The EVOLUTION of Putting Racism on the Table, an Initiative of the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers

LECTURE SERIES

WRAG’s Putting Racism on the Table learning series started as a six-part, six-month lecture series launched after the death of Freddie Gray in neighboring Baltimore. Designed specifically for philanthropic CEOs and trustees, this series explored topics such as structural racism and white privilege with a goal of fostering shared understanding that would hopefully lead to individual and/or collective action.

VIDEO SERIES

After numerous requests from non-CEOs to participate in the lecture series, WRAG decided to film each session to share knowledge with a larger audience. Collectively, the 6 videos have received more than 21K views.

TRAINING SERIES

Armed with new knowledge, learning series participants/viewers asked WRAG for practical guidance on how to implement their new understanding of racial equity into their work. WRAG has since hosted 5 workshops for grantmakers.

BUSINESS LEADERS

Several business leaders were exposed to the lecture series in their roles as foundation trustees. So moved by their lack of knowledge in this area, they approached WRAG to explore ways of getting this information to other business leaders.

BLOG POSTS

To date, 14 WRAG members, staff, and colleagues have written blog posts for The Daily WRAG (2,000 subscribers) reflecting on their personal experiences with racism, what the Putting Racism on the Table learning journey has meant to them, and expanding the leadership core for this work.

PODCASTS

Realizing that 6 hours of videoed lectures – no matter how riveting and relevant – was asking a lot of folks, WRAG converted four of the videos into podcasts so people could listen while they exercised, commuted to work or did chores.

STRUCTURAL RACISM THEATER

To reach people overwhelmed with too much content and/or who may have been hesitant to enter the weighty space of racism, WRAG created two original, five-minute videos based sardonically on Masterpiece Theatre. Structural Racism Theater introduces the viewer to concrete examples of structural racism and implicit bias in an edgy, dryly humorous, “shareable” way.