



The Black Belt Community Foundation

# DATA IMPACT CENTER

# The Black Belt Bulletin

ISSUE 2 | JANUARY 2023 | FOCUS ON TRHT



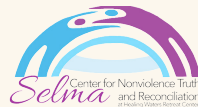
## TRHT

### Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation

TRHT is a comprehensive, national and community-based process to plan for and bring about transformational and sustainable change, and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. **TRHT Selma** was initiated in Selma in May 2017 with the Black Belt Community Foundation established as a TRHT grantee by funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.



**BBCF has joined forces with the Selma Center for Nonviolence as their programmatic place partner to implement the TRHT process for Selma and Dallas County.**



### FIVE MAIN FOCAL AREAS

- 1 Narrative change:**  
How to create a more complete and accurate narrative that will help people understand how racial hierarchy has been embedded in our society.
- 2 Racial healing & relationship-building:**  
How all of us can heal from the wounds of the past and build mutually respectful relationships across racial and ethnic lines.
- 3 Separation/segregation:**  
How to dismantle and transform the laws, policies, structures, habits and biases that created and sustain separation.
- 4 Economy:**  
How to remove the structured inequality and barriers to economic opportunities, and develop solutions that will create a more equitable society.
- 5 Law:**  
How the community recognizes the historical significance our system of law has played in perpetuating the hierarchy of human value.

## TRHT Innovation in the Black Belt

In response to needs identified through the Dallas County Area Study, TRHT Selma is working to launch an innovation center to serve as a hub for transformation in Selma, Alabama. The 2020-2021 Study was led by Dr. Sekou Franklin of Middle Tennessee State University and designed to measure resource availability and attitudes related to financial mobility across Dallas County. **The innovation center will offer residents and tourists alike the chance to envision, support, and experience an economically transforming Selma.** Located directly adjacent to the Ancient Africa, Slavery, and Civil War Museum in downtown Selma, the innovation center will house two merchandise showrooms, a community classroom space, and co-working facilities.

The innovation center will exemplify our theory of change by tackling the work of changing hearts and minds for the better as we increase access to resources related to improving material conditions across our community. Transformation Coaches will specialize in walking step-by-step with members of the innovation center to define and create a success plan as well as help address challenges to success as they occur. Partnerships with entities including Hope Credit Union, Lifelines Counseling, and the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America will offer local residents the opportunity to improve their quality of life for families regardless of income or experience. Events like the upcoming "I Have a Dream" Vision Board Experience for Entrepreneurs invite those with business ideas or growing businesses to become connected to the innovation center. To learn more about the innovation center, follow the progress, and support its development, log onto [TRHTSelma.org](http://TRHTSelma.org).

**"The Innovation Center will exemplify our theory of change by tackling the work of changing hearts and minds for the better as we increase access to resources related to improving material conditions across our community."** – Lydia Chatmon, Director of TRHT for BBCF



## Upcoming TRHT Events

JAN 14

**THE "I HAVE A DREAM" VISION BOARD EXPERIENCE FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS**  
Saturday at 11:00AM  
Register: [bit.ly/BizVision2023](http://bit.ly/BizVision2023)

JAN 16

**MLK DAY OF SERVICE CLOTHING & WINTER WEAR GIVEAWAY**  
Monday 11:30AM - 1:00PM  
Contact: [admin@selmacntr.org](mailto:admin@selmacntr.org)

JAN 17

**NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING: VOICES OF OUR HISTORY**  
Tuesday at 5:30PM  
1400 Water Avenue, Selma, AL

JAN 19

**VIRTUAL RACIAL EQUITY TRAINING**  
Thursday at 10:30AM  
Register: [bit.ly/racialequityvirtual](http://bit.ly/racialequityvirtual)

