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Community And YWCA Take A Stand Against Racism

Hartford, CT, April 3, 2009 Seventeen hundred individuals from the Greater Hartford region took a Stand Against Racism on Friday, April 3, 2009.

A new initiative of the YWCA, the Stand Against Racism, aims at raising awareness about the existence of racism in our communities and that it cannot be tolerated. The program was created by the YWCA in order to combat the spread of hate and to honor and celebrate the richness of diversity.

Activities on the day of the event ranged from discussions and recitation of poetry to the creation of artwork and the watching of documentaries. In Connecticut participating sites included: Asylum Hill

Congregational Church, Capital Region Mental Health Center, Capital Workforce Partners, Catholic Charities, Christian Fellowship Seventh Day Adventist Church, Chrysalis Center, Co-Opportunity, Community Health Services, Community Partners in Action, Day Pitney LLP, Everyday Democracy, Families in Crisis, Inc., Global Communications Academy, Immaculate Conception Shelter and Housing, Institute for Community Research, Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford, JM Enterprises, LLC, Manchester Community College, Northwest Catholic High School, Our Piece of the Pie, Prudential Retirement, St. Agnes Home, Inc., State of CT African American Affairs Commission, Southern CT State University The Village for Families and Children, and YWCA New Britain.

Stand Against Racism activities were also held in 13 cities across New Jersey and New York, with an estimated total attendance of 25,000.

For more information about Stand Against Racism and to participate in next year's program, please to go to www.standagainstracism.org or call (860) 525-1163, Ext. 258.

Pictured above (l-r): YWCA Grants Manager Mark Gorka, Director of Program Development and Stand Against Racism Coordinator Shari Smith, Youth Development Director Susan Dawson.

