



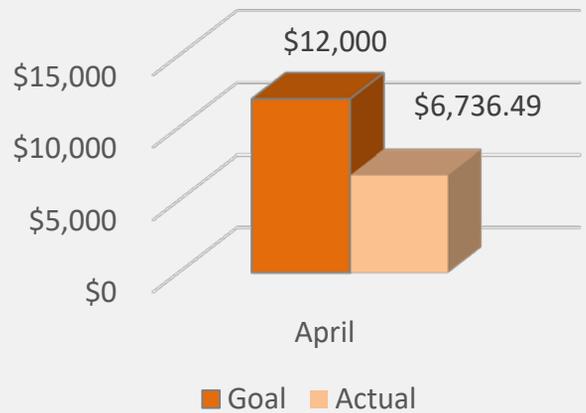
Lace on Race Newsletter

April 2021

Our North Star

TO LESSEN AND MITIGATE THE HARM
ENDURED BY BLACK AND BROWN PEOPLE
PERPETUATED BY WHITE PEOPLE
AND WHITE SUPREMACY

END OF MONTH UPDATE



PayPal: paypal.me/LaceonRace

COMMUNITY & NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Check it out!
[Community Guidelines](#)

Register and join us at
[Lace on Race Café](#)

Lace on Race

THIS IS THE CRUX, FOLKS.
**DON'T FALL
 DOWN.
 DO THE WORK.**

LACE ON RACE FEATURED POSTS

HESED REMINDER – REQUIRED COMMITMENT TO ENGAGE

WE ARE NEW PEOPLE DOING NEW THINGS IN NEW WAYS! YOU ARE LOVINGLY BEING CALLED IN – NEW NORMS APPLY. ENGAGE IN LACE ON RACE CAFÉ, CROSS-POST, RESPOND TO AT LEAST 2 COMMUNITY MEMBERS & SHARE TO YOUR NETWORKS.

Note: You will need to sign-in to the Lace on Race website to access the links.

Mid-April Ask

Video: Cowardice, Courage and Full Respect Living

Early April Ask

'Expediency' and 'Efficiency' - Are we Asking the Right Questions?

How Much (Community? Time? Resources?) is too Much?

Racism is America's Accent

KEY POSTS TO VISIT & REVISIT

STARTER POSTS
<u>Guideline Videos</u>
<u>Community Onboarding</u>
<u>Relational Ethics</u>
<u>Obstacles to Growth & Community</u>
<u>Encouragement, Exhortation & the Can't</u>
<u>React, Emojis & Engagement</u>
<u>White Woman & Oppression</u>
<u>Critical Discussion Posts</u>
<u>Hope & Vision</u>

CHEF ' S TABLE & SUSTAINERS CIRCLE

Chef's Table:

Chef's Table at the Lace on Race Café is a forum for walkers who are ready to work deeper, harder and faster in service to our North Star. Walkers invited to this table will have demonstrated relentless reliability; resilience through lumpy crossings; dedicated financial engagement (of any capacity); and high levels of community participation. [Chef's Table Self-Evaluation Form](#)

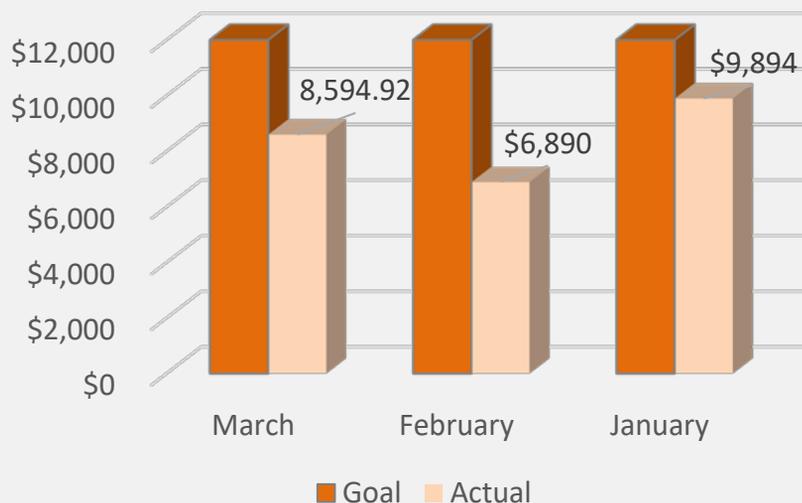
Sustainers Circle:

A sustainer is someone who has consistently been in the Lace on Race community for six months or more and is committed to financially sustaining this space and reliably engaging in the community. [Sustainer Application](#)

Sustainer-in-Training:

If you have not yet met Sustainer criteria due to the six-month active community member requirement and are still interested in becoming a Sustainer, please fill out our [Sustainer-in-Training Form](#).

PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ENGAGEMENT



To community walkers who have and continue to financially engage, we give thanks. It's your generosity that allows Lace on Race to act in concert with our ethos.

LACE ON RACE MENTAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH FUND

This fund will allow Black and Brown women to find time for themselves in authentic, healing self-care. To be able to stop, reflect, to rest. To be able to grieve, to mourn, to commiserate. To experience playfulness and joy, while cherishing one another and themselves.

