

National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities

[View in browser](#)



A message from our founder and director

Friends of the National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities,

We've reached an exciting milestone—today is the NIMC's 10th anniversary!

We are profoundly grateful for 10 years of engaging with so many of you in a shared quest for greater equity and inclusion in neighborhoods across the country and around the world. Thank you for everything you have done to contribute to our longevity and achievements to date.

To first celebrate this milestone, the NIMC team convened at our home base in Cleveland for a three-day retreat of restoration, inspiration and team building, with time spent in a national park, on a farm, with a local artist-activist, at a historic Black theater, and in a local urban action lab—as described in this newsletter!

Please plan to join us for our ongoing anniversary activities throughout the year

ahead, including special podcasts, webinars, and a virtual anniversary bash to reconvene the extended NIMC family from over the past decade. We look forward to gathering with all of you to reminisce and look ahead. Dates and details are forthcoming.

With this anniversary, we are launching a year of reflection and repositioning. We expect our next decade to feature exciting new dimensions to our antiracist community development work, deepened and new partnerships, and an even greater focus on efforts where we can have the most immediate and long-term impact.

With all the strife and polarization here in the U.S. and abroad, effective strategies to address enduring social inequities and help bridge “us vs. them” divides in our communities are needed now more than ever.

Onwards, friends!

Mark

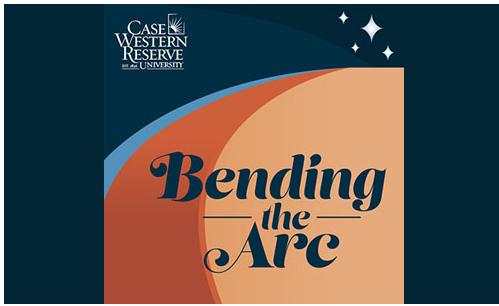
From the archives

Ten years ago today, we sent our very [first newsletter](#) to the world, announcing our presence and commitment to “help reduce urban poverty and promote successful mixed-income communities by facilitating high-quality research and making information and evidence easily available to policymakers and practitioners.”



We are still partnering with so many of the same organizations and funders, as well as several others. Thanks to everyone who has been on this journey with us!

[What we're listening to: *Bending the Arc* podcast's spotlight on NIMC](#)



In this episode from this summer, hosted by doctoral fellow Colette Ngana, we turned the spotlight on us. Guests included NIMC founding director and professor Mark Joseph, associate director Debbie Wilber, and SGG Insight CEO Salin Geevarghese, a long-time NIMC collaborator.

The discussion provides listeners a behind-the-scenes look into NIMC's origins, mission, values, and research around mixed-income housing, antiracism, and community development. Listen to [Bending the Arc episode 15](#).



NIMC's 10th anniversary retreat

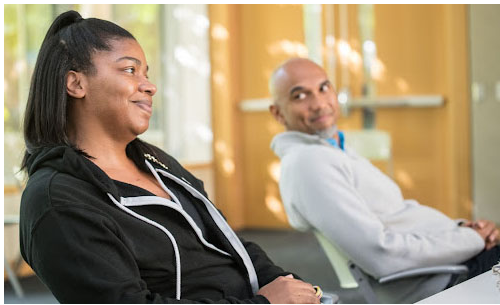
In early October, the NIMC team gathered for our annual retreat. Themed around “Embodied Knowing: What is and what will be,” we spent three beautiful days together reflecting on NIMC’s past, present and visions for the future, using activities that activated our senses as we moved through topics such as “pleasure,” “rest,” “partnerships,” and “impact” as they relate to our work both internally and externally. To keep our reflections grounded, we spent time with different community partners, learning how their day-to-day work cultivates equity and justice.

The first day we met in the [Third Space Action Lab](#) Reading Room, where artist and activist [Amanda D. King](#) facilitated a discussion about her art and the topic of pleasure as a right. Our second day was spent in [Cuyahoga Valley National Park](#), including a trip to [Spice Acres](#), where we learned about the education work that they do around sustainable farming and fresh foods, toured the farm and got to

sample vegetables fresh off of the vine. The third day we went to [Karamu House](#), where we toured the theater and learned about its rich history, programming, role in the community, and current expansion.

At the end of our time with each group, we asked how we could continue to listen and learn from them moving forward, and how we could help amplify their best practices and extend their reach. We look forward to continued reflection and discussion around the themes and ideas that arose out of the retreat, and to growing our metaphorical NIMC team garden!

Welcoming Precious McLaughlin to the NIMC team



Precious McLaughlin joined NIMC in September as our new department administrator. Prior to this role, she spent 13 years as a laboratory manager at the Institute for Transformative Molecular Medicine in the School of Medicine.

She received a bachelor's degree in biology from John Carroll University and is now pursuing an MBA at Weatherhead School of Management, set to graduate in the spring. Precious brings a sharp mind for numbers, a keen attention to detail, and the warmest smile around to our team. We are so thrilled she has joined us as part of her career shift to administrative leadership.

[In case you missed it: Mark's "Everyday Antiracism" blog about mentoring](#)

The struggle for racial justice now looks like it will be even more challenging for the next generation than it was for us. That sentence is as heartbreaking for me to write as it is for you to read.

We are living through a time of unfathomable retrenchment in race relations in America. The removal of affirmative action as a tool to increase access to higher educational opportunity for underrepresented racial groups was a recent blow that indicates just how fully the clock is being turned back on racial progress.

Few things are more devastating than thinking that the society we are leaving to our children falls so far short of the equity and inclusion that we have been striving for.

Schools are more segregated today than they were thirty years ago. Racially-motivated hate crimes, along with continued police brutality against Black people, have increased the levels of everyday fear and anxiety to levels that my generation has not seen.

So, where does this leave us?

Read Mark's latest blog post, "[Reflections on the Journey to Everyday Antiracism: Boosting Your Antiracist Mentoring.](#)"

Job opportunities at partner organizations

Our partners at [Grounded Solutions Network](#) have two open leadership positions. Read the job descriptions and apply if you're interested. And please help them spread the word!

- [Chief Program Officer](#)
- [VP, Housing Policy](#)



Address: 10900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106-7164

© 2023 Case Western Reserve University
[Manage Your Subscription](#)