

\*Event open to press, will also be live streamed here: <https://www.facebook.com/We-Cant-Wait-Pennsylvania-Statewide-Coalition>

## **Regional BLM Organizing Groups Rally Against Statewide Racial Injustices**

*Co-Sponsored by  
We Can't Wait PA Statewide Coalition and Capital Region Stands Up*

Harrisburg, PA (October 2, 2020) – On Saturday, October 3, the fight for racial justice will continue as regional community leaders across the state gather on the steps of the State Capitol at 1:00 p.m. They will be rallying to mobilize voters to participate in this year's election based on issues that demand justice and accountability.

The “We Can't Wait” campaign launched by the PA Statewide Coalition in August, takes its inspiration from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his example of mobilizing peaceful civil disobedience in Alabama. His letter, written in Birmingham jail, expressing the inability for his oppressed people to wait for justice any longer, is still relevant more than 60 years later. Just like Dr. King, this collective is standing resolute in the face of oppositional leadership in Harrisburg knowing that there is no greater moment than now to STAND UP!

The two hour event will combine musical performances from the Birmingham Freedom Movement and Haibun style speeches that will personify the perilous plights of local Pennsylvania communities.

### **List of guest speakers and regional community leaders:**

- Nijmie Dzurinko, Put People First! PA
- Chad Lassister, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission
- Kadida Kenner, Why Courts Matter - We The People PA
- Capital Region Stands Up: (Onah Ossai, Dom Holmes, Cole Goodman, Ana White, Nicole Vasquez, Susan Roller)
- Bucks County: Derry, Rise Up Doylestown
- Chester County: West Chester Alliance
- Montgomery County: Community for Change, Stephanie Vincent & daughter, Movement for Black and Lives Veronica Moeller, Montco Activists United, Sheridan Earle
- Philadelphia: Christian Whittaker, Josh Yeboah, NorthEast Against Racism (NEAR), Melissa Robbins, Black Voters Matter, Brittany Smalls
- Delaware County: Delco Resists
- Cambria County: Pastor Wanick Fayette, Beulah United Methodist Church, Johnstown
- Centre County: 320 Coalition, Tierra Williams and Nanre Nafziger-Mayegu
- Clearfield County: Christina Fulton
- Lackawanna County: United NEPA Alliance, Ricky Cephas
- Luzerne County: United NEPA Alliance, Maryann Velez, Erika Petrole, Freedom Fighters, Sharee Clark, Jimmy Giddings
- Black Lives Matter Hazleton, Annie Mendez
- Northumberland County: If not Us, then Who?
- Allegheny County: 1Hood, David Dix, Pittsburgh
- Final performance by Unity Drummers

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