



**W**AYNE **A**CTION for **R**ACIAL **E**QUALITY



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

December 2025

Dear Fighters for Social and Racial Justice,

At the completion of our fortieth year (1985-2025), we are experiencing increased challenges to racial and social justice across the nation and our region as the current federal administration increases its attack on our shared values of embracing diversity, building equity and being more inclusive. As we predicted last year in the 2024 *WARE President's Report*, our efforts to dismantle racism have come under further attack. We refuse to sit back while Black, Brown and Indigenous voices are marginalized. In the accompanying WARE Newsletter, we share the events, programs and rallies that we have staged, or our members have partnered on to recognize our shared history and the role people of color have played to lead our nation.

You can find descriptions of some of the many events WARE helped organize and a sampling of the initiatives that members led, participated in and wrote about throughout 2025 by visiting

**[www.facebook.com/WayneActionForRacialEquality](https://www.facebook.com/WayneActionForRacialEquality) and visit**  
**[wayneaction.org/](http://wayneaction.org/)**

### ***Racial and Social Justice Recognition and Celebration (2025)***

Over 100 people braved a snowstorm that cancelled our annual MLK Commemorative March inside the *Redeem Bethel COGIC Community Fellowship Hall* in Williamson to celebrate the 2025 Wayne County Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration. The event hosted several community organizations as they displayed and shared their services before the Celebration, keynoted by James Schuler, got under way. Past Wayne County school students, April Franklin and Denzell Bissell-Young, also spoke. The program was followed by a free Community Meal arranged by Anne Mack. We look forward to seeing you all again for the 2026 MLK Day Celebration events which will kick off with the traditional MLK March on Main Street in Williamson and be followed by the main celebration at the Redeem Bethel C.O.G.I.C. Community Fellowship Center on 4496 Rte. 104 in Williamson. A free Community Dinner will immediately follow in Redeem Bethel's annex building.

## **Social Justice Policy and Advocacy**

Immigration justice was and continues to be in the forefront of our advocacy this year. WARE members led by Rural Migrant Ministries leaders have helped organize rallies, coordinated dinners, provided rides, distributed food, responded to emergencies and spoken at events throughout the year. WARE will continue to stand up for our neighbors who are being racially scapegoated, unjustly blamed and unfairly targeted by agents of misguided federal policy. Support for farmworkers and our immigrant residents has always been and will continue to be key to WARE's Mission.

## **Community Engagement and Education**

We continued to partner with *Black History Month in a Year (BLHMY)* to counter attacks on historical truth telling. WARE members led a community campaign to highlight local Black History (and BIPOC) information to all high school students at Newark High School, at county-wide educational events and to visitors at eight community events (festivals and farmers' markets) in Lyons and Sodus.

Under the leadership of co-facilitators, Earl Greene, Jordan Hill, Jim Wood and Danielle Ohlson, WARE conducted its eighth annual ***Anti-Racism Professional Development Workshop*** for Wayne County school personnel and the general community.

Other highlights for 2025 included the formation of a book selection Working Group for the WARE Collection at the Newark Public Library and continued collaborations with numerous groups throughout the county and the region. We are happy to continue our collaboration with racial and social justice advocates in the Wayne County/Finger Lakes Region: Wayne County Partnership, Rural & Migrant Ministries in Lyons, Black History Month in a Year, Citizens' Response Network of Wayne County, NY, Finger Lakes Accountability Network (FLAN) in Naples and Finger Lakes Justice Partnership (FLJP) in Penn Yan. Many members foster our mission of action, advocacy, and community engagement & education. Thanks to all of you who have joined us in advancing that mission and working to build a "beloved community". We look forward to continuing the work in 2026. As always, social and racial justice work requires time and money.

## ***Minister Earl Greene, WARE President***

You may have noticed our consistent posting of important events, history, and commentary on the WARE Facebook page. If not, please check it out at

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**[wayneaction.org/](http://wayneaction.org/)**

As always, we invite you to become more involved by attending the monthly WARE meetings and/or attending one of our local events. Please partner with us by lending your spirit of social justice, expertise, energy and/or financial resources as we tackle the spread of hateful bigotry and racial and social injustice.

**WARE is reaching out to partner with YOU because we know you share our dedication to "... ending racism and promoting racial equality for all members of our community. "**

**Please consider donating to further our anti-racism work.**

**Please help us combat social injustice and end racism with a contribution payable by check to: WARE, P. O. BOX 324, Sodus, NY 14551 or by PAY PAL through <https://wayneaction.org>.**

**WARE meetings take place twice monthly. For details and updates, check out the WARE Facebook page.**

### **WARE Monthly Meetings**

***AN INVITATION IS SENT TO THE WARE E-GROUP PRIOR TO EACH MEETING  
TO REQUEST ADDITION TO THE WARE E-GROUP LIST CONTACT***

***JIM WOOD at [jwood6923@gmail.com](mailto:jwood6923@gmail.com) or 585-967-8687***

### **All meetings at 6:00 PM**

**Discussion Meeting in person (2026):** January 5 (Sodus Community Library, 17 Maple Ave., Sodus, NY 14551), February 2 (St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 400 South Main St., Newark, NY 14513), March 2 (Rural & Migrant Ministries (RMM) WNY, 7 Phelps St., Lyons, NY 14489), April 6 (Sodus Library), May 4 (St. Mark's, Newark), and June 1 (RMM WNY, Lyons). **Business Meeting via Zoom (open to all WARE Members) (2026):** January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, and June 15.

**After June, please check the WARE FB Page for any summer meeting announcements. A Fall Meeting schedule will be announced in June 2026**

**For the latest from WARE, visit us at:**

**[www.facebook.com/WayneActionForRacialEquality](https://www.facebook.com/WayneActionForRacialEquality) and for more information visit:  
<https://wayneaction.org/>**

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