

DAYTON BRANCH NAACP #3181

# The Dayton Branch

# Chronicle



**NAACP**  
Dayton Branch



## INFORM | EDUCATE | EMPOWER

Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest Civil and Human Rights organization in the Dayton Region. Our members, volunteers, office staff, organizers, committee chairs, X and Facebook friends continue to fight for social justice for **ALL** Americans. We hope you will be enlightened as you view our latest edition of The Dayton Branch Chronicle.

The Dayton Branch NAACP **vision** is to fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the **2nd "A"** of the NAACP, which stands for **ADVANCEMENT**. We encourage you to join us and participate fully in this work for a better, stronger, engaged community.

## Newsletter Highlights 2025

JUNE

Message From The President

Membership & Life Membership

Civil Rights Complaints

June Community Meeting - Youth Violence...The Root Causes

Economic Sustainability

Education

Youth and Young Adult Engagement

Civic Engagement

Ohio Conference NAACP

Supporting Partner Organizations

In The News

Rest & Relaxation

Upcoming Events

# The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

## President's Cabinet

**Dr. Derrick L. Foward**  
President  
**Freedom Fund**

*Dinah M. Williams*  
Membership and Life Member

*Jo A. Lovelace Hill*  
Finance

*Cedric L. McGhee*  
ACT-SO

*Elijah Rashaed*  
Art Curator

TBD  
Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology

*Graham Curry*  
Young Adult

*Scott E. Barwick*  
Prison Branch

**Mattie P. White**  
Vice President  
**Community Coordination**

*David K. Greer, Sr.*  
Labor & Industry

*Rev. Dr. David I. Fox*  
Criminal Justice

*Atty. Gary J. Leppla*  
Legal Redress

*Roland Winburn*  
Economic Development

**Tom Roberts**  
2nd Vice President  
**Political Action**

*Tiwona L. Foward*  
Women in NAACP (WIN)

*Rev. Renard D. Allen, Jr.*  
Religious Affairs

*Atty. Gary J. Leppla*  
Environmental & Climate Justice

*David L. Montgomery*  
GOTV

*Terrence Williams, SMSgt USAF (Ret)*  
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs

**Willie A. Terrell, Jr.**  
3rd Vice President  
**Scholarship**

*Dr. Morris L. Brown*  
Health

*Ayokunle O. Ogunduyile*  
International Affairs

*Gerry E. Griffith, Sr.*  
Education

*Traci Martin*  
Housing



**Administrative Leadership**

*Colin L. Kimuli*  
Secretary

*Dinah M. Williams*  
Assistant Secretary

**Financial Leadership**

*Jo A. Lovelace Smith*  
Treasurer

*Harvey C. Bolden*  
Assistant Treasurer

**Youth & College Leadership**

*Zora C. Boddie*  
President, Dayton Youth Council

*Claudine Tumusifu*  
President, Move Foward Thurgood Marshall

*Solomon Scales*  
President, LJYC

*Pamela D. Sloan*  
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

*Valerie R. Hayes*  
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

**Executive Committee**

*Rev. Herman E. Branham*  
Chaplain

*Chris R. Cortner*

*Lu Dale*

*Eric L. Ellington, Sr.*  
Sergeant-at-Arms

**Office Volunteers**

*Dr. Morris L. Brown*

*Chris R. Cortner*

*Rev. Dr. David I. Fox*

*Arnetta G. Gary*

*David K. Greer, Sr.*

*Rev. Renee Sheppard*

**President Emeritus**

*Jessie O. Gooding*

# The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

## Message From The President

Fellow Citizens,

Before anything else, let me begin with a simple but powerful truth: we are deeply grateful for African American men—for their resilience, their leadership, their creativity, and their unwavering presence in families, communities, and culture. Despite generations of adversity, they have stood tall. They have built, protected, and inspired, often without the recognition or support they deserve. Their strength in the face of systemic obstacles is nothing short of extraordinary, and today, we pause not just to speak on their behalf—but to honor them, as we celebrate Father's Day in the month of June.

Yet, gratitude alone is not enough. African American men continue to be disproportionately marginalized across nearly every sector of society—education, healthcare, employment, and the criminal justice system. While progress has been made in addressing the needs of many underserved groups, the specific challenges faced by Black men are too often overlooked in policy, philanthropy, and public discourse.

