

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE: ECONOMIC JUSTICE



One project of the Economic Justice Working Group is an effort to promote purchasing from Black-owned businesses. This project is anchored in our awareness of insidious past and present racial discrimination; and in the evidence that Black-owned businesses are likely to hire Black people, and foster economic improvement for Black families and communities along with myriad other benefits. Like all small businesses only much moreso, Black-owned businesses often fail, or fail to start, due to lack of access to capital or the challenge of reaching their desired markets and customers. When we make a meaningful effort to spend dollars in line with our hopes for the world around us, we are participating in the drive for economic justice.

Temple Israel has already begun to rely on several new vendors thanks to the leadership of Executive Director Dan Deutsch and Events Coordinator Jennifer Cinnante. The list below reflects a range of businesses and there are many more businesses of all kinds on a larger list you will find on the Temple Israel website at www.tisrael.org/racial-justice-initiative. We will add to the list regularly. Please treat the owners and proprietors as friends of Temple Israel. We are building relationships and strengthening our community in the process. If you have feedback, contact TI members Thel Klein at thelklein@gmail.com or Andy Tarsy at atarsy@gmail.com.

FOOD, DRINK, & ENTERTAINMENT (INCLUDES CATERING)

Fresh Food Generation

Dorchester, 617-602-7185

freshfoodgeneration.com

This "farm to plate" caterer is now a regular presence at Temple Israel. Owners Cassandra Campbell and Jackson Renshaw have deep roots in farming, nutrition, and youth development. Empanadas, salads, wraps, soups, and more are bursting with flavor. Excellent catering and a food truck too!

Darryl's Corner Bar & Kitchen

604 Columbus Ave, South End, 617-536-1100

dcbkboston.com

Restaurateur and developer Darryl Settles has created a relaxed, sophisticated atmosphere for "southern comfort food and signature cocktails with a side of some of the best jazz in Boston." Go for dinner or Sunday brunch, and consider their excellent catering.

Slade's Bar and Grill

958 Tremont St., Lower Roxbury, 617-442-4600

SladesBarandGrill.com

Recently re-done by Darryl Settles, Slade's has more than 80 years of history being the "soul of Boston" with southern-style dining, drinks, and entertainment in Lower Roxbury. It was owned by Celtic legend Bill Russell in the 1960s.

Restaurante Cesaria

266 Bowdoin St., Boston (Dorchester)

617-282-1998, Restaurantcesaria.com

70,000 Massachusetts residents are Cape Verdean and Tony Barros' has been offering the cuisine of the archipelago off the coast of West Africa for 15 years. If you have not tried Cape Verdean cuisine or if you already love it – this is your place.

Suya Joint

185 Dudley Street, Roxbury, 617-708-0245

Suyajoint.com

Owner & chef Cecilia Lizotte offers "All-Africa Cuisine" and describes the Nigerian inspired fare as "an artistic creation."

ZaZ

1238 River Street, Cleary Square, Hyde Park

617-276-3729, zazrestaurant.com

Caribbean, Italian, Spanish, and Asian flavors define the palate of owner/chef Orlie Roberts. Lunch, dinner, and excellent catering.

Coast Cafe

233 River Street, Cambridge, 617-354-7644

Coastsoulcafe.com

Cambridge locals adore the soul-food that Tony Brooks and team prepare. "Our food is the progressive, healthier prepared version that our families grew up on in the South."

Lucy Ethiopian Café

334 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, 617-536-0415

Owners Netsanet Woldesenbet and husband (chef) Girmay Cirsto Ziegaye have a perfect pre-Symphony spot for dinner. Their Ethiopian café boasts authentic flavors and is an art gallery too – and some say you just have to try the Peanut Tea.

MIDA

782 Tremont Street, South End, 617-936-3490

www.midaboston.com

Zagat says chef/owner Douglass Williams has one of the hottest new Italian restaurants in Boston. "We believe meals are meant to be shared and that everyone in the neighborhood should have a comfortable place to unwind, enjoy great food, imbibe and have fun."

Blue Nile Restaurant and Marathon Foods

389 Centre Street, JP, 617-522-6453, bluenilejp.com

Some say this is the best Ethiopian food in Boston, with really good vegetarian options. "Healthy food prepared from scratch" is not just a slogan. This is a serious food place. Marathon Foods is the name of their company that packages their offerings for sale in area markets.

