

NEWSLETTER

Fairfield Equity Coalition's Weekly Newsletter



Fairfield Equity Coalition is a youth-led organization taking local action to reimagine Fairfield's definition of what constitutes a comprehensive education. Our goal is to push for equitable policy and curriculum changes within Fairfield Public Schools while raising awareness on injustices against marginalized populations within our community.

Welcome to our **forty-first** newsletter! As a community newsletter, we encourage our readership to reach out with suggested items. Thank you for your continued interest in our coalition!

COALITION UPDATE

July marks Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, bringing awareness to the struggles that Black, Indigenous, and other people of color disproportionately face regarding mental health in the United States. We are reminded that health disparities between racial groups are the direct result of historic and present day structural and interpersonal racism. If you are or someone you know is looking for mental health assistance, please visit this page for more resources.

FEC is developing a local food drive for families facing food insecurity that will be accepting donations starting at the end of the month. More details to follow in future editions of this newsletter.

Check out our Instagram for our new series "Untold Stories in History" that discusses incidents of racism that were intentionally scrubbed from most historical records. We hope this series demonstrates how these horrific acts are often covered up in an effort to deny how pervasive racism was and is in society.

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- **Tuesday, July 13th, 6:00 PM via Zoom:** "Racial Equity and Justice Task Force" free public meeting. This task force was formed by the Town of Fairfield to identify racial and ethnic inequalities and injustices in the town. Join this public meeting to view the task force's current projects and future plans. Details [here](#).
- **Wednesday, July 14th, 7:00 PM via Zoom:** "Affordable Housing Committee" free public meeting hosted by the Town of Fairfield. Join this meeting to learn more about the affordable housing crisis in Fairfield and what plans are in motion to remedy this problem. Details [here](#).

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

As we discussed in our last newsletter, childhood food insecurity is exacerbated because of the lack of school-provided meals, and summer is also the time of year when food bank donations tend to drop. This week, we are highlighting the Liberty Educational Service Center's donation operation and asking our readership to please consider donating food or clothing items. Details [here](#).

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Reading "[US Black and Latino communities often have low vaccination rates - but blaming vaccine hesitancy misses the mark](#)" by Elisa J. Sobo for the [CTPost](#). As Sobo writes, "Many blame the relatively lower vaccination rates in communities of color on 'vaccine hesitancy.' But this label overlooks persistent barriers to access and lumps together the varied reasons people have for refraining from vaccination." This view also misdirects the problem onto the individual when it is, in reality, a structurally racist problem that stems from "access issues, like internet availability, transportation, and messaging." We hope this article highlights the systemic reasons for the discrepancies amongst vaccination rates and how this issue, like so many medical problems, stems back to racism.

GET INVOLVED

We are always seeking new members and leaders! If you are a current student or alumni of FPS and are interested in further involvement, please [fill out this survey](#). If you are a teacher, administrator, parent, or Fairfield resident, please email us at fairfieldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

FOLLOW US!



Fairfield Equity Coalition



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