



DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Critical Community Conversation

"One Voice: Partner Up, Speak Up, Speak Out Against Gun Violence"

"Raise Your Voice: Advocate and Act"

"If You See Something, Hear Something, Say Something"

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter (DST/IAC) under the leadership of, Dr. Gwendolyn L. Johnson, is honored to host our First Annual Gun Violence Awareness event during June, Crime Prevention Month for the Indianapolis community. The event is in partnership with the Indiana Healthy Marriage and Family Coalition, Inc. (IHMFC). Ms. LaTasha Stubblefield serves as the agency's President. Collaborating partners are, Girt Enterprises; My New Mentality; Unite for Change, Brewer & Associates, Inc., Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Homicide Unit.

January 2021, there has been an elevated number of gun related deaths including mass shooting in our city. Our young people have decided to us guns instead of words to solve their problems. **According to our IMPD Data Base, the total number of homicides as of April 2021 is 67 which is up from 47 this same time in 2020. The most alarming data revealed was, in 2020 our city had the highest number of people killed by gun violence than it has had in 20 years. Also alarming was, Gun Violence was responsible for 89% of homicides. However, only 55% have resulted in arrest.** To address these issues, through its Family Life Education Committee and with its partnering agencies the chapter is holding a **Critical Community Conversation** on the city coming together to form and outlet for the community to talk candidly about Gun Violence. **The Honorable Tanya Walton Pratt, Chief Judge of Indiana, Southern District will serve as the Moderator.** The confirmed Expert Conservationists are, Magistrate Judge Doris Pryor; Assistant United States Attorney, Jeremy Morris Esquire; Commander Capitan Roger Sturgeon, Director, Homicide Unit and Lisa Brown, Manager of Victims Assistance Program IMPD; Community Activist, Pastor and Media Guru, John E. Girton, Jr. CEO/President Girt Enterprises and Founder of Unite for Change; Toby Miller, Senior Executive and Social Equity Expert,; and Pastor Kenneth Sullivan Jr., Senior Pastor, New Direction Church.

The month of June is nationally recognized as **"Wear Orange Social Media Day"** **Therefore, the chapter is declaring June 5th as "Wear Orange Social Media Day for the Iconic Indy IAC and "WE" are asking our partnering and collaborating agencies, the city and citizens of Indianapolis to join "US" in solidarity by wearing ORANGE to bring attention to Crime Prevention due to High Rate of Gun Violence and other Violent Crimes. The 'LIVE' virtual Critical Community Conversation will be held Saturday, June 5th from 2:30 PM-4:30 PM.**

The event can be viewed live on All DST/IAC Social Media Outlets:

Instagram: @IndyDeltas

Twitter: @IndyDeltas

YouTube: Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta

FaceBook: IAC Wellness Community

#WEARORANGEJUNE5TH

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