Despite growing national efforts to address inequality, recent social and policy initiatives have tended to prioritize the advancement of other marginalized groups, often to the exclusion of Black men. We cannot ignore the data. African American men face some of the highest incarceration rates in the country. They endure persistent wage gaps, barriers to quality healthcare, and limited access to educational and economic opportunities. These are not coincidences—they are the direct results of centuries of systemic inequity, institutional racism, and generational disinvestment.

And while these challenges are great, so too is the potential. Imagine what could be achieved if African American men were fully supported—through mentorship, mental health resources, job training, educational investment, and justice reform. This is not charity. This is not favoritism. This is the overdue fulfillment of a promise—the promise of equal opportunity for all.

Let's not forget that Black labor has been foundational to the growth of America and our economy. So let us recommit today—not just to expressing appreciation, but to taking action. Let us advocate for policies that uplift Black men, invest in programs that empower them, and change the narrative that has far too often left them behind.

Because when African American men succeed, our communities succeed. Our nation becomes stronger. Our shared future becomes brighter. Let us march on until victory is won!

Your community servant,

Dr. Derrick L. Foward



**Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President**  
 "Our Success is Influenced by Your Actions!"  
 "Zero Dollars, Zero Cents!"



***"Move Forward With Foward"***

# The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

## Membership & Life Membership

The Dayton Branch NAACP membership continues to grow, up 11.63% vs previous year.



**TAKE A STAND FOR EQUALITY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**  
Join the oldest, boldest, and baddest civil rights organization in the nation.  
**Join the NAACP**

Dayton Unit  
NAACP  
Membership  
Form



**Harry Evans**  
Silver Life Member



**Rose Lounsbury**  
Silver Life Member

### Subscribing Silver Life Members

Barbara Hudson-Banner	Annette Frazier	Gerald Parker
Veronica Bedell-Nevels	Reginald Frey	Roberta Parker
Lela M Birdsong	Mario G	Dorothy Smith
Camille Davis	Nadine Harris	William T. Spear
Sylvan Davis	David Montgomery	Audrenna Whiteside



Dinah M. Williams  
Chair, Membership and Life Membership Committee

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Civil Rights Complaints



Dr. Morris L. Brown  
Investigator



Chris R. Cortner  
Investigator



Gary J. Leppla, Esq.  
Advisor



Rev. Dr. David I. Fox  
Investigator



David K. Greer, Sr.  
Investigator

The Labor and Industry Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee worked together to investigate 16 complaints of discrimination, down 29.03% vs previous year.

The top 5 types of complaints were as follows:

- Employment - 43.75%
- Sentencing - 12.50%
- Housing - 12.50%
- Assault - 6.25%
- Lack of Prosecution - 6.25%

### The Role of the Criminal Justice Committee

The Committee on Criminal Justice shall (1) seek to eliminate harsh and unfair sentencing practices that are responsible for mass incarceration and racial disparities in the prison system; (2) support and seek to increase trust and public safety by advancing effective law enforcement practices; (3) fight for the restoration of the voting rights of formerly incarcerated people and the removal of barriers to employment; (4) elevate the voices of crime victim survivors in order to identify and advance systemic breakdowns existing in the criminal justice system that perpetuate crime; (5) resolve to end the war on drugs for its disproportionate collateral consequences and harm to communities of color; (6) seek the institution and availability of alternatives to incarceration, including education, employment, and mental health services; (7) eliminate zero-tolerance policies implemented in our schools which keep kids out of the classroom and put them on a path from the schoolhouse to the jailhouse; (8) investigate programs implemented in our local law enforcement agencies which derail from their main purpose of safety and order to conduct the work of federal agencies for which they do not have the capacity; and (9) seek budget modifications in states where incarceration receives more funding than education.

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox  
Chair, Criminal Justice Committee

David K. Greer, Sr.  
Chair, Labor & Industry Committee

Gary J. Leppla, Esq.  
Chair, Legal redress Committee

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Health

Inform | Educate | Empower  
 Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President  
 915 Salem Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45406  
 naacpdayton3181@sbcglobal.net | naacpdayton.org

### Youth Violence **THE ROOT CAUSE**

**Monday  
 June 23, 2025  
 6:30 PM**

Grace United Methodist Church  
 1001 Harvard Blvd.  
 Dayton, Ohio 45406

**Panelists**

Dr. Roz (Rosalind Mascall)  
 Dr. Linda Burrs  
 Dr. Parris Carter  
 Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.  
 Jennifer Wentzel, Health Commissioner



**Moderator**  
 Dr. Morris L. Brown  
 Health Chair

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- 7/7 - Voter Registration Deadline for August 5 Special Election
- 7/9-13 - 48<sup>th</sup> NAACP National ACT-SO Competition (Charlotte, NC)
- 7/13-16 - 116<sup>th</sup> NAACP National Convention (Charlotte, NC)
- 7/21 - Executive Committee Meeting
- 7/28 - General Membership Meeting & Health Committee Presentation

**Dr. Morris L. Brown, Chair, Health Committee**, moderated a panel discussion titled, **“Youth Violence...The Root Causes.”** This monthly community meeting was held at Grace United Methodist Church on June 23, 2025.

