



*We build* **economic equity,**  
**social justice &**  
**racial understanding** *in*  
*Southeast Michigan*

June, 2017

## **Shirley Stancato Receives Honorary Degree for Racial Equity Work**

Shirley Stancato



Shirley Stancato, president and chief executive officer of New Detroit, has received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from University of Michigan for her efforts to promote racial equity in the region.

“We celebrate your many contributions to Detroit and the State of Michigan as an engaged citizen and champion of education, and architect of civic engagement opportunities that bridge economic, geographical and racial divides. You inspire students and others with your commitment to create a more inclusive society and eliminate race as an obstacle to progress,” said U-M Regent, Mark Bernstein who conferred the degree with UM Dearborn Chancellor Daniel Little during UM-Dearborn’s commencement ceremony on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **New Detroit Continues On-Going Training with the Detroit Police Department**



Detroit Police Chief, James Craig

As part of our ongoing work and relationship with the Detroit Police Department, New Detroit conducted an Implicit Bias Training for the department's C.O.R.E. Leadership Team (Committee on Racial Equality). C.O.R.E. is comprised of a diverse group of male and female Detroit Police Officers, including sergeants and lieutenants. This committee is tasked to make recommendations to the Chief of Police on issues that include, but are not limited to perceptions of preferential treatment in job assignments, disciplinary action, performance ratings, appointments to executive positions, accountability regarding supervisory personnel and the Department's internal Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP). Chief James Craig addressed the group and shared some personal stories regarding bias and individual growth. New Detroit’s role was to offer some

insight regarding challenges Detroit Police Officers have in expressing their concerns about race relations within the department.

## **THE JOURNEY CONTINUES: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Genealogy and Storytelling Racial Healing Project**



Genealogy and Storytelling Racial Healing Project Participants

New Detroit's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Genealogy and Storytelling Racial Healing Project continues to be a unique and powerful journey for all of our participants. Participants include New Detroit board members and partner organizations who serve and impact vulnerable children: Plante Moran, Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS), Michigan League for Public Policy, The Urban League of Detroit and Southeast Michigan, Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA), The Arab American National Museum, The Editorial Staff of the Detroit News and American Indian Health and Family Services. Over the past 6 months the participants in this project engaged in sessions that combined genealogy research and DNA testing with historical analysis and storytelling to shine light and understanding on the issue of race in America. As a next step we've asked participants to use the knowledge gained from the sessions about genealogy research, DNA testing, history and storytelling to share with small groups of storytelling circles within their families, organizations/companies, and/or communities. The storytelling circles are intended to be a safe space for racial healing and journeys of reflection to take place. We kicked off these circles in May by hosting two at the Detroit Public library and are in the process of scheduling more during the upcoming months.

