

"Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."

-James Baldwin

Social Justice Youth Summer Camp Family Project

"America's Pathology: Education Liberation, & Action"

The purpose of the Social Justice Youth Summer Camp is to equip participants with the tools to advocate for positive social change in their communities. As a result, we are asking that the entire family to display a commitment to social justice by completing one of the projects below alongside the camp participant. Once the project is complete, have the student interested in attending camp write a reflection to be considered for admission to the camp. Preference will be extended to students who demonstrate a commitment to the project and take time to deeply reflect. Reflections should be no more than two pages, double-spaced, with 12pt font.

Reflections must be submitted, along with the completed application and forms, by Friday, April 29, 2022 as an upload on the [registration page](#). For questions regarding the projects, please contact [Nubia Bennett](#), Program Coordinator for Diversity Education and Inclusive Excellence.

**Students who have previously attend the camp must chose a different family project to submit.*

Option 1: The Neighborhoods of Louisville

1. Visit the following neighborhoods:
 - a. 9th and Broadway to Shawnee Park
 - b. Shelbyville Road (from Trader Joes to the University of Louisville Shelby Campus)
 - c. 630 Winkler Avenue to Iroquois Park
2. While in the neighborhood, notice the following:
 - a. How many banks compared to check-cashing establishments are there?
 - b. How many liquor stores you see?
 - c. Notice the variety of stores. Are they recognizable to you? Have you seen them before in other neighborhoods?
 - d. What options are there for purchasing clothes and shoes?
 - e. Are there healthcare facilities in the area?
 - f. What areas are establishments have activities for children to engage in? What about for adults?
3. **Reflect on the following** (to submit for your application):
 - a. What did you notice (include points from the above list)? How did it make you feel?
 - b. What stood out to you?
 - c. How were you affected by the experience? What could you do about the differences you noticed?

Option 2: Self-Guided Tour of Louisville's Civil Rights History

1. Complete the Louisville Downtown Civil Rights Trail by following the link below:

- a. <http://louisville.edu/artsandsciences/idep/engagement/civil-rights-markers-project/files/downtownCivilRightsMarker2015.pdf>
2. Attach at least five pictures from five different stops of trail to your reflection
3. **Reflect on the following:**
 - a. What did you learn about the Civil Rights Movement from the tour?
 - b. Which stop on the trail stood out to you the most? Why?
 - c. What did you learn that could be applied to current social justice movements?

Option 3: Immersion Project

1. Spend at least one hour immersed in a cultural space where those around you do not share one of your personal identities. A few examples might include:
 - a. Religious ceremonies or centers
 - b. An observation of a lecture about culturally relevant topic
 - c. Volunteer at a community center
 - d. Meeting, social or cultural gathering
 - e. Disclaimer: This project is not intended to encourage appropriation or speculation. Participation and an embracing of culture would be the appropriate way to engage with this project.
2. **Reflect on the following:**
 - a. What were some cultural differences you observed between your identity and the identity in which you immersed?
 - b. What historical context might help you understand the culture you observed?
 - c. How could you immerse yourself more to experience different cultures?
 - d. What did you learn about yourself through this experience (e.g., inaccurate assumptions, stereotypes, discomfort, etc.)?

Option 4: A Trip to the Grocery Store

1. Visit a grocery store, of your choice, in two of the following neighborhoods:
 - a. 9th and Broadway to Shawnee Park
 - b. Shelbyville Rd. (From Trader Joes to the University of Louisville Shelby Campus)
 - c. 630 Winkler Ave. to Iroquois Park
2. While in the grocery store, notice the following:
 - a. Are prices consistent with other grocery stores
 - b. Appearance and cleanliness of the stores
 - c. Availability of options
 - d. Is the store a chain or community store?
3. **Reflect on the following:**
 - a. What factors contribute to the differences that grocery stores share in different neighborhoods?
 - b. What stood out to you the most?
 - c. What changes could be implemented in the grocery stores you experienced?

Option 5: News Reflection

1. Watch or listen to the local news every day for one week.
2. Read multiple articles from a newspaper or online local news source from that sameweek.
3. **Reflect on the following:**
 - a. Did you notice any differences between the ways news was reported across different areas of Louisville and/or identities?
 - b. What were the predominate identities of the news reporters?
 - c. Did any of the language used appear to be stereotypical?
 - d. Were you distrustful of the news being reported to you at any point?
 - e. What ways do media help or hurt social justice movements?

Option 6: Get Involved

1. Research a local community organization in Louisville, KY
 - a. Examples include: Louisville Showing Up For Racial Justice (SURJ), Black Lives Matter Louisville, La Casita, Anne Braden Institute, The Americana Center, St. John Center, Crossroads Ministry
2. Participate in a volunteer opportunity with that community center
3. **Reflect on the following:**
 - a. What was your experience like volunteering for the organizations?
 - b. In what ways might you continue to stay involved with local organizations
 - c. Is there an organization that you would create to fight a social justice need in Louisville?

Option 7: What Does “Community” Mean to You?

1. Select 5 people of various ages that live/work in the community/neighborhood that you consider “home” (this can be where you live, or wherever you most identify) and ask if you can interview them.
2. Ask the following questions:
 - a. What is your definition of “community”?
 - b. How long have you lived in this particular community? How has it changed (or not changed) over that time?
 - c. What are some good things about this neighborhood/community? What are some good memories you have about it?
 - d. What would you like to change for the better in this neighborhood/community? What do you think that will take?
 - e. What is the most important thing to remember about building and maintaining community in their opinion?
 - f. If they keep talking, keep asking questions! Feel free to record (with permission) and/or take notes.
3. **Reflect on the following:**

- a. What is your definition of community? Did it change after interviewing your community members?
- b. How similar or different were the answers? What factors do you think contributed to those similarities and/or differences?
- c. How do you feel about the good and bad things mentioned about your community from your fellow community members?
- d. Why does community matter?

Option 8: Freestyle

If you have either completed activities like these before, or you have a fresh idea that is not covered in the other options listed above, feel free to reflect on an activity that demonstrates that you are invested in social change and leadership in your community and world. If you chose to come up with your own project, please be sure to include your family, and tell us all about it! As you reflect, make sure you **reflect on the following** (no matter what you decide to do):

- a. What is the issue that you decided to work on with your family? Why is it important to you?
- b. Tell us what you did to investigate your social justice issue?
- c. What is currently being done in your community around this issue?
- d. Name some organizations that are currently working on this issue?
- e. How would you like to contribute to this issue (now and in the future)?