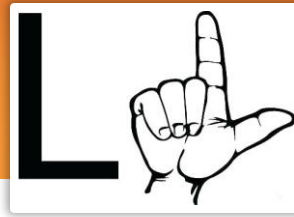


# BRLN Quarterly Update

June 2019



## Black and Reformed Leadership Network

My name is Darrell Delaney and I have the privilege of serving as a contracted employee for the BRLN and the Great Lakes Region of Resonate. We have been underway with preliminary discussions beginning in January. We are so excited to discern what God is up to in our Leaders of Color in the CRC. Here's a little bit about myself:

- I am a Child of God who has been a Christian over 30 years.
- I am married to my lovely wife Kia for 15 years and we have three children (Chris 12, Tristan 8, Acacia 5)
- I serve as Campus Pastor at Madison Church in Grand Rapids, MI, a multi-site church with three campuses and three lead pastors.
- I have been ordained as a Minister of the Word, with education from Kuyper College (B.S. Bible/Theology), Western Theological Seminary (M.Div) and Calvin Seminary (Th.M),

Thanks for allowing me to introduce myself.

As Team Leader, I would now like to tell you about the *Black and Reformed Leadership Network*. This is why the BRLN exists:

### **The Black and Reformed Leadership Network**

brings together clergy, seminarians, church planters, staff and other interested individuals to be equipped, encouraged and empowered for service in the CRCNA and in God's world. We embrace God's vision of a

diverse family, which transforms lives and communities causing them to thrive emotionally, physically, spiritually, and professionally.

Here are our top three goals:

- **Church Planting/Revitalization:** We would like to continue to make disciples of Jesus by planting healthy ethnic churches, supporting their leaders, as well as revitalize churches that find themselves in the midst of urbanization.
- **Commissioned Pastors:** As we see more and more leaders of Color emerging, we would like to make sure they are adequately trained to minister in the CRC while helping them to contextualize that training to their current context.
- **Racist ideology in theology:** We understand that we are called to look closely at our Reformed tradition and practices, as well as help the wider denomination understand that there are some cultural challenges racially and ethnically that could possibly hinder the development of leaders of Color and ensure they feel like they belong in our denomination. This category helps us to look to scripture to assess how we do things and hold us all accountable to what the Lord teaches about reconciliation and also understand that there have been challenges historically with power dynamics in the CRC.

Our current team is small, but we are looking to add to our numbers. Currently serving on the team are Rev. Richard Jones, Rev. Fred Harvey, Rev. William Karshima, and myself, with Rev. Denise Posie and Rev. Dr. Reginald Smith as advisors. We are also looking to get the word out that we are here, by way of the CRC's Network site, and on Facebook (search Black and Reformed Leadership Network). We are attempting to strengthen our connections to each other and the wider denomination at this time. So spread the word!

Finally, we covet your prayers as we organize and look forward to being a contributing part of the Ethnic and Diversity Functional Team (EDFT), led by Rev. Reggie Smith and Rev. Moses Chung. May God use us all to bring disciples into His Kingdom, for His glory! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [ddelaney@madisonsquarechurch.org](mailto:ddelaney@madisonsquarechurch.org). Understand that I will be away for the summer, so if you have need of immediate information feel free to email Rev. Denise Posie at [dposie@crcna.org](mailto:dposie@crcna.org).

**In Christ and for Him,**

Pastor Darrell Delaney



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**July 14, 2019** - [A Call to Repentance, Prayer, and Action against Racism](#)

**August 1-3, 2019** - [Inspire 2019](#) to be held in Windsor, ON.

**August 18, 2019** - CRC Annual Day of Justice

Join us August 1-3 at **Inspire 2019!** A complete list of workshops and registration info can be found at [crcna.org/inspire](http://crcna.org/inspire). If you haven't registered yet, use the special code **INSPIREFRIEND** for a discounted rate.

**Stay Connected** with the Black and Reformed Leadership Network [Facebook Group](#). It's a safe, closed group for you to participate in. Look us up and request to be a member.

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