Monthly engagement goal is to disburse up to \$1,000 from this fund.

To Apply
To Contribute

LOR MERCH



Menu Order Form

FEATURED COMMUNITY PARTNERS



The Black Spectrum Fund **Headquartered in Baltimore, MD**

Helping Black Autistic Children and Adults – Donations to this Fund allow Parent Mediated Intervention (PMI) training to the families of Black autistic children / dependent adults as well as Behavior Self-Management Training to Black autistic adults at no cost.
Engagement: \$1,000



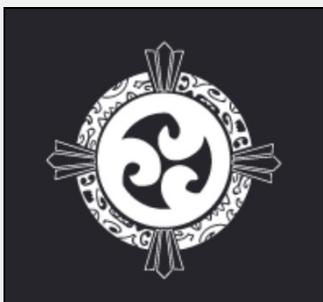
Help Holly Fight Cancer

Go Fund Me for Holly Raines **San Diego, CA**

Engagement: \$1,000

The API Initiative **Headquartered in Chula Vista, CA**

API Initiative promotes, advocates, collaborates and advances Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities through arts and culture; civic engagement and leadership development; outreach and education; research, data collection and evaluation; and teaching assistance and training.
Engagement: \$1,000





I am thinking about inoculations today.

This morning, I am going to go to receive my first Covid-19 shot. I could have gone earlier, but I hesitated.

Not because of what I have heard about people being laid low after their shots (or not only because) but because of the deep inequities shot through the early stages of the vaccine rollout; who could get it; who could pay for it; who cut the line; who got insider tips on where the vaccines were being given; friends and family of pharmacists getting calls on the down low to come get shots which were to be discarded at the end of the day.

Meanwhile those most vulnerable to the virus; poor, those without connections; those without the ability to drive cross town or even across counties at the drop of a hat were left to wait and worry.

The vaccine rollout reflected the top-down ethos of our society. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to sequester in our homes during this worldwide crisis are, without question, the safest. Having our food delivered; good WIFI that connected us to our jobs, where our incomes never suffered, will be the first to enjoy the first tastes of whatever the 'new normal' will shake out to be.

Meanwhile, those on the front lines, have stayed in harm's way throughout this pandemic.

A little over a year ago, when I was still working for the County, when I was (finally) released to work from home, I took a few hours between packing up my cubicle for what everyone thought was a temporary blip, to go to the grocery store to stock up on what I would need to hunker down for the few weeks I would spend here; only a few hours, because I was still expected to sign in when I got home and attempt to work 'like normal' (heh).

When I went into the store; or more accurately, when I stepped into the queue to get into the store, I could already see the fatigue of the staff people already enduring the worst of what frightened people could do when they displaced their anger and uncertainty onto those they felt entitled to unleash the brunt of their frustrations.



It was no better inside the store; people fighting over the last rolls of toilet paper (remember that?), refusing to distance and mask, shouting at store clerks inches away with their unprotected faces. I remember thinking about microcosms.

Those middle-class people, largely white, flexing on store workers, mostly Black and brown, stuck with me. I have always extended myself for retail workers; I was one for years. But this year it has been different. I make sure to give eye contact; make sure they see my eyes crinkle with gratitude. Same with deli and restaurant workers.

These workers, who got mostly empty praise and (very temporary) wage bumps at the beginning of the pandemic, know disingenuousness when they see it. From politicians, from the media, from people mouthing 'thank you for your service', even as they just spent 5 full minutes trying to convince a checkout person that the 2 rolls per person limit was for each person in a household, not per day. And then the clerk would have to serve the next person. And the next. And then take off their clothes outside at the end of their shift so as to limit exposure to their families. And no thought of buying 12 multi packs of toilet paper for them; they were barely making rent. And then to get up and do it again. And again. And again.

Now these same customers, masks still exposing their noses, even after a year of instructions and prompting, feel invincible. They can see the light at the end of the tunnel, even if the workers who serve them cannot, not yet. Who insist on going maskless now that they can eat indoors. The 100 bottles of hand sanitizer hoarded up in their garages completely forgotten. It's done. It's pretty much over. Let's throw a block party!

It's an easy pivot to race.

The conviction of Chauvin has served, for some, as an inoculation of sorts. They can take off their masks and go back to 'normal'. The verdict proved the system is 'safe'. No more masking up; no more having to think about structural inequities or the fact that the verdict was both an aberration *and* a reinforcement of a system every bit as lethal as it was before we were all treated to Chauvin's darting eyes as the verdict was read.

It was no inoculation; the sentencing, when it comes, will not provide immunity from racism; the pathogen of white supremacy has not been killed, either in our bloodstreams or in our hearts.

White supremacy, like new strains of the virus that the vaccine will or will not mitigate, will simply morph; shapeshift, and the need for preventative measures, of lessening and mitigating the harm endured by Black and brown people, perpetuated by white people and white supremacy, will still be crucial.

We cannot relax our diligence and our rigor because we feel the nut has been cracked. It has not been. We cannot allow our exhale because we feel the worst is over, both for the virus and for racism, we cannot allow our collective exhales to potentially infect and sicken the most vulnerable.



[Check Me Out!](#)