

# UJIMA ROCHESTER, Inc.

### "Uplifting Our Youth For The Future"

#### Conference Proposal & Support Letter

Ujima Rochester, Inc. an tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization, offers pro-social development services for youth and families in the areas of cultural-trauma healing, pro-social development services for youth in the fields of pre-placement diversion, home-based intensive supervision. Ujima combats anti-social or delinquent behavior in adolescent youth with a community based, integrated array of services that respond to the needs of the youth and their families, including: Aggression Replacement Training®, Family Functional Counseling, Character And Cultural Education ®, spiritual guidance, Emotional Intelligence, Trauma-informed models of healing®. The uniqueness of our organization is that it operates from a culturally competent and humanness foundations that is respectful of the diversity of the human existence.

Ujima Rochester is proposing to have their 2022 educational conference A Time for Healing, Educating, And Rebuilding VII Conference: "Exploring the Trauma of Community Violence, Strategies for Healing". FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022.

This conference is the 7<sup>th</sup> annual conference of a series that began in 2008 in Rochester, NY with keynote speaker **Dr. Joy DeGruy**. Dr. Joy is the acclaimed author of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome—America's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing, and the newly released, Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: The Study Guide. In P.T.S.S.: The Study Guide, Dr. Joy revisits the topics she covers in P.T.S.S. and provides a detailed mapping of how you can begin the change process in your personal life, employment, family and in your community. She illustrates how—with thoughtful self–exploration—each of us can evaluate our behaviors and replace negative and damaging behaviors with those that will promote, ensure and sustain the healing and advancement of African Americans.

We are honored to have this year's conference in Rochester where it first began, and to be able to partner with The National Association of Multicultural Education.

We would appreciate a speedy response to this proposal as we have much planning to do. We can be reached using the information below should you have additional questions.

In Service.

Dr. Kiah E. Nyame, Founding Director.

Ujima Rochester/Atlanta, Inc.

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Mission: To provide integrated and multidisciplinary services that respond to the needs of youth and their families through intensive and quality programs that promote pro-social behavior and contribute to public safety.

#### What makes this conference different from other "feel good" events? Why is this conference important?

Rochester, Research has determined that much of the socio-cultural trauma affecting Urban communities of America, are the result of residual generational behaviors and present-day experiences, resulting in what is known as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or posttraumatic slave syndrome (PTSS). These are the basis for cynical gun violence.

The intergenerational perspective reveals the impact of trauma, its contagion, and repeated patterns within the family. It may help explain certain behavior patterns, symptoms, roles, and values adopted by family members, family sources of vulnerability as well as resilience and strength, and job choices (following in the footsteps of a relative, a namesake) through the generations. Viewed from a family systems perspective, what happened in one generation will affect what happens in the older or younger generation, though the actual behavior may take a variety of forms. Within an intergenerational context, the trauma and its impact may be passed down as the family legacy even to children born after the trauma (Yael Danieli, 1985. p. 124).

This trauma also has its effects on the construction of the whole self; including personal identity, ethnic identity, cultural identity, social identity, and collective identity. The development of self has been socially determined and institutionally supported through social injustice, societal inconsistency, and personal impotence. To function in the face of any one of these does cruel and unusual violence to the construction of self. To function in the face of all three, subjects the self to severe crippling or even destruction.

The data suggest that PTSD/PTSS is undertreated or undiagnosed in primary care settings and that this may be related to barriers in receiving mental health services. Research has determined these same barriers are faced by similarly disadvantaged populations and the degree to which other potentially causal mechanisms such as poor health education, contributed to these barriers. In the meantime, awareness of these barriers might help clinicians begin to work with their patients on solutions to overcome them. As well as equipping educators and human service providers with explanations of how to better serve this population. Americans in low-income, urban communities are at high risk for exposure to traumatic events as well as for symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Among the common traumas were having relatives/friends murdered (47%), being attacked with weapons (64% of men), and being sexually attacked (36% of women). Although desiring mental health services, only 13.3% of those with PTSD had prior trauma-focused treatment. Barriers to treatment included culture, limited transportation and finances, stigma, family disapproval, and unfamiliarity with accessing treatment, among others. This data highlights the need for an awareness of the high prevalence of trauma, PTSS, and PTSD in this population. The above data suggest that there is a need for healing, educating, and rebuilding services and that participants with PTSD are not receiving such treatment.

We submit to you, "Let the Healing Begin."

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## SPONSOR APPLICATION

A Time for Healing, Educating, And Rebuilding VII Conference: "Exploring the Trauma of Community Violence, Strategies for Healing". FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022

## UJIMA ROCHESTER, INC's

\*\* WELCOMES BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! \*\*

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER, DR. JOY DEGRUY

Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center 123 E. Main St. Rochester, NY.

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	\$10,000 - GOLD SPONSOR: Receives a display table, free 1/2-page ad in program, mention as a sponsor of event, logo prominently displayed on marketing material and a table for 8 attendees.  \$5,000 - SILVER SPONSOR: Receives a display table, free 1/4-page ad in program, logo on marketing material, and a table for 5 attendees.  \$2,000 - SPONSOR: Receives a display table, free business card ad in program, logo on marketing material and a certificate of recognition.  Less than \$1,000 - DONATION: Receives a certificate of recognition, name mention in program material and autographed copy of Dr. Joy DeGruy's book			
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