



present an online

Community Conversation

April 4, 2022

Discrimination Based upon Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Rights and Remedies

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter”

Today’s Community Conversation is generously supported by the Norma and Natale Sestero Fund administered by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

The Norma and Natale Sestero Fund was created through the estate of Natale and Norma Sestero, longtime residents of Glastonbury, with the goal to benefit the people and institutions of the town. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is the community foundation for the 29-town Greater Hartford region and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for area residents.

www.glastonburymkci.org



Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, that was formed in 2001. GMLKCI's mission is to increase knowledge about, and understanding of, the philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community. We believe that bringing people together to discuss openly and honestly social justice issues will help build a more inclusive and tolerant community. As Dr. King noted, "**... whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly...**" and "**...the quality of a community is determined by how members of the community relate to one another.**"

The goal of this Community Conversation is to inform and inspire Glastonbury residents to become actively involved in social justice issues by discussing in an open and congenial manner issues which may divide us or bind us together as individuals, families and a community.

All of the social justice issues discussed during this evening's Community Conversation are addressed in light of Dr. King's principles.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

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PROBUS
GREATER
HARTFORD

PROBUS Greater Hartford was founded in 1955 and members and volunteers are area PROfessional and BUSiness men and women joined to develop and support programs for persons with disabilities. The mission of PROBUS is to improve the quality of life of people with intellectual and physical challenges. Activities promote socialization and integration into the mainstream culture of the community.

PROBUS pledges to treat all individuals equally, and to follow all the terms of the “Disability Awareness/ People First Language Pledge”. Members and volunteers support Special Needs Education, campership, and cultural and sporting experiences. They work with other organizations to serve and enhance the lives of our fellow citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

PROBUS is actively seeking volunteers to participate in rewarding activities & events, and new board members dedicated to expanding PROBUS’ impact through equity and inclusion. For more information or to contribute, please visit:

www.hartfordprobus.org

Program

Welcome and Introduction

David O'Connor—GMLKCI

Adrienne Maslin—PROBUS

Panel Moderator:

Charlie Dobrow, President of PROBUS

Our Panelists:

Tanya A. Hughes, Esq , Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

Kimberly Jacobsen, Attorney, Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

Shannon Jacovino, Ombudsperson, Connecticut Department of Developmental Services

John Hampton, Connecticut General Assembly Representative of the 16th House Assembly District of Simsbury

Conversation—Questions and Answers

Please enter your Questions into the Zoom “Chat”

Closing Remarks and Appreciation

Please complete the program evaluation survey that will appear as you exit Zoom. Your opinions are important to our programming and fundraising efforts.

Charlie Dobrow

Charlie Dobrow is the President of PROBUS Greater Hartford, an organization created to develop and support programs for persons with disabilities. He is a Sales and Marketing professional at one of the country's leading Business to Business sales lead generation firms. He joined PROBUS in 2014 to help intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals enjoy life, experience fun activities and socialize in the community. His goals for the organization include continuing to partner with like-minded charities and broaden the organization's reach. He wants PROBUS to become more of a household name, not a best kept secret. He also wants to grow the Board and promote diversity and inclusivity on the Board.

Tanya A. Hughes

Tanya Hughes was named Executive Director of The Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities in 2013. The mission of the CHRO is to eliminate discrimination through civil and human rights law enforcement and to establish equal opportunity and justice for all persons within the state through advocacy and education. CHRO is responsible for enforcing human rights laws that ban illegal discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and credit transactions, and laws requiring affirmative action in state agency personnel practices. Prior to becoming Executive Director, Ms. Hughes served as the regional manager of CHRO's Bridgeport office. She has also been an active member on the Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project.

Kimberly Jacobsen

Kimberly Jacobsen is a Litigation Attorney for The Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. She earned a BA in Sociology from the University of Delaware and a JD from Western New England College School of Law. Ms. Jacobsen joined CHRO in 2001 as a housing discrimination investigator and became a Staff Attorney for the Workers' Compensation Commission. She has a special interest in housing discrimination, breast-feeding rights, disability law, and mediation. Much of Ms. Jacobsen's practice consists of assisting people with disabilities who have experienced adversity in their employment or housing, or who have needed reasonable accommodations.

Shannon Jacovino

Shannon Jacovino is the Ombudsperson for the Connecticut Department of Developmental Services. In this role, she works with individuals, families, state agencies, municipalities, state lawmakers, and other stakeholders to help resolve their challenges with the department using a person-centered approach. She also helps individuals and families find information to solve specific issues and problems they may be having and help them navigate the DSS system. Prior to this appointment, she was the organizer for the Connecticut Congress of Community Colleges and was the director of advocacy and public policy for The Arc Connecticut.

John Hampton

John Hampton represents the 16th House Assembly District of Simsbury in the Connecticut General Assembly. First elected in 2012, Representative Hampton is a Majority Whip at Large and a member of the Disabilities and the Impact of COVID-19 Committee along with the Finance, Revenue and Bonding, Children, Aging, and Commerce committees. Prior to his election to the General Assembly, Mr. Hampton served on the Simsbury Board of Selectmen from 2003-2012, including five years as Deputy First Selectman.

The Town of Glastonbury Human Relations Commission is available to assist any resident who, because of race, color, age, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or intellectual, mental or physical disability, has been discriminated against in a manner prohibited by the laws of the State of Connecticut or the Town of Glastonbury. For additional information visit the Town's website or contact the Commission through the Human Resources Department, (860) 652-7501.



Thank you for joining us for tonight's program. Your attendance encourages the work we do as members of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative to make Glastonbury a more inclusive place to live and visit.

While all of our programs are free, we are dependent on you for financial support. The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is a 501(c)(3) corporation and all donations are tax deductible. **Please consider supporting our efforts with a financial contribution.** You can send your tax deductible contributions to:

**GMLKCI Treasurer
62 Chimneysweep Hill Road
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033**

Also please consider supporting the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative through the Amazon Smiles program.

Visit smile.amazon.com. Select **Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to GMLKCI.

You can also support GMLKCI by using the DONATE button on our web site—www.glastonburymlkci.org

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative would like to thank our Sponsors, who make this work possible



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