



Rosa & Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development
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June 11, 2007

This is an appeal for you to assist us in recruiting white antiracist youth to participate in the Pathways to Freedom 2007 program. The mission and philosophy of the program presents a unique opportunity for white young people who are committed to "undoing racism" to come together to learn and form relationships to plan and lead antiracist initiatives for change. Our Rosa Parks Next Generation Campaign is a proactive initiative to build a network of young people to whom the elders can pass on the torch of activism.

The interest in Pathways to Freedom, a program of Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development, has grown enormously through the years. The Institute is a non-profit 501C-3 organization that offers year-round programs that carry on the work of Rosa Parks with youth ages 11-17. Private and corporate sponsors are the main support for the journey. PWF National, which will embark from Detroit to Niagara Falls, Canada down through New York into Jamestown, Virginia (400th Anniversary), and Washington D.C., then to Selma and Birmingham, Alabama. The historical and educational research focus will explore the pre-slavery profile of the Jamestown area; the geographic concentration of wealth accumulated from slavery; the history of collaborative racial justice efforts such as the NAACP; and the struggle for voting rights. Student fees are \$3,500 for the 4-week national and \$1,500 for the 2-week Regional segment in Michigan and Canada, emphasizing environmental racism. Fees include but are not limited to: transportation, lodging, food, supplies, training materials, equipment, fees, hats, bags, t-shirts, etc.

Our annual theme is "Where We Have Been! Where We Are Going" is one way we challenge young people to be proactive. We address current issues related to Mrs. Parks' life-long cultivation of youth, helping them to reach their highest potential. In the interest of the urgency of passing on the legacy to youth, we are extending our outreach through organizations that have mutual interest in racial and economic justice. The work must continue, and we must raise up a new generation that will assure a different future. Please respond so that we can follow up with details about how you can connect with us as we travel by bus to explore this freedom trail.

As volunteers, we consider it an honor to carry on the work of Mrs. Park's legacy, the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute. Please consider helping us with a financial as well as a volunteer gift. The attached sponsorship list outlines the ways you can get involved. We look forward to hearing from you. Questions and/or comments are welcome.

Sincerely,

Lila Cabbil
President Emeritus

Anita Peek
Executive Director

Elaine Steele
Co-Founder