The distinguished guest panelists were **Dr. Roz (Rosalind Mascall), Total Health & Wellness OBGYN LLC; Dr. Linda Burrs, President and Principal Consultant of the Step Up to Success Consulting firm; Dr. Parris Carter, Vice President for New Markets and Managing Director, Carex Behavioral Health; Honorable Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., Mayor of the City of Dayton; and Jennifer Wentzel, Health Commissioner for Montgomery County.**

Educated over 1,200 citizens during this town hall via in-person and online.

Watch here: (<https://youtu.be/dWtepWp2g8l>)



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Economic Sustainability

### *The Dayton Branch NAACP Believes In Supporting African American Owned Businesses*



*Members of the Dayton Branch NAACP Celebrates the  
85<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Longtime Supporter and Silver Life Member Charles "Skip" Hamilton*



**President Foward Organized Fourth “Busing Our Students”  
Stakeholder Collaboration Meetings with Representatives From DPS, RTA, DECA, MCECSC, City of Dayton,  
University of Dayton and Ohio Legislature (State Reps) to Discuss Strategy of How to Resolve the  
Longstanding Busing Issue Downtown Dayton**

**Meeting Four Hosted by: Shannon Cox, Superintendent, Montgomery County Educational Service Center**



## Education Chairman Gerry E. Griffith, Sr. and President Foward Meets With Rusty Clifford, Superintendent of Jefferson Township School District

Teaching Students About Farming & Raising Animals



Teaching Students About Horticulture



Teaching Students Construction



Teaching Students How to Build Engines



**Education Chairman Gerry E. Griffith, Sr. and President Foward Meets With  
Marlon Howard, Superintendent of Trotwood-Madison School District  
Discussion Centered Around Student Achievement**



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Youth and Young Adult Engagement

### NAACP Dayton Civil-Righters Tee-Ball Team

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Season



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Youth and Young Adult Engagement

*NAACP Dayton Civil-Righters Tee-Ball Team*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Season*



# The Dayton Branch Chronicle

## Civic Engagement

Molly Shack, Executive Director for the Ohio Organizing Collaborative  
Provided Updates on Legislative Issues Including DEI

### The Budget Process

Early February - Early April

Introduced in House

Passed in House

Late April - Mid-June

Introduced in Senate

Passed in Senate

Mid-June

Reviewed by Conference Committee

Each chamber votes on the Conference Committee report

June 30th

Sent to the Governor

### Congressional Redistricting....again.

**SOME IMPORTANT MAP CRITERIA**

- Rules about splitting major cities:
  - Columbus **must** be split (it's too big to fit into one district)
  - Cleveland and Cincinnati **CANNOT** be split
  - Akron, Dayton, and Toledo can but **should NOT** be split
- Maps passed with a simple legislative majority during **Step 4** with no bipartisan support **must also meet these additional criteria:**
  - No partisan gerrymanders
  - No undue splitting of political subdivisions (preferencing counties, then townships, then cities)
  - Map drawers must attempt compactness (rather than being required to do so)
  - Include a statement explaining how the preceding criteria were met

# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Civic Engagement

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**Ohio Political News**

Senate President Rob McColley

Senate Minority Leader HD 7 Nikki Antonio

House Minority Leader HD 7 Allison Russo

Speaker of the House Matt Huffman House District 12

Republican (24)  
Democratic (9)  
**33**

Republican (65)  
Democratic (34)  
**99**

**Ohio Organizing Collaborative**

- Molly Shack, Ohio Orga...
- Dr. Derrick L. Foward
- Darlene Sweeney...
- Darlene Sweeney-Ne...
- David CS White...
- David CS Whitehead
- Tom Roberts
- Tom Roberts
- DENISE WILLIA...
- DENISE WILLIAMS
- Oliver Warren
- WillAnn Moore
- WillAnn Moore
- William Tarter Jr
- William Tarter Jr

