

New Hampshire's statewide initiative to tackle classism

This past fall, Class Action facilitated four daylong workshops across New Hampshire, in Berlin, Claremont, Manchester and Pittsfield. We drew roughly 100 participants representing 53 different advocacy groups and direct service organizations from across the state.

Each region brought a unique constituency grounded in their own sense of place within New Hampshire. As a result, each workshop site had a slightly different spin on how they approached the content and developed different next steps. Topics included hyper-local issues like classism on the school board, drug abuse, poor conditions of rental housing, early childhood education, and immigrant support.



The organizing team included staff from American Friends Service Committee, Investing in Communities Initiative, New Hampshire Listens, North Country Listens, and Pittsfield Listens, and was made possible with the help of two anonymous donors within the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

Adj Marshall, Diana Gonzalez, and Denise Moorehead co-facilitated the workshops.

We are currently building upon the groundwork laid this past December by organizing a New Hampshire based cohort of peers working to support deeper learning, skill development and a collective vision for uprooting classism across the state.

Training Team Highlights

Class Action recently promoted two of our facilitators, Shane Lloyd and Anita Garcia Morales, to the role of Senior Trainer. In this role, Anita and Shane will mentor new trainers, contribute to module development and provide thought leadership to the Class Action curricula.

This past fall we also welcomed a new trainer, Joanie Parker, to our team as an Associate Trainer. Joanie brings decades of facilitation experience with many great organizations, including SEIU 1199 and United for a Fair Economy. Welcome Joanie!



Pictured L-R: Anita Garcia Morales (Seattle, WA), Shane Lloyd (Providence, RI), Joanie Parker (Boston, MA) and Davey Shlasko (Brattleboro, VT)

We also want to congratulate Associate Trainer Davey Shlasko, who co-authored the chapter on class in the 3rd edition of Teaching for Social Justice and Diversity. This sourcebook is known as the definitive guide for theory and curricular frameworks for social justice teaching practice.

Class Action co-founder Felice Yeskel was integral to the addition of a chapter on class in the second edition of the book, and we are thrilled that a member of the Class Action family carries on this tradition.

Get a copy of the new edition at:
www.routledge.com/products/9781138023345

Annual First Generation College Student Summit hits 4-year mark

Williams College hosted the 4th Annual First Gen Summit in April drawing in First Gen Students, faculty and staff allies from 30 different schools, more than ever before.



“The summit was awesome. It truly celebrated first gen and validated the feelings that first gens feel and experience.” —2016 Summit Participant

The day included 14 student-led workshops that covered topics such as the intersection of race and class, study abroad opportunities, advice for graduate school, and the sharing of best practices and new programs.

Throughout the day, students strengthened relationships and forged new networks of support. One student shared, “It was great to meet such a diverse group of people who share this aspect of my identity and experience.”



Class Action is working to expand our support of on campus organizing beyond the summit. To learn more or make a donation, visit: bit.ly/FirstGenSummit

Where we’ve been lately...

In recent months, 17 Class Action trainers have done 25 workshops in 7 states since, including:

- Better Future Project/350 Mass
- Bridgewater State University
- Colby College
- Community Media Organizing Project
- Crossroads Fund
- DREAM
- Friends Academy
- JOIN for justice
- Lasell College
- New England Grassroots Environmental Fund
- PHENOM's College Access Conference
- Providence College
- Puget Sound Community School
- Resource Generation, Durham, NC Chapter
- Riverdale Country School
- RoseWind Co-housing Community
- Tenacres Country Day School
- Toxics Action Center
- Ula Cafe
- Union Theological Seminary
- University of Central Florida
- Wellesley College
- World of Wellesley
- Winchester Multicultural Network

Coming soon!

- ❖ Stay tuned for the publication of a new book by Class Actionista Chuck Collins. *Born on Third Base: A One Percenter Makes the Case to Tackle Inequality, Bring Wealth Home, and Commit to the Common Good*, will be published by Chelsea Green this October.
- ❖ *Staffing the Mission*: Have you ever encountered a well meaning nonprofit that was unintentionally excluding working class and low-income folks? We recently launched a new project to tackle how we can transform culture in the nonprofit sector to build more class-diverse and class-inclusive organizations, and garner the funding to do so.