

RESOLUTION NO. 20-21

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP WITH DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY TO FIGHT RACIAL AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE USING THE TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING, AND TRANSFORMATION FRAMEWORK

WHEREAS, this summer the Village of River Forest recognizes that the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and the loss of far too many Black lives to list at the hands of law enforcement officers, have left our nation anguished and outraged; and

WHEREAS, these events and others this year have created a call to action within the Village of River Forest to engage the larger community in conversations and actions to address systematic racial and social injustice; and

WHEREAS, in Summer 2020, the leadership of the Village of River Forest and Dominican University initiated conversations around this call to action, both within the Village and on the Dominican campus; and

WHEREAS, Dominican University started a campus wide initiative to address racial injustice and on its own campus using the framework Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT); and

WHEREAS, developed by the W.K. Kellogg foundation in 2016, TRHT is a nationally recognized, community-based initiative for racial justice. In 2018, the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) committed to establishing 150 campus centers nationwide to prepare the next generation of leaders and thinkers to dismantle racial hierarchies and jettison the belief in a hierarchy of human value. In 2020, Dominican was named as one of twenty-six TRHT Centers; and

WHEREAS, a component of the TRHT framework is to engage and collaborate with the community; and

WHEREAS, TRHT will promote a greater understanding of the global history of racial oppression, take action to eliminate its effects, and strive to transform the world.

WHEREAS, through various meetings and conversations, both the Village of River Forest and Dominican University recognize the importance to engage together and collaborate using the TRHT framework; and

WHEREAS, a partnership in River Forest will include an alliance of government, educational institutions, and community based groups in River Forest, Oak Park, Maywood, and other surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance will collaborate to support equity and antiracist initiatives for open and welcoming communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of River Forest, Cook County, Illinois that the Board, for its members and the residents of the Village of River Forest, supports the partnership with Dominican University under the TRHT framework to fight all forms of racism and inequality.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Village of River Forest and Dominican University will invite and collaborate with Concordia University Chicago.

2. The River Forest Partnership collaborates through its equity initiatives in collaboration with the DU TRHT working group. Partners meet regularly to coordinate their efforts and support community outreach, student engagement, research, projects, and public policy initiatives.
3. The Village of River Forest will seek out resident and community stakeholders to engage in the DU TRHT working groups.
4. The Village of River Forest and Dominican will collaborate with the Village of Maywood with the Twin Village's Covenant.
5. The Village will identify individuals to liaise between the Village, the Village Board of Trustees and the TRHT working groups.

Passed on a roll call vote of the Corporate Authorities on the 26th day of October, 2020.

AYES: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None



Catherine Adduci, Village President

APPROVED by me this 26th day of October, 2020.



Kathleen Brand-White, Village Clerk