



Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Unit Award



In order to receive a Diamond Unit Certificate a minimum of **three** activities must be completed. At least one of the three **MUST** be from the diamond group (first four activities listed). Units **MUST** choose one new activity (i.e. different from those credited in the prior year) each year. Certificates will be presented at your District Annual Meeting. Please return this form to your District Social Action Coordinator _____ by September 6.

ONE OPPORTUNITY IS REQUIRED

- ◇ Provide each member with a copy of the Charter for Racial Justice
- ◇ Watch a video relating to concerns addressed by the Charter for Racial Justice
[Visit the Conference Resource Center's online catalog for several titles:
<http://www.umcsc.org/resourcecenter/frameset.html> Select an appropriate age group. In the block labeled: "description" enter "racism" or "justice" for titles under each subject].
- ◇ Share articles from Response and New World Outlook relating to racism.
- ◇ Give a book report on a UMW Reading Program book that relates to minority group

- ___ Have a program on racial justice or human rights from the UMW Program Book (past or present)
- ___ Give a Unit report about an experience: i. e. attendance at a music or theatrical performance by persons of a different culture, race, or ethnic background.
- ___ Send at least one UMW member (non District or Conference officer) to the annual Legislative Day event.
- ___ Participate in post card writing to support legislation on behalf of women, children, and youth on social justice issues.
- ___ Have two or more members from your Unit participate in Church Women United activities.
- ___ Participate in a Bible study on racism. A helpful resource: UMW website www.gbgm-umc.org/umw/resources/racialjustice/
- ___ Celebrate one or more of the following months: African-American Month (February), Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (May), Hispanic Heritage Month (September) or American Indian Heritage Month (November). A helpful resource www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/
- ___ Plan a pulpit/pastor exchange with a pastor of another race.
- ___ Plan an event with a Unit of a different race/ethnic background. (A celebration vacation bible school, worship service), and give a Unit report.
- ___ Participate in a UMW Social Action Mission Study
- ___ Invite a minority person or group to speak about their country of origin.

The SCCUMW Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Units

Racism is the belief that one race is innately superior to all other races. In principle, the United States has outlawed racial discrimination but, in practice, little has changed. Social, economic and political institutions still discriminate, although some institutions have amended their behavior by eliminating obvious discriminatory practices and choosing their language carefully. The institutional church, despite sporadic attempts to the contrary, also still discriminates. (United Methodist Women (n.d.) Racial Justice History. Retrieved from <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/resources/racialjustice/history/>). This realization inspired the UMW to establish *The Charter for Racial Justice*.

The SCCUMW established the *Charter for Racial Justice* Diamond Units to ensure we strive for unity within the family of Christ. It is important to live a life of color blindness but first we must destroy walls of misunderstanding, mistrust and fear. The SCCUMW *Charter for Racial Justice* Diamond Unit is an effort to strive for unity in Jesus Christ. The unity we must achieve is experienced in Acts 2: 44b -47, “All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved” (New International Version, 2011).

Please inform your District’s Social Action Coordinator of your programs. Thank you for becoming more of the image of Jesus Christ as you participate in these opportunities.