



*Legacy of:  
The Dr. Dorothy I. Height  
Center for the Advancement of Social Justice*

**Coppin State University  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences  
Department of Social Work  
2500 West North Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21216**

# *A Heroic Legacy Begins*



- She was born on March 24, 1912, in Richmond, VA and spent her life fighting for civil rights and women's rights.
- As a trained social worker, Height focused primarily on improving the circumstances of and opportunities for African-American women and families.
- In 1963, Height was one of the organizers of the famed March on Washington. She stood close to Martin Luther King Jr. when he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech.
- While working as a social worker for the Harlem YWCA, she established its Center for Racial Justice in 1965, which she ran until 1977.

## *Small Steps Lead to Great Accomplishments*



- In 1971, she helped found the National Women's Political Caucus with Gloria Steinem, Betty Friedan and Shirley Chisholm.
- In 1994, President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- In 2004, President George W. Bush gave Height the Congressional Gold Medal
- Height passed away on April 20, 2010 at 98 years of age.
- President Barack Obama provided the eulogy at her funeral.

# *A NEW BEGINNING.....*

**The Dr. Dorothy I. Height Center for the Advancement of Social Justice**



- The Center and the Dr. Dorothy I. Height Endowed Chair were established on April 25, 2010 at Coppin State University under the visionary leadership of Dr. Reginald Avery.
- The Center, housed in the Department of Social Work, was purposed to honor Dr. Height's name and her contributions by actualizing her visions, applying her strategies, and emulating her determination to effect positive social change locally and beyond.
- The mission is to heighten awareness regarding national and international human rights and social justice issues that impact marginalized populations and communities through advocacy, research and education.
- The Center helps to expand Coppin State University's research capability, extend its community outreach tradition, and promote new and on-going efforts to address the practices and the effects of social and environmental injustice.

## ***OUR PURPOSE.....***

- Develop women-centered curriculum and programming with a focus on African American women
- Develop curriculum and programming to support the emphasis of social justice in the social work and human services
- Research and publish information on human rights issues
- Shape a social work centered response to global issues
- Develop a lecture series on research and scholarly issues related to social justice and human rights
- Teach social justice and human rights in research, social policy and practice courses
- Enhance student involvement in action research

# *Setting a Standard & Leaving a Legacy: A Journey Worth Embracing..2014-Present*

Since 2014, the Center has grown and contributed significantly:

- established the framework for operation (ie. mission, goals, objectives, strategies)
- invited 15 DHC Interns and 1 fellow over 3 years
- established weekly women's mentoring program called "Sister Circle" at Coppin Academy
- presented at approximately 5 presentations at national professional conferences related to DHC alone, and over 25 presentations collectively within the last 3 years
- engaged in community-based research and community engagement
- secured 2 grants (ie. CSWE Community Engagement and Baltimore City Health Department) specifically for the work of the DHC



- organized a Voter Rights Drive called “Rock the Vote”
- organized a campaign to increase student participants at the M Black Legislative Caucus (ie. legislative meeting and prayer breakfast)
- hosted a Social Justice Symposium in Spring 2017
- collectively established Mary’s Market which is a food pantry
- hosted Annual Dorothy I. Height Lecture featuring Dr. Sandra Crewe, the Honorable Elijah Cummings, Dr. Carla Brailey
- established community partners (ie. Grant Consulting Management, Maryland Department of Health, Baltimore City Health Department, Johns Hopkins Cancer Center, various Maryland Delegates, etc.)
- hosted today’s Dorothy Height Center HBCU Student Leadership and Social Justice Conference.

# Social Justice Intern Involvement 2015-2017



**Host Annual Lecture Series**

**Present at Local and National Conferences**

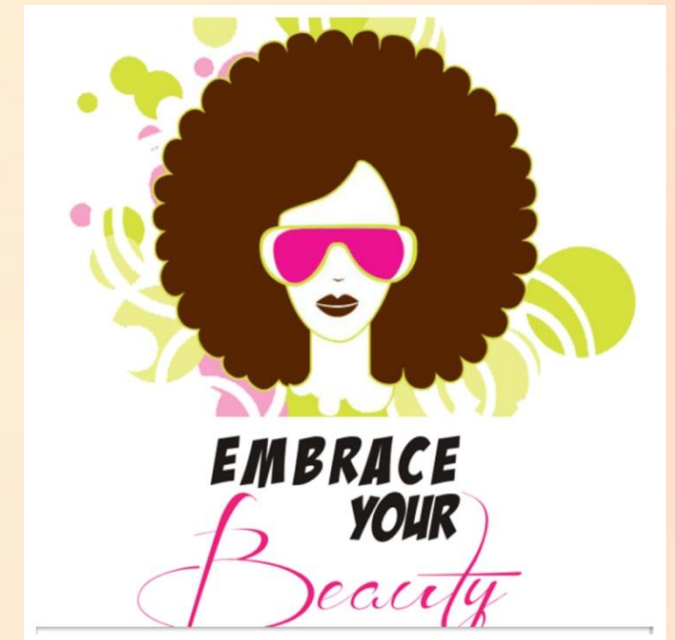
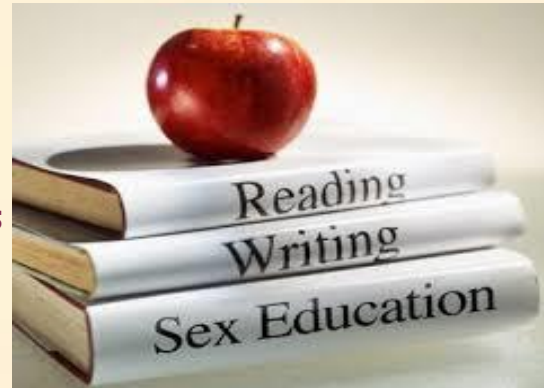
**Participate in Community Engagement**

**Train Peer Health Educators**

**Advocate for Youth & Young Adults**

**Provide Social Justice Policy Discussions with Local Stakeholders**

**Partner with Local Schools for Mentorship Programs**





# *The Dr. Dorothy I. Height Center: Past & Present Interns*

## *Inaugural Interns*

- Marco Brown, MSW
- Shereeka Cole, MSW
- Shana Hawkins, MSW
- Angela Jackson, BSW
- Jason Woodford, MSW
- Deborah Woolford, BSW

## *Beta Interns*

- Nekia D. Jones, MSW
- Kadie Barrett, BSW
- V. Leanna Brown Scott, BSW
- Nicole Darden, BSW
- Shonte' Taylor, BSW
- LaToya Phillips (Fellow)

## *Current Interns*

- Court Marie McKenney, BSW
- Latarsha Ellett
- Tyrone Bratcher
- Consuela Montgomery
- Shervon Desmond
- Jusvenus Hinton

# Contact Us.....

## *Dorothy Height Center for the Advancement of Social Justice*

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