



ILLINOIS COMMISSION ON
DIVERSITY & HUMAN RELATIONS

NEWSLETTER
(January thru April 2019)

These are extremely busy times for the ICDHR. The “ism” are growing (racism, sexism and classism”) throughout our nation and local communities. Nevertheless, the ICDHR continues to serve as the voice of diversity and inclusion throughout the State of Illinois. There is a “wind of change” occurring.

There continues to be a great population shift between the City of Chicago and the suburbs. As such, we must be careful protectors of our children and be on guard against ignorance and misinformation.

The ICDHR has attended and supported a number of groups who are in the vanguard, trying to make a difference. Included are:

*Sisters of the Living Word Jazz Brunch who purpose is to assist the elderly and disenfranchised living in our midst.



*Annual gathering of the Illinois Association of Chiefs event which commemorated a number of officers who lost their lives, protecting our citizens.

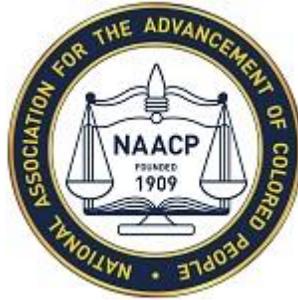


**Illinois Association
of Chiefs of Police**

*Attended the “2019 Economic Outlook” sponsored by the Mount Prospect State Bank, an event that enlighten attendees regarding the declining outlook in which organizations like the ICDHR must work.

*Neighbors to Neighbors gathering in Naperville, a program designed to improve relations between and among all of our citizens. The ICDHR operates a similar program called “Bridging the Divide” between blacks and whites.

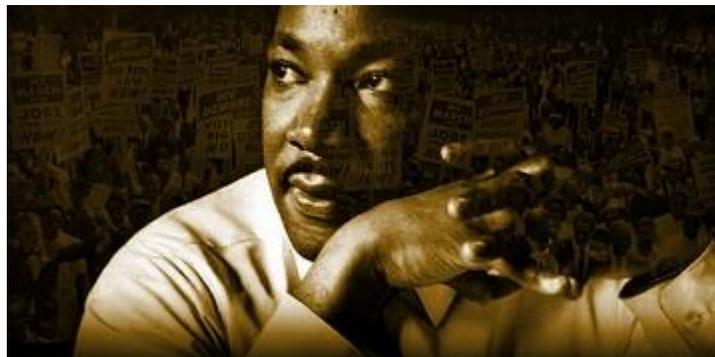
*Attended the 62nd Annual gathering of the DuPage NAACP where a number of scholarships were presented to deserving high school students.



*Attended High School District 214 African American Teen Summit where African American students across the District met to address issues of concern to students in a near all white area. The theme of the summit was “Life Ready.”

51st ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. REMEMBRANCE DINNER

More than 800 representatives of the public and private sectors joined together on Saturday, April 6, 2019 to commemorate the 51st anniversary of the death of Dr. King. For 51 consecutive years, the ICDHR has sponsored this event.



We are grateful to John Burgess, Managing Director for Entertainment Tax Advisers for his endless support of this annual event which featured Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul (see next page) and 2010 Los Angeles Lakers National Basketball star Metta World Peace (see next page).



Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul



2010 Los Angeles Lakers National Basketball Champion Metta World Peace

The next commemoration service will be held Saturday, April 4, 2020. More than one thousand representatives of the business and community sectors are expected to attend

ICDHR FUTURE PLANS

*Given the population shift, increased tensions and the need to correct deficits in suburban police departments, the ICDHR will create the Metropolitan Association of Black Law Enforcement (MAPLE). The group will hold its first meeting in June, 2019.

The ICDHR has worked with Harper College in Palatine for a number of years. Rev. Brooks ICDHR Chairman is believed to be the first African American Instructor at the college. Molly Norwood was the first black chairperson of the Harper Board. And now, Harper will have, effective July 2, 2019, the first Black president. Harper Community College has many “firsts” in its history.

*The ICDHR, in cooperation with area business and organizations is planning a community reception to welcome Dr. Proctor, the new President to the community. Keep tune for more information.

*Because of the need for more African Americans in law enforcement, the ICDHR will create a “Readiness Holding Camp” for African Americans interested in law enforcement. As a member, participants will be able to take advantage of ride along with season police officers, receive mentoring and engage in test preparation exercises. Persons must be free of any felony convictions, over the age of 21, in good physical health, feel comfortable in a para-military environment, self-discipline and committed to a career in law enforcement. The ICDHR is also seeking members of clergy who would like to be a police chaplain and others interested in serving on Fire and Police Commissions.