



"We need you defecting from white supremacy and changing the narrative of white supremacy by breaking white silence."

Alicia Garza

"In a sense, the battle is and always has been a battle for the hearts and mind of white people in this country. The fight against racism is not something we're called on to help people of color with. *We need to become involved as if our lives depended on it because, in truth, they do.*"

Anne Braden



SURJ Northern Virginia

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"Whites, it must be frankly said, are not putting in a similar mass effort to reeducate themselves out of their racial ignorance. It is an aspect of their sense of superiority that the white people of America believe they have so little to learn."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
*Where Do We Go from Here:  
Chaos or Community?*

Are *you* ready to learn?  
Welcome to

***SURJ***

Northern  
Virginia

***SHOWING UP FOR  
RACIAL JUSTICE***

**SURJ Northern Virginia is a chapter of a national network of groups and individuals organizing white people for racial justice.**

Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves white people to act as part of a multiracial movement for justice with passion and accountability. We work to connect people across northern Virginia while supporting and collaborating with local and national racial justice organizing efforts. SURJ provides a space to build relationships, skills, and political analysis to act for change.



Photo by Stephen Melkisetian.

**Our shared values...**

***Calling people in, not calling out***

Our focus is on working with white people who are invested in anti-racism and want to take action for racial justice. We are committed to inviting white people into this movement.

***Taking risks, learning, and keep going***

People of color take risks just by living their lives with full dignity. They also put themselves on the line for justice. We challenge ourselves and other white people to take risks as well, to stand up against racist systems, actions, and structures every day.

***Tap into white mutual interest***

Our own liberation as white people, our own humanity, is inextricably linked to racial justice. Mutual interest means our own freedom is bound up in the freedom of people of color.

***Accountability through action***

We maintain ongoing relationships, individually and organizationally, with leaders and organizations led by people of color. We are committed to the work of moving more white people into action in our local communities, regionally, and nationally for racial justice.

***Enough for everyone***

Dominant white culture teaches us to feel isolation and scarcity in everything we do. Resources are structurally and unequally distributed, but we believe there is enough for all of us. We raise resources to support people of color-led efforts while doing our own work.

**We are showing up to challenge racism. Together we can make the world we want and need. *Join us.***



Photo by UM Women.

“An older, African American leader that I respected highly told me I had to make a choice: be a part of the world of the lynchers or join the Other America—of people from the very beginning of this country who *opposed injustice*, and especially opposed racism and slavery...

*“I could be a part of that—that it existed today and offered me a home to live in. I felt like, well, that’s what I wanna be a part of.”*

Anne Braden