to show your own power, make the target uncomfortable, get media attention, and create an exciting activity

Pastor Derrick Rice, Co- Founder Let Us Make Man

"Nothing Happens Outside of Relationships"- Pastor Rice



Pastor Derrick Rice is affectionately known by some as; the People's Pastor. Reverend Rice believes the "church" Jesus envisioned can be translated - a small group called to organize behalf the masses. Pastor Rice leads Sankofa Church armed with a dream and commitment to the liberation of oppressed people. He firmly believes that, "as it continues to become 'in' to work on behalf of the oppressed, day, we'll be free."

For over a decade Pastor Rice has led clergy and community leaders in fights and organizing efforts aimed at addressing: Police brutality, excessive use of force, systemic racism, white supremacy and oppression. He was a primary organizer of a 6,000 person march and rally immediately following the George Zimmerman verdict, and a 10,000 person March and rally shortly thereafter. Pastor Rice has organized on behalf of people such as: the Jena 6, Tremaine Miller, Eric Johnson, Ariston Waiters, Nick Thomas, Shali Tilson, Baby Bou Bou, Baby AJ, Basil Eleby, Tasha Hill and, Dorhuba Bin-Wahad.

Attorney Mawuli Davis, Co- Founder Let Us Make Man

"The only thing romantic about the struggle is the love we must have for the people" Mawuli Davis



Mawuli Mel Davis is African-Centered Civil Rights Attorney and Human Rights Organizer and a founding partner of the Davis Bozeman Law Firm. Mawuli has been a part of the Black Liberation Movement for nearly 30 years. He is a co-founder of Let Us Make Man, Black Man Lab, Beacon Hill Black Alliance for Human Rights, and Georgia Coalition 2 Save

Lives. He has co-organized social justice demonstrations with thousands of protestors in Georgia. Attorney Davis has represented activists from the Occupy Movement, Moral Monday, and Black Lives Matter. Mawuli played a key role in the fight to end cash money bonds in Atlanta and the removal of the 112-year old confederate monument in Decatur. He has been advocate for independent Black schools, reparations, and self-determination throughout the Pan African world.