VCIC WELCOMES NEW STAFF

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities is pleased to welcome several new staff members to our team! In addition to adding three positions in response to increased demand for VCIC’s programs, some staff roles have shifted. With nine employees and several volunteer student interns throughout the year, VCIC’s team is the largest in our organization’s 82-year history.

“VCIC’s growth is only possible thanks to generous supporters across Virginia,” states Chavis Harris, State Board Chair. “With your partnership, we can more effectively meet our mission of helping schools, businesses, and communities achieve success through inclusion.”

Pictured left to right are Katie Hathaway (Events & Communications Manager), Marcos Martínez (Educational Programs Coordinator), Martie O’Connell (Administration & Finance Assistant), Kate Eubank (Director of Administration & Finance), Michael Jackson (Program Assistant), Jessica Hawthorne (Director of Programs), Alexander Cena (Outreach Programs Coordinator), Rae’nes Thompson (Partnership for the Future Student Intern), Charm Bullard (Director of Programs), and Jonathan Zur (President & CEO).

Learn more about VCIC’s dedicated staff team at www.inclusiveVA.org/staff.

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Voices of Inclusion
A NewsLetter of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

Summer 2017 Update

Photo from “Standing Together: One Community, One Nation” event
THIS IS THE MOMENT!

National organizations have reported increases in hate crimes and incidents of bias over the last two years. Virginia is not immune from these realities. In January 2017, Attorney General Mark Herring announced a 21% increase in hate crimes reported in the Commonwealth over a one-year period. And from 2015-2017, the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities has experienced a 1,300% increase in urgent requests for services after an incident of bias, bullying, or discrimination. These requests to VCIC for crisis-response support have come from elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, colleges, businesses, and houses of worship.

“If ever there were a time for the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities to be bold, connected, and engaged, this is the moment,” notes Jonathan Zur, President & CEO. As a result, VCIC has added several staff positions, increased community outreach and coalitions, enhanced school-based professional development, and is launching a major fundraising effort to ensure that the organization can meet urgent needs today and prevent bias, bullying, and discrimination in the future.