**House Democratic Leadership**

Minority Leader Allison Russo House District 7

Assistant Minority Leader Dontavious L. Jarrells House District 1

Minority Whip Darrin Isaacsohn House District 24

State Representative Beryl Brown Piccolantonio

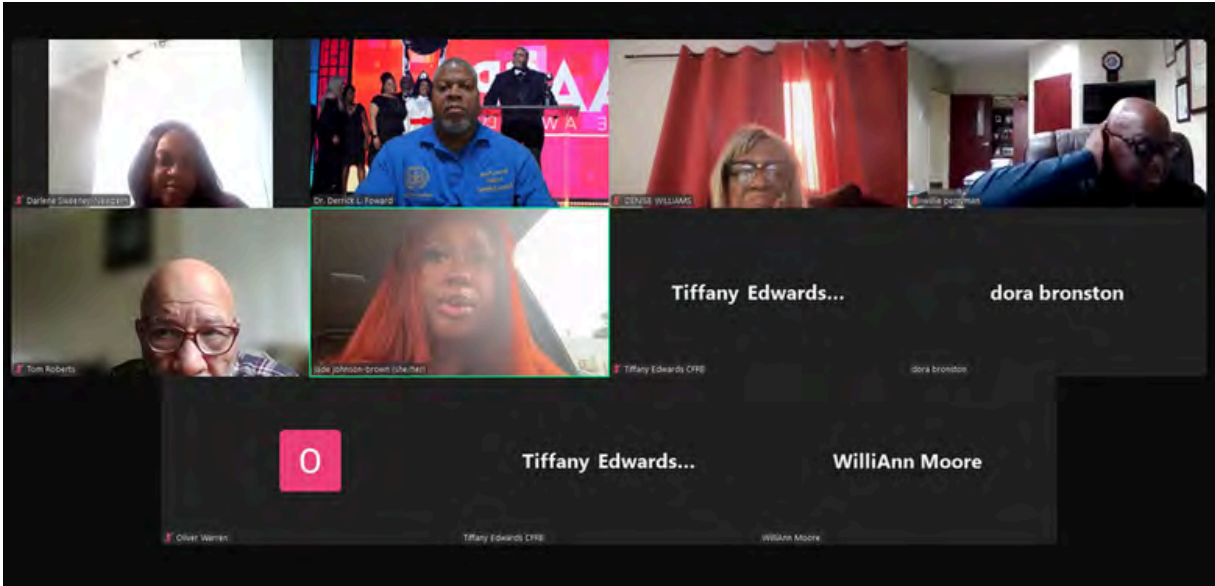
Stepping Down

Potential leadership.... TBD?

