



How will the Stand Against Racism Run/Walk help to eliminate racism?

- I. **This event supports our year round anti-racism programming, which includes both education and advocacy.** The better-educated we are about the issues, the more we are able to write to legislators, lobby for anti-racist legislation, lobby against legislation that exacerbates the racial divide in our society, show up for protests, sign petitions, and get engaged with the year-round unglamorous work that is fighting for racial justice. Recently, we have had:
 - a. Education:
 - Ongoing workshop series for individuals holding white privilege called “White Supremacy and Me” created by world-renowned racial literacy educator Layla Saad. The workshop is designed to teach individuals how they benefit from white supremacy in our society and how to combat the ways in which persons holding white privilege unknowingly propagate it.
 - Film screening of “When They See Us” and discussion lead by racial literacy educator, Dr. Joy Barnes Johnson, providing a deeper understanding of the criminalization of black and brown bodies.
 - Book series with discussions lead by Rachel Cargle: “Killing the Black Body”, “The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison, and “Between the World and Me” by Tanehisi Coates.
 - Stand Against Racism USA webinar about increasing civic engagement this election year to ensure the voices of women and communities of color across the country are heard.
 - Film screening of 13th, by Ava Duvernay about the Prison Industrial Complex its roots in slavery.
 - b. Advocacy:
 - Promoting a bill to restore voting rights to formerly incarcerated individuals who have served their sentences. We attended a hearing at the state legislature to show our support. This bill was successfully passed, and restored voting rights to over 83,000 overwhelmingly black and brown individuals throughout the state of New Jersey.
 - Signed a letter asking our legislators to block the acquisition of military-grade weaponry for the police in our area. (Militarization of the police force leads to more violence against black and brown bodies.)
 - We are a member of the Complete Count Commission for the US Census. Communities of color are often undercounted in the census. The census is key to ensuring racial justice, as it is used to decide funding for schools, health and

human services, transportation, and infrastructure that are essential to flourishing communities. Perhaps most importantly - it is used to decide the number of delegates that represent us in government. As an official Census site, we utilized our deep connection to the Trenton community to ensure all are counted.

- Advertised and participated in George Floyd protests in Newark and Princeton.
- Together with over 200 YWCAs nationwide, we signed an appeal to pass the Justice in Policing Act that is currently on the table in the legislature.
- Co-sponsored this year's Juneteenth celebration in Princeton.
- Co-sponsored workshops partner organizations to further the cause of racial justice in our community.

II. **Runner/Walker Individual Action & Mobilization:**

Visit our page to learn more about what step you can take as an individual to fight racism: <https://www.ywcaprinceton.org/homepage/signature-events/stand/>

View more direct actions you can take at the YWCA USA website:
<https://ywca.quorum.us/actioncenter/>

Sign up for the YWCA Princeton advocacy newsletter:
<https://www.ywcaprinceton.org/advocate/>

Share what steps you took to fight racism on a weekly basis in our Facebook group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1061951687533645/> .

III. **YWCA Princeton programs are designed to address the by-products of inequity: affordability and access, and aim to uplift communities of color.** For many reasons including systematic housing discrimination in the form of redlining and employment discrimination, which still continues today, the net worth of an average white family in the US is 6.7 times higher than that of an African American family.

YWCA Princeton seeks to provide opportunity and remove barriers to success for communities of color. To empower working families, we provide affordable **childcare** with sliding scale scholarship for those in need. (The cost of childcare in New Jersey averages up to \$14,000 per year per child.)

We also provide no-cost **Job Search and Job Readiness in Trenton**. Similarly, our **Out of School Youth (OSY) program** for young adults ages 16-24 without a high school diploma provides job search, job readiness, and free **High School Equivalency** training and testing.

We provide **All Girls STEM/Robotics Teams** for middle through high school age, which are currently 100% girls of color.

To read more about how our programs combat racism, view our Mission in Action page:
<https://www.ywcaprinceton.org/about/mission-vision/>

