To get involved with our Youth Undoing Institutional Racism project, please contact:

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American Friends Service Committee
afsc.org

The American Friends Service Committee is a Quaker organization that promotes lasting peace with justice as a practical expression of faith in action. Our work is based on a belief in the worth of every person, and faith in the power of love to overcome violence and injustice.

From our more than nine decades of experience, we know that systems that marginalize people of color also confer privileges on white people—privileges that are hard for those who benefit to see or acknowledge. So we work with young people and adults across racial lines to promote understanding and healing and to challenge the systems that perpetuate racism.

WHY ARE PEOPLE POOR?
WHY ARE SO MANY BLACK AND LATINO PEOPLE IN PRISON?
WHAT IS THE HISTORY I’M NOT TAUGHT IN SCHOOL?
WHAT IS THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE?
HOW CAN I CHANGE MY COMMUNITY?
WHAT CAN I DO TO END RACISM?

Participating in the St. Louis Youth Undoing Institutional Racism (YUIR) project is one concrete step. Through our trainings and ongoing projects, you will:

- Explore the systemic roots of poverty.
- Learn how race and racism was constructed in the United States.
- Analyze institutional oppression.
- Explore the impact of global economics.
- Learn about the prison industrial complex.
- Examine the impact of militarism.
- Go on field trips to explore the history of communities of color in the St. Louis area.
- Develop nonviolent, anti-racist community organizing skills.

WHAT’S YUIR ALL ABOUT?

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in St. Louis has been working with youth on issues of racial justice since 2012. Our new Youth Undoing Institutional Racism (YUIR) project is part of a national youth-led network mobilizing people of all ages to work against racist systems that oppress us all.

We start with YUIR Weekend, an intensive training designed to inspire a lifetime of community involvement. You’ll get to analyze the systems that perpetuate violence, injustice, and racism, and learn about history and how to organize for change.

Then you’ll build your anti-racist organizing skills through weekly meetings where you design and lead ongoing campaigns and projects with other YUIR youth throughout the year.

St. Louis joins YUIR chapters in Seattle, St. Paul, Pittsburgh, and Charleston (West Virginia), where projects have included a campaign that led to significant changes to a proposed juvenile jail (Seattle) and a community garden that’s drawing more young people into this important work (St. Louis). AFSC’s YUIR programming has been developed in close partnership with the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

YUIR Weekend
Attend a two-and-a-half day anti-racist youth organizing training with young people ages 14–23 from all over the St. Louis area.

YUIR
Join our ongoing YUIR chapter. We meet weekly to design and lead campaigns and projects aimed at disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline and other unjust policies that harm St. Louis youth.

Freedom Garden
Build power in the community through gardening! We are working with the community to develop systems that work for the community and will provide healthy food options in a food desert.