

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-D076
Title: Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles
Proposer: Boyce, Mr. Billy
Topic: Racism, Reconciliation

Directly Related: (Attached)

2022-A052 Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and Reconciliation
2022-A125 Establish the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice
2022-A129 Conduct Historical Research on DFMS Assets Tied to Racial Injustice
2022-C035 Create Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations
2006-C011 Support Legislation for Reparations for Slavery

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

1994-D008 Support Reparations and Study of Japanese Treatment of Koreans

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#).

D076 - Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Boyce, Mr. Billy

Endorsed by: Coleman, The Rev. Dr. Karen, Wendell, The Rev. Chris

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Directs an Interim Body: No

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: No

Directs Executive Council: Yes

HiA: No House Assigned

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: No Committee Assigned

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: [Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles - Agenda Fund Executive Summary - June 2024](#)

[Spanish - Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles - Agenda Fund - Executive Summary June 2024](#)

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That The 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirms our commitments to reparations for slavery, to community development, and to the role of the church in leading the nation towards racial reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention remembers the 1969 Special General Convention, wherein, the Rev. Paul M. Washington, and then lay delegate from Pennsylvania Barbara C. Harris, spoke to The Episcopal Church's inadequate response to reparations, and called on all Black delegates to walk out in protest, and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention reaffirms our commitment to support, incubate, and explore opportunities that allow the Church to invest its resources in reparative capital vehicles, such as the AGENDA Fund, which has been born of an Episcopal collaboration with the Bishop Barbara C. Harris Center; and be it further;

Resolved, That this Convention calls upon the Church Pension Group and the Executive Council to study investing in the AGENDA Fund and other reparative capital vehicles that fulfill the Church's reparations commitments; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention recommends other church-affiliated institutions explore moving Church assets into other reparative capital vehicles.

Explanation

Black communities are under ongoing threat of gentrification, displacement, and continued deteriorating economic health, demonstrated by the growing racial wealth gap. Without reimagining new models for capital, real estate, and economic development, we will continue to repeat harmful models where economic growth will always go hand in hand with displacement, and Black communities will continue to be pushed to the margins.

To fight back, local leaders are turning to the power of collective real estate ownership to ensure their communities can be rooted in place for generations to come. From land trusts to fractional ownership, co-ops, and everything in between, communities are learning from each other and innovating to create their own community ownership models. Combined with mission-aligned capital at scale and comprehensive development strategies that create significant land ownership footprints in neighborhoods, this creates a new road map for preventing displacement as well as a foundation for new types of equitable place-based solidarity economies at scale in Black communities.

The name of the fund, "The AGENDA Fund" was inspired by the words of the Rev. Paul M. Washington, a Civil Rights leader and Episcopal priest. He led a walkout at the Episcopal Church's Special Convention in 1969 to protest the church leadership's inadequate response to a reparations funding plan: "White people cannot set the agenda for this church. Black people must set the agenda for this church and for this nation".

Bishop Barbara C. Harris, then a lay delegate to this special convention, worked with The Rev. Paul Washington and other Black leaders in organizing the effort to ensure the Church was forced to engage this mission-critical conversation at another time of great societal upheaval when, as is always the case, the path of least resistance is often the path of silence and distraction in the face of injustice.

Investment in reparative capital vehicles such as the Agenda Fund is both a financially sound investment of church funds and a prophetic witness to our proclamations of working towards beloved community.

Support Documents:

[Espanol - Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles - Agenda Fund - Executive Summary June 2024](#)

Supporting Reparative Investment Vehicles - Agenda Fund Executive Summary - June 2024



Resolution Number: 2022-A052
Title: Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and Reconciliation
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the mandate for the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism & Reconciliation is hereby clarified as follows:

“This Committee is charged with supporting and monitoring the Church’s work in response to General Convention resolutions directed at dismantling racism and promoting racial healing, justice, and reconciliation in the Church by:

- a) helping the church recognize and develop its work of racial healing, justice, and reconciliation as a fundamental and requisite part of Christian formation;
- b) supporting the work of Becoming Beloved Community: The Episcopal Church’s Long-Term Commitment to Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation and other such initiatives the Presiding Officers, Executive Council, or Interim Bodies develop, and also the work of the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice;
- c) recommending, in collaboration with staff and other church organizations, resources and best practices for dismantling racism and for promoting racial healing, justice, and reconciliation that can be adapted to different contexts;
- d) collecting information from dioceses and provinces about their successes and challenges in complying with the canonical requirements and with General Convention Resolution 2018-A045 for providing anti-racism training;
- e) and sharing their findings with Executive Council on an annual basis.

