



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

January 13, 2020

## Office on Status of African-Americans

*This is a compilation of information and announcements that impact the Black community. It is intended to disseminate information to service providers and other stakeholders that serve and work with Black Iowans.*

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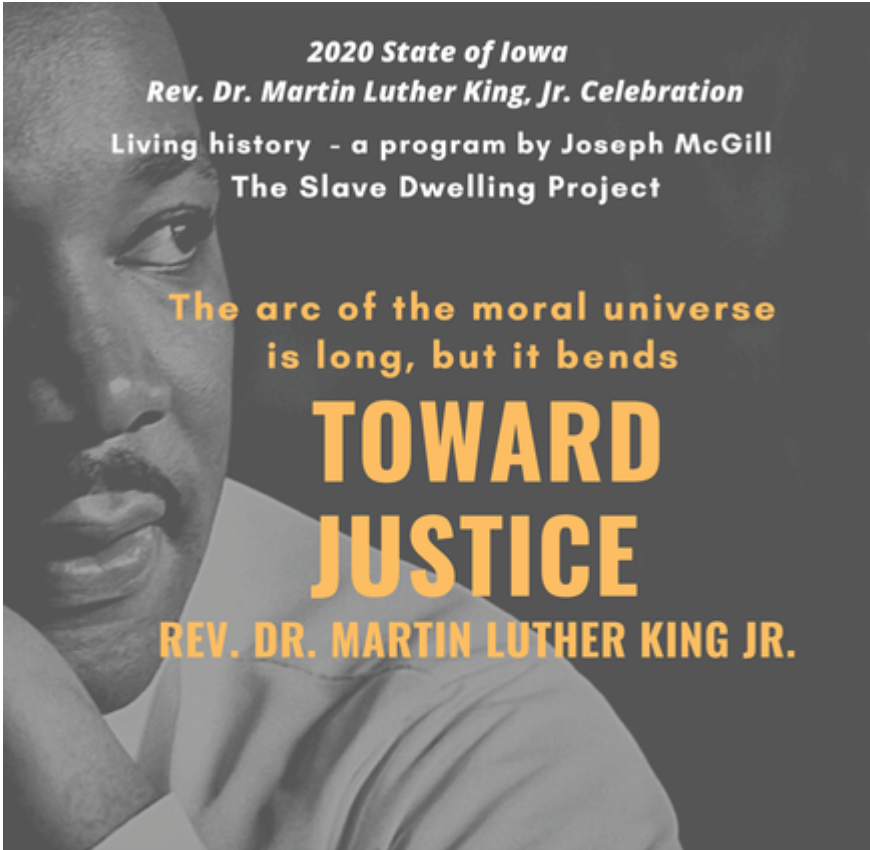
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## 2020 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Events

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**State of Iowa  
Iowa Commission on the Status of  
African-Americans**

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**2020 State of Iowa**  
**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration**  
Living history - a program by Joseph McGill  
The Slave Dwelling Project

The arc of the moral universe  
is long, but it bends

# TOWARD JUSTICE

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

January 20, 2020 • 10:45 a.m  
Franklin Junior High School Auditorium  
4801 Franklin Avenue • Des Moines, Iowa  
Free • Open to the Public

Sponsored by the Iowa Department of Human Rights &  
the Iowa Commission on the Status of African Americans

For more information contact the Iowa Department of Human Rights  
[kim.cheeksiowa.gov](http://kim.cheeksiowa.gov) or 515/242-5655


## Urban Dreams - Des Moines

**URBAN DREAMS**

# MLK JR. DAY OF SERVICE

JANUARY 20, 2020 | 601 FOREST AVE. DSM, IA | 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.


PLEASE JOIN US FOR HALF A DAY  
HELPING URBAN DREAMS HELP OTHERS



**URBAN DREAMS**

LIFE'S MOST  
URGENT  
QUESTION IS:  
WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING FOR  
OTHERS?