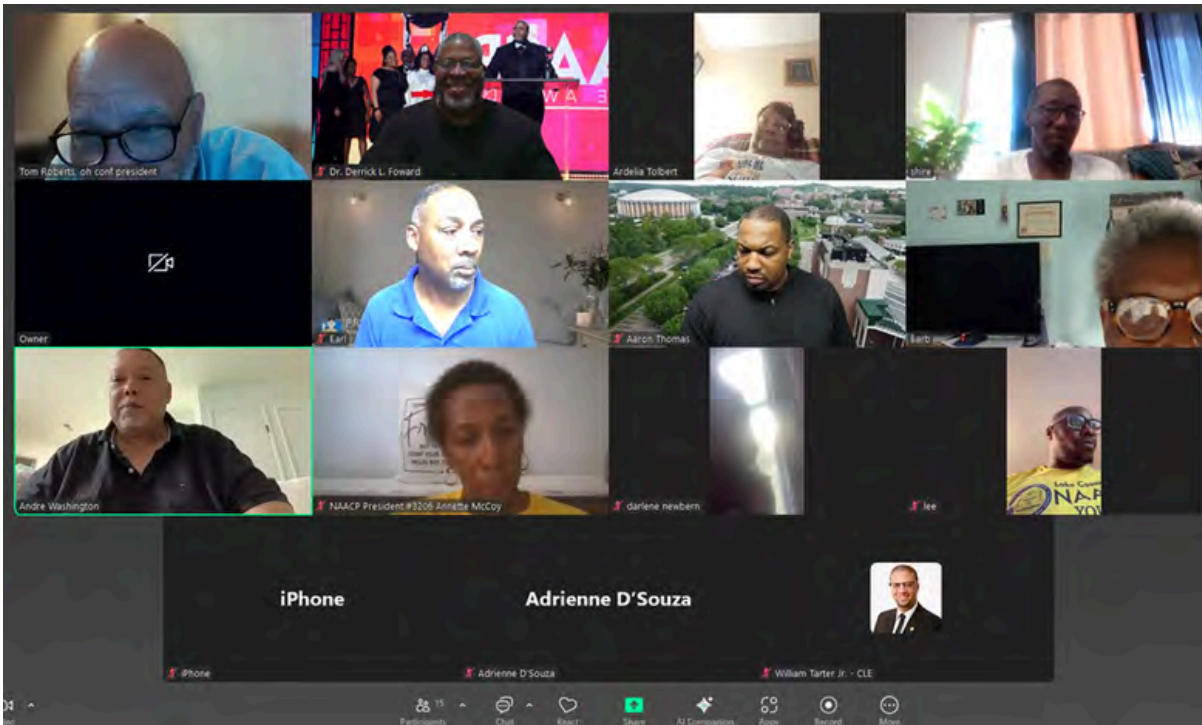
**Ohio Organizing Collaborative**

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- Dr. Derrick L. Foward
- Darlene Sweeney...
- David CS White...
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- David CS Whitehead
- Tom Roberts
- DENISE WILLIA...
- Tom Roberts
- DENISE WILLIAMS
- WillAnn Moore
- WillAnn Moore
- William Tarter Jr
- Barbara Clark
- William Tarter Jr
- Barbara Clark
- Carla James
- Judi Hill
- Carla James
- Judi Hill
- Adrienne D'Souza
- Willie Perryman
- Adrienne D'Souza
- Willie Perryman
- Hector McDaniel
- Renee Romine
- Hector McDaniel
- Renee Romine
- Patrick Walker-Hussey
- Dora Erickson

## State President Tom Roberts Presides Over Ohio Conference NAACP Executive Committee Meeting



## President Foward Attends Meeting With NAACP Presidents Throughout the State of Ohio



# Ohio Conference NAACP

## President Foward Administers Oath of Office to Several Local Units Across the State of Ohio

### Muskingum County NAACP



### Belmont County NAACP









# Addressing Youth Violence

MIAMI VALLEY NEWS

## Dayton NAACP calls for 30-day ceasefire to curb gun violence

by: Emily Lewis  
Posted: Jun 13, 2025 / 09:45 PM EDT  
Updated: Jun 13, 2025 / 10:07 PM EDT



## Addressing Youth Violence



NAACP DISCUSSES SOLUTIONS FOR 'ROOT CAUSES' OF CONTINUED YOUTH VIOLENCE IN DAYTON  
STORY BY WHIO STAFF

THE DAYTON BRANCH NAACP GATHERED TO TALK ABOUT WHAT'S CAUSING KIDS IN DAYTON TO BECOME VIOLENT. AS REPORTED ON NEWS CENTER 7 AT 11:00, LOCAL LEADERS SAY TEN OF THE 40 HOMICIDE VICTIMS IN DAYTON LAST YEAR WERE 18 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER.

NAACP DAYTON BRANCH PRESIDENT DERRICK FOWARD SAYS THE YOUTH VIOLENCE PROBLEM BECAME A MAJOR FOCUS OVER THE PAST YEAR.

EFFORTS TO MAKE A CHANGE PICKED UP AFTER A MASS SHOOTING ON HOME AVENUE LEFT HALF A DOZEN TEENS HURT AND TWO PEOPLE DEAD LAST YEAR.

"EVERYBODY WANTS THE AMERICAN DREAM. THE AMERICAN DREAM IS WHAT PROMOTED AMERICA'S GREATNESS. AND THAT GREATNESS NOW IS NOT REALIZED BY MOST OF US. THE DREAM BECOMES A NIGHTMARE," MORRIS BROWN SAYS. BROWN IS THE DAYTON BRANCH NAACP HEALTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND LED THE MEETING MONDAY NIGHT, WHERE A PANEL OF EXPERTS SHARED WHAT THEY BELIEVE IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE VIOLENCE.

"THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE HAVE TO DO WITH SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, FREQUENTLY AS A START. FAMILY DISUNITY, MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY, INDIVIDUALS THAT PREOCCUPIED WITH SELF-AGGRANDIZEMENT," BROWN SAYS. "WE KNOW THAT AN INDIVIDUAL CAN SEE SO MUCH VIOLENCE THAT THEY BECOME INSENSITIVE TO VIOLENCE, WHERE THEY DON'T FEAR DEATH."