Membership of the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism & Reconciliation shall be composed of:

one person named by the governing body of each province of this Church who has been trained in doing the work of dismantling racism and seeking to foster racial healing, justice, and reconciliation, has demonstrated experience in anti-racism/racial reconciliation work, has demonstrated the ability to make connections with people in their geographic area who do this work, and has demonstrated a commitment to make connections with people in the provinces who do this work;

one member of the Executive Council as appointed by the Chair and Vice-Chair of Executive Council;

one Bishop as appointed by the Presiding Officers;

members named who are from the racial or ethnic groups of black, Latino/a, Asian, Native American/Indigenous, and non-Hispanic white to ensure representation of diverse racial and ethnic voices on this Committee - if there are none, then the Chair and Vice-Chair of Executive Council shall appoint a member at large from each unrepresented racial or ethnic group;

a member named who is under 40, to ensure representation of multiple generations - if there are no members then the Chair and Vice-Chair of Executive Council shall appoint a member at large from each unrepresented generational group.

Members shall serve terms as follows:

Each Committee member shall serve one triennium beginning January 1 in the year following each General Convention until the December 31 following the next General Convention. Members may be named to serve consecutive terms by their provinces.

In the event that a province fails to name a person to serve on the Committee by [sic] January 1, when each term begins, the Chair and Vice-Chair of Executive Council shall appoint a qualified person from that province to serve on the Committee.

Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original members were named. Vacancies in excess of 30 days shall be filled by the Chair and Vice-Chair of Executive Council, and in the case of a Bishop vacancy, by the Chair of Executive Council.”

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 837-838.



Resolution Number: 2022-A125
Title: Establish the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church affirms that striving to become the Beloved Community of Jesus is central to our baptismal vocation in God's mission, and every Episcopalian is called to a lifelong vocation of racial justice and equity and the dismantling of white supremacy; and be it further

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention establish the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice as a voluntary association of Episcopal dioceses, parishes, organizations, and individuals dedicated to the work of becoming the Beloved Community; and be it further

Resolved, That the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice be charged with facilitating, coordinating, encouraging, supporting, and networking efforts of Episcopal dioceses, parishes, organizations, and individuals for racial justice and equity, and the dismantling of white supremacy, in collaboration with the work of the Executive Council and staff of the Episcopal Church Center; and be it further

Resolved, That the Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies appoint a Constituting Group for the development, implementation, and creation of the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice, whose work includes determining and proposing all necessary organizational, canonical, legal, and other actions necessary to constitute formally and oversee said Coalition; and be it further

Resolved, That once the Coalition is constituted, it shall be funded with an annual draw on one-tenth of the trusts and endowment funds available for general use in the Episcopal Church's budget, the income of which is currently found on Line 5 of the Episcopal Church budget; and be it further

Resolved, That the draw percentage applied to fund the Coalition be the same percentage as that applied to fund the Episcopal Church's budget; and be it further

Resolved, That to support the development of the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equality and Justice, the Constituting Group be funded during the biennial 2023-2024 at the level of \$200,000 a year.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 768-769.



Resolution Number: 2022-A129
Title: Conduct Historical Research on DFMS Assets Tied to Racial Injustice
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention directs the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies to ensure that this Church conducts historical research on the origins and sources of the financial and all other assets of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society that are directly tied to the enslavement of humans, the slave trade, and historical and current racial injustices, in order to tell the story of our history and to report the results to the Executive Council prior to the 81st General Convention; and be it further
Resolved, That this 80th General Convention urges the Church Pension Group to conduct historical research on the origins and sources of its financial and all other assets, and to report the results to its constituents; and be it further
Resolved, That this 80th General Convention urges each diocese to conduct its own historical research on the origins and sources of their financial and all other assets; and be it further
Resolved, That this 80th General Convention allocates \$150,000 for this work.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 759.



Resolution Number: 2022-C035
Title: Create Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations
Legislative Action Taken: Concur as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 80th General Convention direct, consistent with established policies and procedures, that the Executive Council shall direct that the Department of Reconciliation, Justice, and Creation Care work in collaboration with the Department of Faith Formation to create training modules on the topic of slavery and reparations, for use by the whole Church in the training of children and adults as they are prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society allocate up to \$35,000 to fund this work for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 771.



Resolution Number: 2006-C011
Title: Support Legislation for Reparations for Slavery
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention, affirming our commitments to become a transformed, anti-racist church and to work toward healing, reconciliation, and a restoration of wholeness to the family of God, urge the Church at every level to call upon Congress and the American people to support legislation initiating study of and dialogue about the history and legacy of slavery in the United States and of proposals for monetary and non-monetary reparations to the descendants of the victims of slavery.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 666.