—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

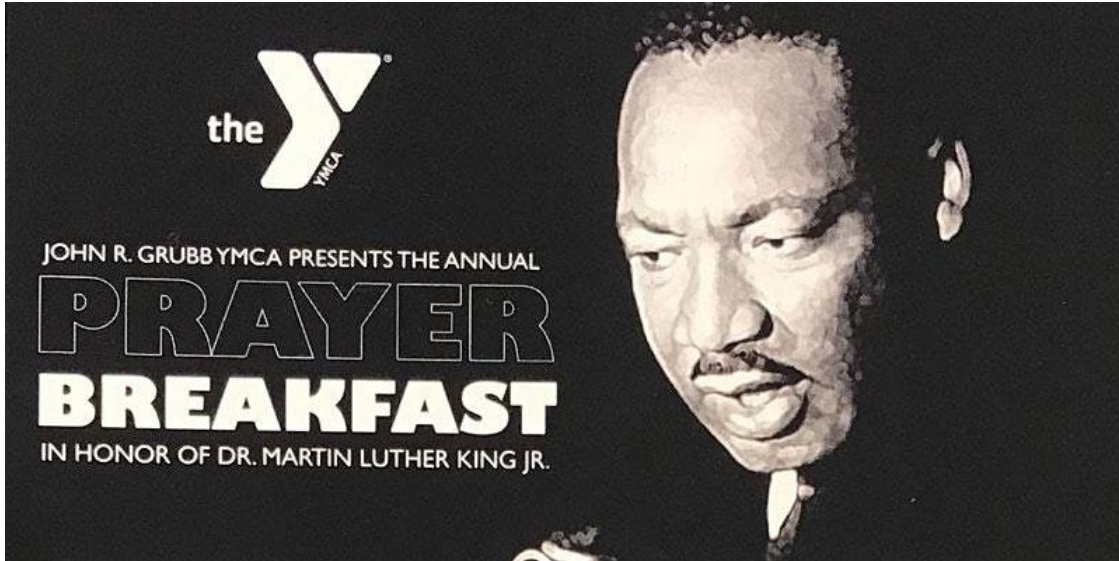


# John R. Grubb YMCA - Des Moines

Monday, January 20, 2020  
7:30 - 9:30 AM

The Knapp Center

2601 Forest Avenue  
Des Moines IA 50311



## Drake University Law School Institute of Justice Reform sponsored by Verizon

Verizon and Drake University Law School's Institute of Justice Reform and Innovation invite you to attend A Forum on Criminal Justice Reform: Taking the Next Step, Opportunities and Challenges.

The event will take place on Monday, January 20th at 4:30 PM (following the Black & Brown Presidential Forum).

Location: Downtown Des Moines Hilton  
Cloud Ballroom A  
435 Park Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50309

The forum will feature criminal justice experts from a wide array of focuses, including:

Judge Mark Bennett- Former District Court Judge and Director of Drake University Law School's Institute of Justice Reform and Innovation

Beth Skinner- Director of Iowa Department of Corrections

Wendy Saumelson- Adult Division of the Juvenile Public Defender Office

Helen Miller- Chair of the Iowa Parole Board

Dennis Henderson- Program Manager with Urban Dreams and formerly incarcerated individual

Moderator- Craig Silliman, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative, Legal and Public Policy Officer at Verizon

A cocktail reception will follow the event, featuring refreshments and light appetizers.

To register, visit: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07egu5rper84b63e1c&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Forum on  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**  
**TAKING THE NEXT STEP**  
Opportunities and Challenges

HOSTED BY THE  
**DRAKE LAW SCHOOL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE REFORM AND INNOVATION**

SPONSORED BY **verizon**

Monday  
**JANUARY 20TH**  
Following the  
**BROWN & BLACK PRESIDENTIAL FORUM**

4:30 to 5:30 Program & Panel Discussion  
5:30 to 6:30 Reception

**DOWNTOWN HILTON HOTEL**

**Panelists:**

**Judge Mark Bennett**, Director of Drake University Law School Institute of Justice Reform & Innovation

**Beth Skinner**, Director of the Iowa Department of Corrections

**Wendy Samuelson**, Adult Division of the Juvenile Public Defender Office

**Helen Miller**, Chair of the Iowa Parole Board

**Dennis Henderson**, Program Manager with Urban Dreams and formerly incarcerated individual

**Moderated By**

**Craig Silliman**, EVP and Chief Administrative, Legal and Public Policy Officer, Verizon

To register, visit: <http://bit.ly/CrimJustReform>

Refreshments will be offered during the event. Any government employees or officials attending must remit payment of \$50 prior to attending the event to comply with applicable government ethics rules. To pay for this event, please contact Dianne Steves; bstevens@iapp.com; (515) 297-0339.

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## Brown and Black Forum



America's Oldest Minority Presidential Forum

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MINORITY IMPACT STATEMENT LEGISLATION 101  
ROUNDTABLE

Friday, January 10, 2020

In 2008 Iowa became the first state in America to pass the Minority Impact Statement Legislation. The internationally known Sentencing Project based in Washington, DC had concluded in their research that Iowa had the highest percentage of black males incarcerated. As an Iowa Legislator, I chose to visit the Sentencing Project to learn more about their research and what I, as legislator could do about it.

In 2008 I authored the legislation that made Iowa the first state in the nation to implement this historic legislation. Since 2008, Connecticut, Oregon and in 2019 New Jersey implemented similar legislation. Last legislative session, seven states-Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Vermont have introduced legislation to require racial impact statements. Just recently Oklahoma filed to implement the minority impact statement.

On Friday, January 17, 2020 at the Iowa State Capitol (old Supreme Courtroom) The Brown and Black Forums of America will be hosting a Minority Impact Statement Legislation 101 Roundtable from 2-4PM. This will kick off the Brown and Black Forums of America's Democratic Presidential Forum week of activities. On January 20, 2020 the Brown and Black Forums of America will be hosting a Democratic Presidential Forum at the Iowa Events Center. The event is a partnership between Vice TV and Cashmere Agency.

Former and current Iowa State Legislators, community leaders, lobbyists, local/ state officials, and Universities officials will discuss the legislation history, implementation, research, impact and how other states are initiating similar legislation.

The roundtable will be facilitated by Wayne Ford who is a former Iowa State Legislator, Co-Chair of the Brown and Black Forums of America and founder of the Wayne Ford Equity Impact Institute.

**PLEASE ANNOUNCE AND COVER**

Paula A. Martinez | Co-Chair  
321 East Walnut, Suite 204, Des Moines, IA 50309 • [info@brownandblackforum.org](mailto:info@brownandblackforum.org)  
[www.brownandblackforum.org](http://www.brownandblackforum.org)

Wayne Ford | Co-Chair



**Kim Cheeks | Program Manager**

Office on the Status of African-Americans | Iowa Department of Human Rights  
Lucas State Office Building, 321 E 12th Street | Des Moines, IA 50319  
Work 515.281.3274 | Cell 515.883.0612 | Fax 515.242.6119  
Website: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/cas/saa>