Mission

The mission of the I-CARE Team is to act as a resource for the Chief of Police in forming strategies, developing policing concepts, and increasing public awareness regarding policing issues.

Vision

Bridging the Raleigh Police Department and the communities they serve by building mutual trust and respect for a stronger, safer tomorrow.

Prepared by:
Cynthia Adams, Research & Planning Specialist
I-CARE Chairman’s Message

Dear I-CARE Team Members:

When Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown invited a diverse group of faith leaders to come together to serve as a bridge between the Raleigh Police Department and the community, little did we know that we would be serving during two national pandemics, COVID-19 and racial injustice. We were forced to balance the need to get to know each other better with the immediate need to respond to the crisis at hand. During our first six months, we met often. We were able to identify a clear vision and better understand the level of commitment needed to serve as a bridge between the police department and the community. Recognizing its power, we began and ended every meeting with prayer and encouraged each other to pray often for our community and nation.

Early on, we participated in several community protests as a show of support and to establish our presence in the community. I am especially proud of the logo we developed and displayed on polo shirts and I-CARE identification cards worn during a food and mask distribution, a prayer in the park event, and a locally sponsored Faith & Blue Weekend.

During the next six months, I look forward to establishing a more cohesive group as we dig deeper into the issues that plague our society. We are scheduled to complete a de-escalation training, and I look forward to a training on racial equity. I anticipate increased dialogue between the police and community members in order to address their needs and concerns. In the future, I believe we can establish a greater presence in the community and become an integral part of community policing where there is mutual trust and respect for all. I recognize this will not be an easy task and we will be faced with many challenges; however, I also recognize the potential to effect life-altering change.

I am honored to serve alongside each of you.

Peace and Blessings,
Rev. Dr. Wayne E. Beatty, Chairman
INTERFAITH COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS FOR RESPONSIVE ENGAGEMENT (I-CARE)
TEAM
2020-2021

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<th>TEAM MEMBERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Imam Mohamed AbuTaleb</td>
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<td>Lisa Bauer</td>
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<td>Chairperson- Reverend Dr. Wayne Beatty</td>
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<td>Reverend Dr. Randy Carter</td>
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<td>Vice-Chairperson- Bishop Darnell Dixon</td>
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<td>John Dornan</td>
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<td>Pastor Cristiane Dutra</td>
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**Raleigh Police Chaplains**
- Reverend Paul Anderson
- Reverend Meta Ellington
- Reverend James Seymour
- Reverend Henry Vandergriff
- Reverend Ken Wagnon

**Raleigh Police Staff**
- Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown
- Sgt. Jason Borneo, Research & Planning Unit
- Det. James Hampton, Police Chief’s Office
- Michael Ballen, Community Policing Coordinator
- Shelley Owens, Police Chief’s Office
- Cynthia Adams, Research & Planning Unit
- Donna-Maria Harris, Public Information Officer
- Ofc. Bryan Heard, Public Information Office
Interfaith Community Ambassadors for Responsive Engagement
Mid-year Report

The Interfaith Community Ambassadors for Responsive Engagement (I-CARE) team was created in 2019 as a coalition of faith leaders who would serve as ambassadors between law enforcement and faith organizations in Raleigh. The volunteer members of the team would also serve as a direct line of communication between the community and the police department to address needs and concerns and increase awareness about the role and function of the police in our city.

In November 2019, a letter and I-CARE brochure was mailed to more than 200 faith leaders in the Raleigh area, inviting them to apply to become a member of the I-CARE Team. On November 19, 2019 at the PNC Arena, the Raleigh Police Department hosted an I-CARE Information Breakfast for those faith leaders. A total of 65 faith leaders from all over Raleigh came together to learn more about the department’s new initiative. Application packets were available to each faith leader who attended.
The department’s plan was to choose between 12 and 14 faith leaders who would meet regularly with RPD staff to discuss ways to better the community. After background checks were completed on the 31 applications received, the Selection Committee began the selection process. The Selection Committee consisted of Chief Deck-Brown, Commander Sherry Hunter, Sgt. Jason Borneo, Michael Ballen, and Cynthia Adams.

The Selection Committee met several times to examine the applications and chose the best 13 qualified applicants to serve on the first I-CARE Team. All applicants were notified, and each accepted their appointment to the I-CARE Team. The applicants were from a broad range of religious backgrounds, from non-denominational to Buddhist.

Although planning was under way for the first meeting, the new normal shifted the department away from how things used to be done. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the meeting format was changed to virtual. The first virtual meeting was held on Thursday, April 30. To date, all meetings have been virtual. The 2021 monthly meeting dates will be published soon.

After a night of unrest during the George Floyd protest, I-CARE Team members (Dr. Wayne Beatty, Bishop Darnell Dixon) and police staff (Sgt. Jason Borneo and Michael Ballen) walked the streets of downtown Raleigh to assess the damages on Sunday, May 31.
I-CARE Team members Dr. Wayne Beatty, Lisa Bauer, and Bishop Darnell Dixon participated in a “Community of Faith Prayer Walk” on Saturday, June 6 after the George Floyd riot and protest. (Not pictured)

I-CARE Team members, their congregants, family, and friends participated in their first public event, a food distribution and mask giveaway, on Saturday, August 22 at Southeast Raleigh High School. This event was led by the RPD’s Southeast District and co-sponsored by the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, the Raleigh Police Department, WakeMed, Team Truth, Raleigh Parks and Recreation, and the Wake County Public School System.
During the months of July and August, Chief Deck-Brown and Sgt. Jason Borneo were interviewed for Pastor Cris Dutra’s YouTube channel segment, “Meet Our Community”.

A Prayer Vigil was held on Saturday, August 29 in Moore Square led by faith leaders. I-CARE Team members Bishop Darnell Dixon, Dr. James Seymour, and Dr. Randy Carter joined in unity with the Mayor and Chief Deck-Brown and others praying for social justice and peace after a night of social justice demonstrations in downtown Raleigh. (Not pictured)

I-CARE Team members Dr. Wayne Beatty, Dr. Randy Carter, Rev. James Seymour, Bishop Ronald Sharpe, Rev. Robert Hodges, and Alicia Torruella gathered at the Police Memorial in front of the Raleigh Municipal Building on Friday, September 25, to pray for the City and its leaders ahead of the Breonna Taylor protest scheduled for Saturday, September 26.
National Faith and Blue is an initiative that brings faith-based institutions and law enforcement together to build stronger collaborations and relationships in the communities they serve. The Faith and Blue Weekend was held October 9-12. The Raleigh Police Department joined in events that I-CARE Team members hosted or partnered with other houses of worship. Special thanks to Rev. James Seymour (North Haven Church); Rev. Paul Anderson (The Fountain of Raleigh Fellowship); Dr. Randy Carter (New Hope Baptist Church); Dr. Wayne Beatty (Lincolnville AME Church); and Alicia Torruella (Baha’i Assembly).
**TRAINING**
The I-CARE Team will participate in virtual Verbal De-escalation training taught by Lt. D. C. Nieters of the Raleigh Police Department. The training dates are:
- Thursday, November 5 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 12 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 19 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Racial Equity training will be forthcoming in 2021.

**SCHEDULED MEETINGS**
There will not be a November monthly meeting. According to policy, Team members must be able to commit to attend scheduled meetings and actively participate. To remain active, members must attend 75 percent of the scheduled meetings. The remaining meeting dates in 2020 are:
- Thursday, December 3 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 31 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The 2021 meeting dates will be published soon.