

The People's Institute for Survival & Beyond
Undoing Racism™

MILESTONES

- 1980 Ronald Chisom, community organizer of New Orleans, and James Norman Dunn, PhD , professor Antioch College, of Yellow Springs, Ohio found The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond to develop analytical, culturally-rooted and effective antiracist community organizers.
- 1986 European Dissent, a collective of white anti-racist organizers is called together by the People's Institute leadership to incorporate the principles of the People's Institute in their personal, social, family, and work lives.
- 1991 Ronald Chisom v Charles E. Roemer, Governor of Louisiana challenges Louisiana Supreme Court for equal representation for the City of New Orleans.
- 1994 Ronald Chisom receives national Petra Award for community organizing and tenant leadership.
- 1997 The Freedom School, a peer-to-peer educational program of The People's Institute Youth Agenda is established. The school is modeled on the Mississippi Citizenship Schools of the Civil Rights era.
- 1997 The Partnership Project, a Greensboro, NC antiracist organization joins forces with The People's Institute after founding organizers attend an "Undoing Racism™" seminar in New Orleans.
- 1998 The Springfield, MA Undoing Racism Organizing Committee is initiated.
- 1999 A Rockland County activist, begins antiracist organizing in New York's human service professions.
- 1999 A partnership with ilé, a Puerto Rican antiracist organization brings deeper understanding of colonialism and immigration to our antiracist analysis.
- 2000 The Jim Dunn Center for Anti-Racist Community Organizing is initiated in New Orleans to provide leadership training for organizers.
- 2000 The People's Institute North is established in Minnesota.
- 2000 The People's Northwest is established in Washington.

- 2000 People's Institute Youth Agenda expand Freedom Schools from New Orleans to Oakland, Seattle, and Duluth, MN, where youth organizers challenge schools to make changes in curricula, policies and personnel.
- 2001 A collective of social workers from New York City and Westchester County form the AntiRacist Alliance to undo structural racism in the social work profession.
- 2002 European Dissent/New Orleans hosts a national gathering in New Orleans for 65 white anti-racist activists.
- 2002 Five of 11 leading racial justice organizations surveyed by the Aspen Institute credit The People's Institute of having the most effective anti-racist analysis.
- 2004 The Jim Dunn Center for Anti-Racist Community Organizing receives local Stewardship grant from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the largest U.S. private funder of anti-poverty programs.
- 2004 The People's Institute Northeast office is established.
- 2005 The People's Institute offices and homes of most of its national staff in New Orleans are demolished by floods when levies break after Hurricane Katrina. While using its national network to rebuild and reconnect, The Institute also calls for a United Nations investigation into the crisis, documenting and testifying about the many violations of human rights committed by the Federal government's shameful treatment of the city's poorest residents.
- 2006 The People's Institute Southeast office is established.
- 2007 The People's Institute organizers provide leadership to the first U.S. Social Forum, held in Atlanta, GA.
- 2005-2008 Casey Family Programs, the largest private foster-care system in the nation, partners with The People's Institute to train hundreds of workers in dozens of public and private child protective service agencies throughout the U.S. By 2009, the disproportionate number of African American children in foster care has dropped significantly, especially in Texas where the legislature mandates Undoing Racism™ training for all its Child Protection Services workers.
- 2009 In New York City, the People's Institute and the AntiRacist Alliance sponsor a national Symposium on Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare to showcase the positive effects of antiracist approaches to child protective services.

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