THAT'S WHY BROWN SAYS THE ROOT CAUSE IS A DIRECT RESPONSE TO WHAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED SO FAR IN LIFE. HE REFERS TO IT AS "ACES," WHICH STANDS FOR ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EVENTS.

"TRAUMA CAN BE DAD WENT TO PRISON, MOTHER'S AN ALCOHOLIC, A CHILD CAN WITNESS SOMEONE GETTING SHOT, A CHILD CAN BE DODGING BULLETS EVERY NIGHT, THE KIND OF THINGS THAT PEOPLE OF LOW SOCIOECONOMIC LEVEL ARE EXPOSED TO," BROWN SAYS.

FOWARD TOLD NEWS CENTER 7 THAT THE DAYTON BRANCH NAACP IS WAITING FOR THE CITY'S CURE VIOLENCE GLOBAL PROGRAM TO BEGIN SO THEY CAN BE A PART OF IT.

"WE DECIDED TO BE PROACTIVE AND SHOW THE COMMUNITY WHAT IS AVAILABLE NOW," BROWN SAYS. "THIS SOCIETY THAT WE LIVE IN NOW IS TEACHING THEM NOT TO FEAR DEATH, WHICH IS NOT GOOD BECAUSE THEN IT RESULTS TO RECKLESS BEHAVIOR."

MAYOR JEFFREY MIMS WAS ON THE PANEL AND ANNOUNCED THAT THE HOPE PEACE INITIATIVE, WHICH INCLUDES THE CURE VIOLENCE GLOBAL PROGRAM, WILL BE READY TO GO IN THE NEXT WEEKS. NEWS CENTER 7 WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS STORY.

## Foward Administers Oath of Office

ICE  
classifieds

Times Recorder

Sports

Life &amp; Events

Advertise

Obituaries

eNewspaper

Legals

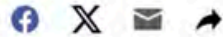


LOCAL

## Now reactivated, Muskingum County branch of NAACP elects officers

Staff Reports

June 25, 2025, 5:03 a.m. ET



ZANESVILLE – The Muskingum County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has been reactivated, according to an announcement from the NAACP.

The local branch has lost members over the years and became inactive.

A planning committee of 12 residents put together a [Brunch for Justice](#) in March in to share information and recruit new members. "Once we show proof of the 50 active members, then the (state chapter) will create a letter of recommendation to the national headquarters for our charter then to be re-established," committee member Nancy Edwards previously told the TR.

The local branch was reactivated on May 17 and elected new officers. They are Kyle Johnson, president; Justin Wyatt, vice president, Johnna Ray, second vice president; Nancy Edwards, secretary; Michelle Simpson, assistance secretary; Stacey Duling, treasurer; and Latonya Sowers, assistant treasurer. They were sworn in by Derrick Forward, vice president of the Ohio Conference NAACP and president of the Dayton branch.

"This chapter belongs to the people. That's the truth at the heart of the Muskingum County NAACP's legacy and the guiding light for our future," Johnson said in the announcement. "I step into this role with deep respect for those who came before me...Leaders like Claude Haywood, Helen Russell, and Rev. C.W. Morse built the foundation we now stand on.

## Rest & Relaxation

### Compliments of Dayton City Commissioner Chris Shaw, Members and Guest Enjoy a Dayton Dragons Baseball Game in the Comfort of the City Suite



# The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

## Upcoming Events

July 7, 2025

Voter Registration Deadline for August 5 Special Election

July 9-13, 2025

48th NAACP National ACT-SO Competition – Charlotte, North Carolina

July 13-16, 2025

116th NAACP National Convention – Charlotte, North Carolina

July 21, 2025

Executive Committee Meeting

July 28, 2025

General Membership Meeting

& Economic Development Presentation



President Foward & Lady Tiwona

As we celebrate the spirit of freedom, let us continue to honor our history and work together for justice and equality. Together, we can build a safer community by standing against violence and promoting peace. Stay Blessed and Shadowed Beneath His Wings!



## Fully Committed!

Inform | Educate | Empower  
Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President  
915 Salem Ave., Dayton, OH 45402  
Office Telephone: (937) 222-2172 |  
naacp3181@sbcglobal.net |  
naacpdayton.org

*Stay Informed!*  
*Get Educated!*  
*Be Empowered!*

[NAACPDAYTON.ORG](http://NAACPDAYTON.ORG)



Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology