



## We are thrilled to reconnect!

**We may have been quiet, but we've sure been busy!**

It's been a while since you've heard from us, and it's for good reason. We have been busy behind the scenes putting in place infrastructure for Restorative Actions and meeting with lots of people and organizations who are interested in repair.

We have gotten a lot accomplished and are excited to announce that regular communication WILL be happening moving forward!

**But first....here's what we have been up to this last year:**

- **Spring 2022** - We have completed the [Afro-American Curriculum](#) 1.0! It's now available for congregations who are prepared to undertake this type of study.
- **June 2022** - Restorative Actions was highlighted during opening worship at the PC(USA)'s 225th General Assembly.
- **July 2022** - Restorative Actions team presented at the [Synod of Lakes and Prairies' Synod School](#). And, participated in a collaborative session at the 2022 [Religious Educators Association](#) Meeting.
- **August 2022** - The team presented at the joint meeting of the Iowa Presbyteries.
- **September 2022** - Submitted Afro-American trust documents to the IRS. We're still waiting for review and approval.
- **November 2022** - Hired Operations Manager: Mel Wilkerson.

2023 is off to a great start. While we wait for the IRS' approval of the Afro-American trust documents, we are beginning advisory conversations and working on the Indigenous trust documentation to submit for approval.

Our team is excited for a year of community engagement and relationship building. Distributing funds to their respective communities is at the heart of what we do. Stay connected to be the first to hear once that starts this year.

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## Meet Mel!



Restorative Actions is very pleased to announce that Mel Wilkerson has joined the team as the community engagement and administrative operations manager. Mel comes to this role with many talents including marketing and communications, project management, process improvement, people organization and more. In her new role, she will be responsible for much of the behind the scenes work that will keep Restorative Actions growing and allow us to increase our outreach in the coming months and years.

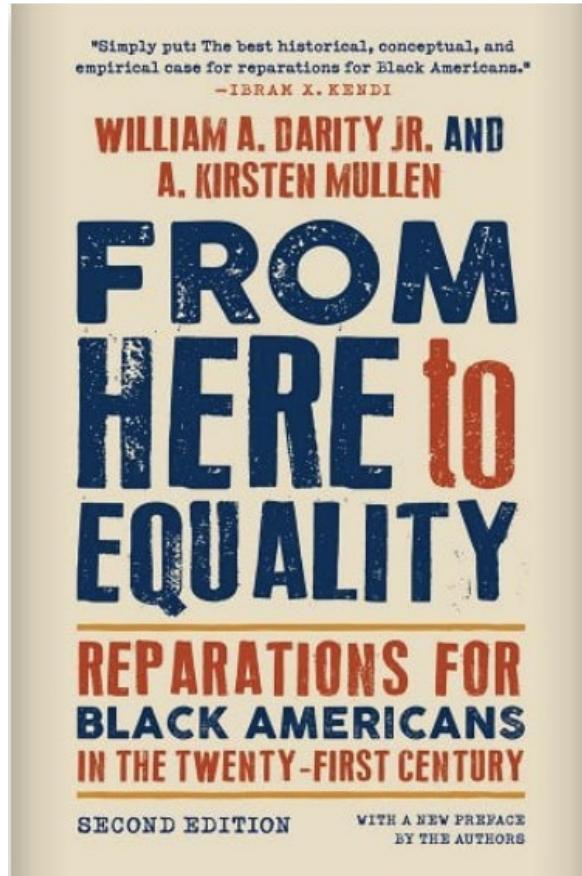
In addition to her formidable organizational skills and 15 years of experience as both an entrepreneur and manager, Mel has a passion for justice and is an active member of her local congregation where she serves in ministry as a speaker, teacher, and leader in women's ministry. She lives her life following Christ and studying God's word.

Mel lives in New Orleans, Louisiana with her 9-year-old daughter Kenley and 2-year-old German Shepherd, Lexi. She started her work with Restorative Action on November 1st.

## Resource Spotlight

### From Here to Equality

Racism and discrimination have choked economic opportunity for African Americans at nearly every turn. At several historic moments, the trajectory of racial inequality could have been altered dramatically. Perhaps no moment was more opportune than the early days of Reconstruction, when the U.S. government temporarily implemented a major redistribution of land from former slaveholders to the newly emancipated enslaved. But neither Reconstruction nor the New Deal nor the civil rights struggle led to an economically just and fair nation. Today, systematic inequality persists in the form of housing discrimination, unequal education, police brutality, mass incarceration, employment discrimination, and massive wealth and opportunity gaps. Economic data indicates that for every dollar the average white household holds in wealth the average black household possesses a mere ten cents.





## Want to learn more?

Members of our team are always available for conversation, presentations, and consultation.

Send us an [EMAIL](#)