Savvor Restaurant and Lounge

180 Lincoln Street, Boston, 857-250-2165

savvorbostonlounge.com

Owner F. Eddy Firmin's upscale Leather District spot is "the perfect combination of authentic Southern comfort cuisine with delectable Caribbean influences." Firmin calls Savvor "a restaurant whose employees are held in the highest esteem, guests are treated like family and food is paramount."

Teranga

1746 Washington Street, South End, 617-266-0003

Terangaboston.com

Boston's first Senegalese restaurant is in the South End. Chef/creator Marie Claude-Mendy was born in Senegal, raised in Paris, and educated in London; but Boston is home. "Teranga" means hospitality and the place is built to bring that virtue of Senegalese culture to life. Teranga offers catering, too.

Wally's Cafe Jazz Club

427 Massachusetts Avenue, South End

617-424-1408, Wallyscafe.com

Since 1947 the Walcott family has been delivering an authentic jazz experience to patrons. Professionals take the stage every night and exceptionally skilled and talented students from Berklee and other places too. This is an institution – for music and for Boston.

Morrell's BBQ

Stoughton, 480-226-4976, www.morrells-bbq.com

With a passion for delivering the taste of home-cooking and a reputation for excellence, Morrell's caters events all over the greater Boston area.

Brazo Fuerte Brewing

Brazo-fuerte.squarespace.com

Founder/CEO Beverly Armstrong runs the state's first female-owned brewery. The former biotech executive makes full flavored session ales and pursues sustainable practices in every aspect of the business, even making dog treats from used grains. Find it at any Craft Beer Cellar location or on tap at Boston's Club Cafe, Midway Cafe, or Townsman; or Cambridge's Flat-top Johnny's – among many other places.

The Dream Team Band

Athene Wilson, divadish2@aol.com, 617-594-9338

Dream Team "rocks crowds at weddings, parties and corporate events" with a "mix of music designed to fit your unique crowd." TI's Thel Klein says, "Great dance band for any occasion!"

Sweet Teez Bakery

Dorchester, 718-473-4112, Sweetteezbakery.com

Teresa Thompson Maynard set out to create a nut-free cupcake in response to her children's allergies. Now she runs a custom cakes and bakery business and will have a store location soon.

Me & the Bees Lemonade

512-580-3899, MeandTheBees.com

Find pre-teen CEO Mikaila Ulmer's products at Whole Foods or order directly online. This dynamo has created a phenomenon around all natural product development and the use of honey from her own bees in the flaxseed enriched lemonade she makes. She even won a \$60K investment on Shark Tank!

MarTia's Cakes

857-342-2468, Martiascakes.com

What began for owner and lead baker Markita Durant as a family activity and a passion has become a business, offering "custom design, a classic layer, cupcakes or cake pops" for dessert lovers, party or event hosts, and anyone with a sweet tooth.

Lyndigo Spice

617-276-8097, Lyndigospice.com

Founder and CEO Celeste Croxton-Tate channels her love of Indian and Caribbean spices and flavors into her catering business and her own line of chutneys, relishes, fruit spreads and spice blends (perfect gifts).

City Fresh Foods

617-606-7123, CityFresh.com

From their Roxbury location, CEO Sheldon Lloyd and team "make thousands of delicious, affordable meals from scratch, and deliver them to childcare centers, schools and rehabilitation and eldercare programs." You can connect them to an organization where you are affiliated and in doing so invest deeply in the community.

Tupelo

1193 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, 617-868-0004

Tupelo02139.com

This restaurant near Inman Square serves up "comfort food with a southern drawl" and is perfect in combination with a movie at the Kendall Square Theater. Owners Renee McLeod and Mike Walker draw on New England influences as well as flavors and styles from Louisiana and Virginia.

Petsi Pies

Cambridge: 31 Putnam Avenue; 617-499-0801

Somerville: 285 Beacon Street 617-661-7437

petsipies.com

Owned by Renee McLeod (also of Tupelo) Petsi is an icon for fresh-baked, outrageously good, savory and sweet pies and baked goods. People wait in line at dawn before holidays just to bring Petsi pies fresh from the oven. The cafe (Cambridge) is great for breakfast or lunch, a community meeting or working on your laptop.

Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists & Museum Shop

300 Walnut Ave, Roxbury, 617-442-8614

ncaa.org, ncaa.org/shop

The museum fosters and presents the finest in contemporary, visual and performing arts from the global Black world. Through its teaching, visual and performing arts divisions, the NCAAA brings the best of the Black world to you.

Museum of African American History & Museum Shop

46 Joy Street, Boston (Beacon Hill), 617-725-0022

Maah.org, Maah.org/store

Among the most important National Historic Landmarks in the US, the African Meeting House and Abiel Smith School on Beacon Hill were built in the early 1800's. The Meeting House has been returned to its 1855 appearance and is open to the public (talks, tours, events). The School, the oldest US public school for African American children, currently houses exhibit galleries, education programs, a caterers' kitchen, and a museum store filled with books and inspired gifts.

Haley House Bakery Cafe and Catering

12 Dade Street, Roxbury, 617-445-0900

haleyhouse.org

Non-profit cafe with locally-sourced food prepared from scratch. Really good pizza, sandwiches, soups, salads, brownies, cookies. Provides job training and arts and cultural programming for the community.

Down Home Delivery and Catering

2 Bowdoin Street, Dorchester, 617-288-0813

Executive Chef Daren Payne and Down Home make the claim that they "proudly serves the best down home southern cooking in the City of Boston" and they did a great job catering the Temple Israel MLK celebration in 2016. Eat in, take out, catering, or delivery!

PERSONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Black Market

2136 Washington Street, Dudley Square, Roxbury

Kaidi Grant's Dudley Square weekend pop-up

shopping spot features local entrepreneurs. Clothing, jewelry, music, skincare products, art...and creative energy that only a real community effort could generate.

Frugal Bookstore

57 Warren Street, Boston, 617-541-1722

frugalbookstore.net

Leonard and Clarrissa Egerton run this community bookstore located in the heart of Dudley Square "with a passion of promoting literacy within our children, teens and adults," and a mission to "change minds one book at a time." Great place to buy books by and about the African diaspora.

Leash Dog Care

Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Hyde Park,

Brookline, Chestnut Hill, 617-294-9455

leashdogcare.com

Darrell Kelton has 3 years in finance behind him and co-founder Javier Vega grew up caring for dogs, cats, pigs, and horses on a family farm. Now they run a modern pet-sitting, dog-walking operation, and handle owners gently, too.

Natasha's Homemade Body Butter

617-610-2553, natahashomemadebodybutter.com

Natasha Williams is the CEO and creator of this homemade organic skincare company. Made with passion for the health and wellness of all. Available to retail or wholesale customers.

At Peace Arts

atpeacearts.com, 617-462-2426

Would you host a party where every guest paints wine glasses or canvases before they sit down to eat? Over 400 have done just that under accomplished artist Kyia Watkins' gentle tutelage at "Paint Your Peace" parties. Kyia also wowed the TI team (and lots of kids) at Brookline Day doing face-painting at our table.

IncluDe

617-580-0870, includeinnovation.com

Kristen Ransom's digital design shop serves organizations making social, economic, cultural, and environmental change. Clients have included the Boston Impact Initiative and Darryl Settles. Websites, campaigns, and much more.

Fabwright Origins

594 Columbia Road, Suite 203, Dorchester

617-506-9293, Fabwrightorigins.com

This Boston-based design and manufacturing firm "helps creatives do more using digitally augmented tools." Founder/CEO Jemuel Stephenson is an artist, designer, digital creator, instructor, and inventor with a background in mechanical engineering.

OneUnited Bank

oneunited.com

President/COO Teri Williams spoke at Temple Israel in 2017 and explained why considering a Black-owned bank is good for social justice and equity. This one happens to have its HQ in Boston. Mobile banking, real-estate secured lending and more.

Advoqt Technology Group

10 Guest Street, Suite 290, Brighton

617-600-8161, Advoqt.com

STEM advocate and IT services CEO Reinier Moquete Payano "empowers mid-sized organizations to lead their industry, deliver the highest level of service, and to use technology to make a difference in people's lives." Advoqt can "accelerate growth by leveraging the power of Robotic Process Automation, Machine Learning, and Predictive Analytics."

