

About Us

Founded in 1987, the Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence is a nonprofit social justice organization dedicated to educating youth and adults about the principles of nonviolence through our MLK Freedom Library, events and programs.

Our Mission

Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement, we facilitate nonviolent action for social justice and we learn and teach nonviolence as a way of life.

Our Vision

We create safe spaces in our communities that empower youth and adults, and support inclusiveness, courage and peace. Through collaborative relationships, we advocate for justice, equity and shared power for all. Our work increases awareness about violence in our communities and the power of using nonviolent alternatives.

Our Logo

The logo reminds us of the linked arms of the marchers of the Civil Rights Movement. These diverse marchers came from different places, backgrounds and faith communities to express the urgent need for positive changes in our social fabric. They linked their arms together as they moved, interwoven in their efforts to dismantle oppressive systems of racism, economic oppression and violence. This logo helps us remember that our active engagement in nonviolence, powered by courage and love, moves all of us toward safe and fair communities.

Get Involved

Volunteer with Us

There are volunteer opportunities available with our MLK Freedom Library and at our main office. For more information, contact us at connect@mlkwestchester.org.

Support Us

The MLK Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your tax-deductible contributions support educational opportunities for youth and adults to become leaders in active nonviolence. You can make contributions at www.mlkwestchester.org or by checks made payable to the Westchester MLK Institute.

Contact Us

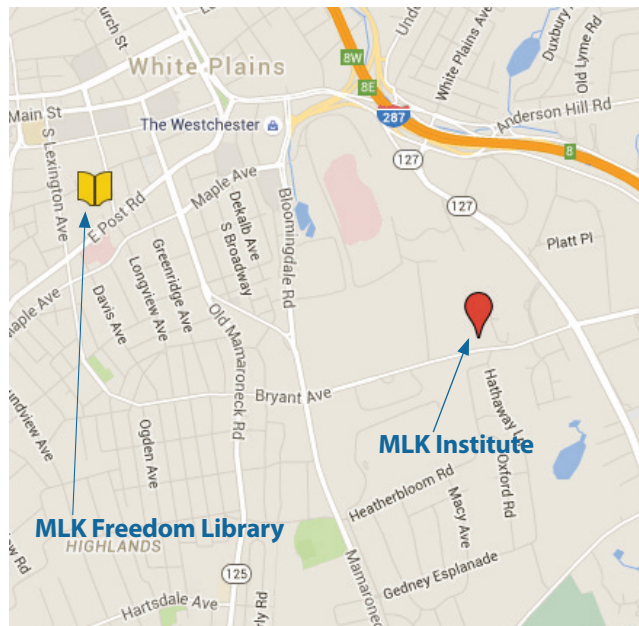
Reach us at connect@mlkwestchester.org or (914) 949-6555.

Our office is at Memorial United Methodist Church
250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605

www.mlkwestchester.org

The MLK Freedom Library is located at
Thomas H. Slater Center, 2 Fisher Court, White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 525-3076

www.mlkfreedomlibrary.org



MLK Institute

Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence

*“At the center of Nonviolence stands the principle of Love.”
— Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

www.mlkwestchester.org

What We Do

We equip youth and adults to move us closer to what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called the “Beloved Community.” We are committed to educating youth and adults to meet divisions in communities with a deep understanding of racism, economic oppression, and violence, and with the multifaceted tools of active nonviolence.



Performance at 2014 MLK Freedom Library Book Fair

Photos courtesy of Ron Carran

Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Library

The Institute's free lending library is located at the Thomas H. Slater Center in downtown White Plains. This growing collection of books and media for adults and children covers topics like nonviolence, the Civil Rights Movement, African American history, works by and about Dr. King, and much more. The Freedom Library holds programs for after-school groups and arranges special events for groups upon request.



Cora Miles and Diamonique Green engage students at the MLK Freedom Library

The Library has an annual Book Fair to celebrate Dr. King's birthday at a major bookstore in downtown White Plains. For details, visit the Library website.

The MLK Freedom Library is open to the public at the listed hours or by appointment.

Library Hours:

Monday 3 pm - 6 pm
Thursday 3 pm - 6 pm
Friday 11 am - 2 pm

The Library is located at 2 Fisher Court, White Plains NY 10601.

www.mlkfreedomlibrary.org
library@mlkwestchester.org
(914) 525-3076

Ending Violence, Building Hope

The MLK Institute holds an annual conference at Manhattanville College for youth and young adults to explore creative alternatives to violence and the multi-faceted possibilities of nonviolence. Ending Violence, Building Hope is co-sponsored by several other community organizations.

We invite participants from youth groups, community centers, shelters, schools and



Mayo Bartlett, Esq., Civil Rights Attorney, speaking at an EVBH Conference

churches throughout Westchester County. We also provide training for youth and adult leaders of youth groups. This event is held the first weekend of February each year. Everyone is welcome at this special event.

***"I learned that silence will not change anything. This motivates me to speak up more."* —Miriam N., 16 years old**

***"Today's workshop was awesome. We need more of this."* —Officer Nick S., Mt. Vernon Police**

Visit our website for event details and registration.

MLK Interfaith Concert: Music of Freedom

With the Interfaith Connection, we hold the annual MLK Interfaith Concert in early January to honor Dr. King's birthday. The Interfaith Concert is a musical celebration to showcase the diversity of musical traditions from our faith communities and to unite us through music and the common goal of Love for our Neighbor.



Shinnyo-En Buddhist Temple Drummers perform at the 2015 MLK Interfaith Concert

Westchester Coalition for Police Reform

We convene a coalition of community organizations, religious institutions, and concerned residents of Westchester County who share a vision to build safe communities, with improved community-police relations and greater police accountability and transparency. We have monthly meetings to plan trainings, forums and other activities for the public.

We also meet monthly for lunchtime discussions of trending topics in criminal justice that impact our communities.

Celebration of Champions

At our popular annual Awards Dinner, we honor champions in our communities who are working for justice and peace by addressing what Dr. King called "The Giant Triplets" of racism, economic oppression and violence. We recognize local leaders and organizations that are sometimes overlooked, yet have a great impact on our community. Recent honorees include: Connie Hogarth, AntiRacist Alliance, Mount



Ron Chisom, Sandy Bernabei and Doris Dalton at the 2015 Celebration of Champions

Vernon United Tenants, the Westchester County Youth Councils, and the Haitian Resource Center.

This annual event also highlights musical guests, artistic performances, and achievements within our community of social justice activists and advocates.

Visit our website for a full list of past honorees and all event details.