

Welcome to the New Year



Greetings Region V Family,

It is customary during this time to greet one another by saying "*Happy New Year*", but we as a community and an Association are faced with challenges on all fronts... Meaning, there is little time to celebrate when there is so much work ahead and so many pressing issues to face.

With **Voting Rights** issues threatening a major and consequential election cycle, **Police Accountability** issues and the repeated failure of the **Criminal Justice** system to provide justice for our families, chronic crises in **Education** with suspensions, expulsions, and graduation rates, **Protests** in the streets and intolerance on the airwaves, if we ever needed the NAACP - we need it NOW.

But the good news is we ARE fit for the battle. We have some difficult days ahead to be sure, and we face a rapidly changing landscape, but we are the NAACP, and we've been here before. And one thing our history should have taught us is that when we all come together, and stand together, and work together, there is NO obstacle we can't overcome.

As we begin the new year, we are pleased to welcome long-time activist and freedom-fighter *Paula Brown-Edme* back to the Field Team. Paula rejoins us as the Vice President of Field Operations and oversees the Field Operations, Membership, Unit Administration, and Constituent services departments.

Her return allows me to return to my full-time role as the Southeastern Regional Director for the Mighty Region 5. As I make my return, let me express my full appreciation to all of you, for

your unyielding patience and indulgence during the year of service where I was called away to attend to issues and campaigns in multiple Regions throughout the Association.

So as we welcome the new year, let's prepare to get right back to work. Let's begin the new year with a renewed focus on building Membership - growing Compliance - Training - strengthening our Youth Units - Civic Engagement - Voter Registration - Education Advocacy - and Criminal Justice Reform.

I look forward to reconnecting with you all in the coming weeks!!!

Peace and Power,

Kevin Myles
Southeast Regional Director | Region V
Field Operations Department
kmyles@naacpnet.org
[\(316\) 655-9282](tel:(316)655-9282)