Windwalker Group

67 Kemble Street, Suite 3.3, Boston (Roxbury)

800-270-6420, Windwalker.com

Herby Duverné is CEO and founder of this 200 employee business services company that has expert teams in areas including physical and cyber security, instructional design for e-Learning and workplace training, and other categories that are familiar to their large corporate or government clients like Keolis, Amtrak, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Postal Service.

Colette Phillips Communications (CPC)

177 State Street, Suite 6 Boston, 617-357-5777

cpcglobal.com

CPC serves corporate clients and cultural institutions with branding, positioning, stakeholder, and public relations strategy. A long-time board member with American Jewish Committee and many other organizations, CEO Colette Phillips also created the 10-year-old Get Connected program to bring together, recognize, and support diverse professionals in Boston.

D/R/E/A/M Collaborative

617-606-7029, Dreamcollaborative.com

Gregory Minott and Troy Depeiza lead a team of architects and designers who have the attention of the the building design community in Boston right now. For residential, multi-family, institutional, or commercial work, do not miss the opportunity to meet with them and find out why people are talking.

Lifeforce 2.0

Boston/Cambridge

This wellness organization offers Vinyasa yoga, meditation, wellness services and African dance instruction via a regular schedule in community settings. Founder Melissa Alexis brings her education and training from Amherst, Sarah Lawrence, Columbia and JP Centre Yoga to the pursuit of wellness, self-care and healing within historically marginalized communities.

Ivyees "Everything Honey" A Logwood Company, LLC
logwoodcompany.com

Boston based Ivy C. Lawson is an engineer turned bee-farmer and has accomplished her goal of making products we use daily, such as shampoo, conditioners, anti-wrinkle cream, and toothpaste. She uses raw honey and 100% natural and organic ingredients. Ivyees honey alone wins raves, especially the hibiscus & sorrel and other premium varieties.

DSP Executive Search

617-273-5662, www.dspexecutivesearch.com

Kim Dukes is Managing Director and Co-Founder of DSP Executive Search, a national search firm based in Cambridge. Kim is a recognized expert in building balanced talent pools for client organizations which means increasing diversity and inclusion. DSP is a key component of a modern approach to finding talent and strengthening culture.

St. Fleur Communications

617-637-3070, stfleurcommunications.com

During her 12 years in elected office, Marie St. Fleur chaired the education committee and was vice-chair of the powerful House Ways and Means committee. She subsequently played a senior role in Mayor Tom Menino's city hall and then led a statewide non-profit. Now St. Fleur runs a potent communications practice that specializes in community engagement and grass-roots outreach.

Catalyst Ventures Development

www.cvdboston.com

Darryl Settles' real estate, business consulting, and investment firm dedicated to enriching the city of Boston via transformational development of residential and commercial properties and the creation of valuable community resources and assets. Darryl's vision, reach, experience and expertise make CVD a valuable partner.

Taylor Smith Group, LLC

617-947-6089, taylorsmithgroup.com

The Taylor Smith Group is an established Boston real estate development and consulting company. Currently the group is part of the diverse team preparing to build a major hotel in the Seaport area of Boston. Forty years of Development, commercial brokerage, property management; and they are master connectors too.

Bowdoin Bike School

14 Southern Ave, *Dorchester, 857-246-9534,*
www.bowdoinbikeschool.org

Bowdoin Bike School offers a full retail store and bicycle repair as well as an opportunity for customers to learn how to maintain their own bikes, Noah De Amour (nee Hicks). De Amour has plans to convert the store to a cooperative, employee-owned model and is committed to seeking sponsors and grants in order to keep his shop affordable to serve his Dorchester community.

Quality Interactions

888-568-9918, www.qualityinteractions.com

CEO Michele Courton Brown and QI are delivering cultural competency solutions to premier hospitals and healthcare organizations to improve outcomes (sometimes save lives) and keep people out of the hospital. The team has trained over 140,000 healthcare professionals at institutions like Mass General, Barnes Jewish, New York Presbyterian, Tufts Healthplan and UMass Memorial.

Temple Israel owes a debt of gratitude to many partner organizations for helping to compile and continually improve on this list. Any errors are our own. Special thanks to the following: The Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (www.becma.org), Boston Ujima Project (www.ujimaboston.com), Commonwealth Kitchen (www.commonwealthkitchen.org), and the NAACP Boston Branch (bostonnaacp.org).