

History of DCIA

In 1969, four congregations in downtown Durham, NC, organized the Inner-City Church Council to address together needs for transportation and visitation for the elderly, and soon also started programs for children and youth. It incorporated in 1972, and during the next six years, membership grew to 12 congregations. In 1976, the group's name changed to Durham Congregations In Action, and its membership continued to grow over the years to include dozens of congregations of Christians, Jews, Muslims, and others cooperating together in service.

During the following three decades, DCIA built a history of initiating cooperative programs among people of faith to address unmet community needs and put belief into action against poverty, racism and violence. Programs serving the Durham community that were launched or cosponsored at their start by DCIA have included:

Meals On Wheels
Urban Ministries of Durham
Emergency Energy Fund of DSS
Genesis Home
Host Homes
Interfaith AIDS Alliance
One World Market
Families First
Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham
Interfaith Hospitality Network
Ending Poverty Network

and MANY other shorter-term projects over the years. From the beginning, DCIA has created space and opportunity for people of different denominations, races, and faiths to share and listen with one another, to grow from each other's strengths and experience, and to put shared values to work.

The shape of our services over the years has changed, but DCIA has maintained its focus on being a cooperative, faith-based network offering care and support for the most vulnerable and forgotten in our community, and planting seeds in new initiatives to change lives in Durham.

DCIA MISSION

**To bring together congregations
to promote understanding across boundaries
of faith, race and ethnicity
and build an inclusive community
of justice and peace.**

2011 Officers and Board Members

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Staff

Rev. Spencer Bradford, Executive Director
Dr. Susan Blackmon, YO:Durham Director
Eric Olson-Getty, YO:Durham Internship Coordinator
Kacey Reynolds, Capital Restorative Justice Project
Miriam Valle, Administrative Coordinator

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*Office is on the top floor of Duke Memorial United Methodist Church.
Please enter at rear door of church facing Memorial St., beside playground.*



DURHAM CONGREGATIONS IN ACTION



**An Inter-faith, Inter-racial Network
Of Durham Congregations
Changing Lives
For Four Decades**

DCIA AFFIRMATION

*In a spirit of reconciliation and
with gratitude for the gift of diversity,
DCIA seeks to engage
and empower people of faith to create a community
of justice and peace through our common prayers
and acts of compassion; and with prophetic courage
to act as advocates for the dignity and well-being
of all persons, recognizing that
behind every human face is the face of God.*

62 Member Congregations – and Counting Up!

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
Asbury Temple United Methodist Church
Asbury United Methodist Church
At His Feet Ministries International
Baha'I Community of Durham
Berea Baptist Church
Beth El Conservative & Orthodox Synagogue
Binkley Memorial Baptist Church (*Chapel Hill affiliate*)
Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church
Calvary United Methodist Church
Church of the Abiding Savior Lutheran
Church of Reconciliation (*Chapel Hill affiliate*)
Compassion Ministries of Durham
Congregation at Duke Chapel
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Croasdaile Village Religious Life
Duke Memorial United Methodist Church
Durham Friends Meeting
Durham Mennonite Church
Durham Shambhala Meditation Center
Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Epworth United Methodist Church
First Chronicles Community Church
First Presbyterian Church
Fisher Memorial United Holy Church
Glendale Heights United Methodist Church
God First, People Second
Grace Lutheran Church
Holy Infant Catholic Church
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Imani Metropolitan Community Church
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
Judea Reform Congregation
Kingdom International Church
Lowe's Grove Baptist Church
McMannen United Methodist Church
Mt. Calvary United Church of Christ
Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church
Open Table Ministry
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Parkwood United Methodist Church
Peace Covenant Church of the Brethren
Pilgrim United Church of Christ
Reconciliation United Methodist Church
Resurrection United Methodist Church
Russell Memorial CME Church
Sanctuary United Methodist Church at Lakewood

St. Joseph's AME Church
St. Joseph's Episcopal Church
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
St. Matthew Catholic Church
St. Paul United Methodist Church
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Philip's Episcopal Church
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
St. Titus Episcopal Church
Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church
Trinity United Methodist Church
W. Deen Mohammed Islamic Center
Watts Street Baptist Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Zion Temple United Church of Christ

CURRENTLY SPONSORED MINISTRIES

YO-DURHAM

YO-Durham (Year of Opportunity for Durham Teens) offers high-school students at risk for lives of poverty opportunities for a summer academy about life-choices and work-readiness, a year-long paid internship with a local business, and relationships with volunteer mentors and staff to support them in building successful lives at work, school, and home. YO-Durham is a member program of the Durham Achieving Results with Youth and Children (DARYC) collaborative.

CAPITAL RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECT

CRJP promotes healing and nonviolent responses within North Carolina communities torn apart by capital murder and executions, through the use of Healing Circle meetings and other support to families of murder victims and of capital offenders. DCIA also promotes prayer vigils following homicides, organized by the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham to honor victims, console their survivors, and seek healing for the community.

DURHAM ECONOMIC RESOURCE CENTER (DERC)

DERC offers a deep-discount warehouse where Durham's residents in poverty can purchase goods for basic needs at a fraction of retail, and where the unemployed can develop job skills for sustainable employment. Launched in 2008 by Ending Poverty Durham with DCIA.

DURHAM ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROJECT/ HELP INCREASE THE PEACE

AVP/HIP is a local affiliate of an international volunteer program offering experiential workshops in conflict resolution, communication, transformative responses to violence and injustice, and personal self-awareness, with particular service focus on incarcerated adults (AVP) and on teenagers (HIP).

CROP WALK

Since 1975, DCIA has sponsored this local walkathon for world hunger and disaster relief through Church World Service, which uses 75% of the funds raised for crisis assistance and development work around the globe. DCIA distributes 25% of the funds raised to various local hunger relief programs, currently amounting to almost \$50,000 per year.

COMMUNITY AGENCIES RESOURCING

In addition to CROP funds, DCIA allocates funds from its general budget and government programs for local organizations addressing poverty, hunger, and homelessness. It focuses Seed Money mini-grants to new initiatives offering promising remedies to unmet needs in ways that people of faith can engage with their attention and resources. Local organizations recently supported include, among others:

Alliance of AIDS Services, Antioch Builds Community, Asbury Temple UMC Food Pantry, Changing a Generation Ministries, Christian Assembly Food Pantry, Durham Crisis Response Center, Food Bank CENC, Genesis Home, Habitat For Humanity, Housing For New Hope, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Meals On Wheels, Mt. Calvary UCC Pantry, On Fire For God Mission, Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham, Salvation Army, Society of St. Andrew, Threshold, and Urban Ministries of Durham.

INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIPS AND EVENTS

DCIA has sponsored partnership relationships between congregations of different races and traditions to build mutual understanding, respect and care among God's children. DCIA also sponsors interfaith events and meetings, such as scripture studies, topical dialogues, and social meals, to deepen participants' experience of their own faiths and that of others.