


# Trusted Voices of the Community: Centering Equity in the New Normal

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

State of Black Long Island



# Acknowledgment of Contributors

- Retha Fernandez, CDIO of Suffolk County
  - Theresa Sanders, Urban League of Long Island
  - Jarvis M. Watson, Ed.D., Stony Brook University
  - Adesuwa Watson, Office of Minority Health
  - Falischa Moss, Black Long Island, NAACP
  - Lauren LaMagna, Planned Parenthood
  - Devon Zappasodi, Long Island Crisis Center
  - Vanessa Baird Streeter, Suffolk County Executive Office
  - Daniel Lloyd, Minority Millennials
  - Malika Lockhart, Suffolk County Community College
  - Alexea Gaffney Adams, MD, Stony Brook Medical Center
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# Purpose

Gather trusted community leaders within Suffolk County to host a series of online dialogues to address the following challenges within historically underserved communities:

- Where we are as a community during the time of COVID-19?
- What is the historical significance of facing similar challenges in the past, and how did we come together?
- As it pertains to underserved communities in Suffolk County, how do we come together collectively to educate and provide resources and best practices to these populations?





# Topics for the Series

- Economy
- Education (K-16)
- Policy
- Health
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Indigenous Communities
- Housing
- Immigrant Population
- Faith Based
- LGBTQ\*
- Domestic Violence
- Community Concerns

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a dark red arrow pointing to the right at the top. Below it, several thin, dark grey lines curve downwards and to the left, resembling stylized grass or reeds.

**EQUITY IS JUST AND  
FAIR INCLUSION INTO  
A SOCIETY IN WHICH  
ALL CAN PARTICIPATE,  
PROSPER, AND REACH  
THEIR FULL  
POTENTIAL.**

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*PolicyLink*

A large, stylized graphic of the word 'FLOWY'. The letters are thick and blocky. The 'F' is light green, the 'L' is orange, the 'O' is a circle with a white center, the 'W' is yellow, and the 'Y' is light green. The letters are layered and overlap, creating a sense of depth and movement.

**FLOWY**



Topic for Tonight: Centering Equity in the New Normal

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Explanation of Webinar

- 10 to 15 minute discussion based on questions
- Being Placed on Mute
- Ask Questions during talk and we will select question to be asked



# Historical Significance of Higher Education

- Until 1968 and Higher Education Laws; Opportunity for
  - Black/African American and LatinX
  - Native American
  - Women
  - Students with Disabilities
  - LGBTQ\*
- Pathway to change:
  - Identity and Worth
  - Socioeconomic Change
  - Education as the equalizer
  - Creating Pathways for Intellectuals and Social Justice Leaders





# Current Status With COVID-19



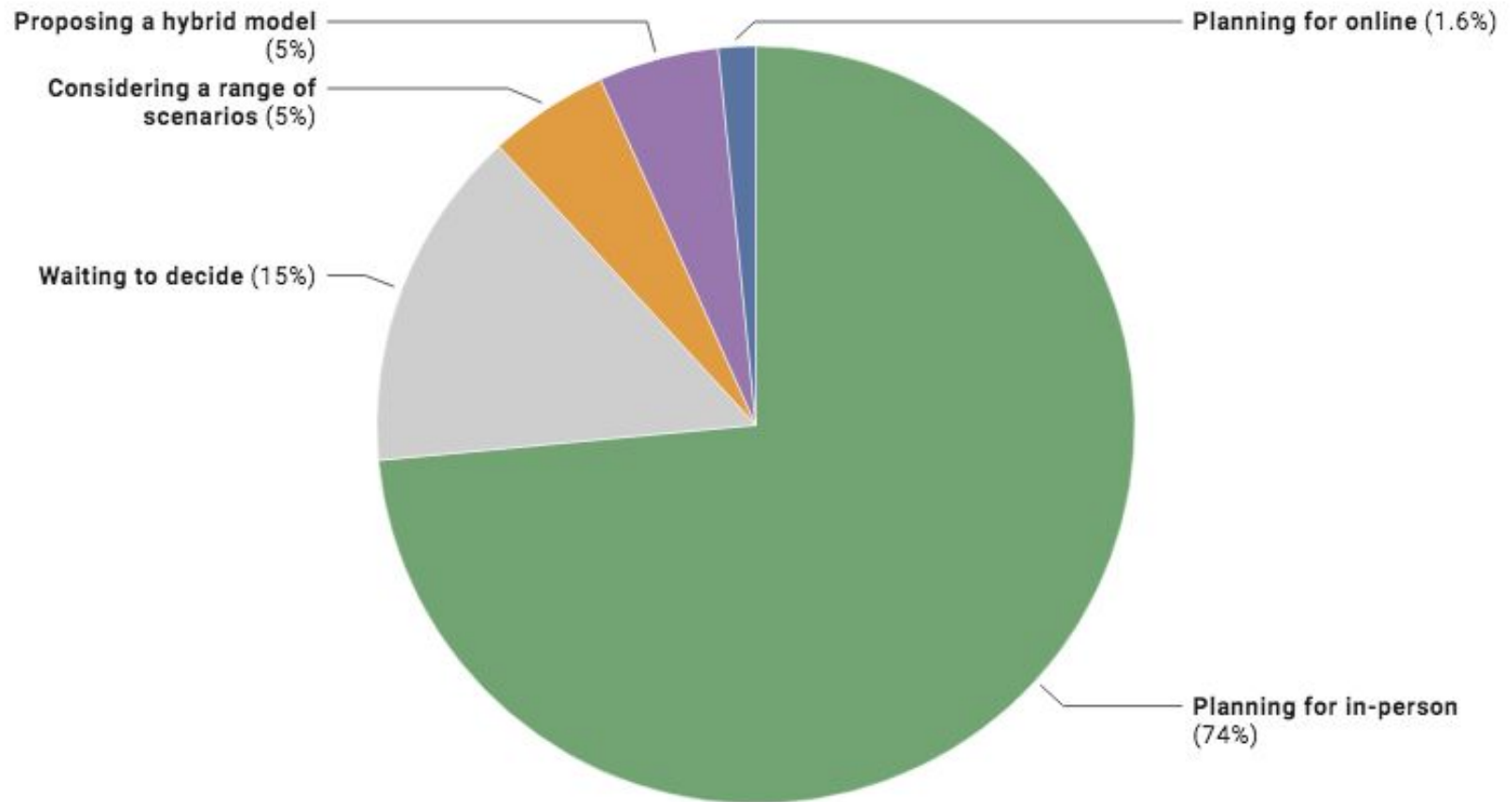
## □ Students Challenged With:

- Access to technology
- Living in toxic situations
- Reality of family unemployment
- Becoming caretaker and educator
- Disruption of traditional college experience
- Funding for College

## □ Professionals Challenged With:

- Working from Home: Family and Tech Challenges
- Online Instruction and Advising
- Teaching to 25 to 300 plus virtually
- Teacher vs Facilitation
- Virtual connection with students
- Transitioning within several weeks
- Students without access to tech

# National Plans for Reopening



Get the data • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

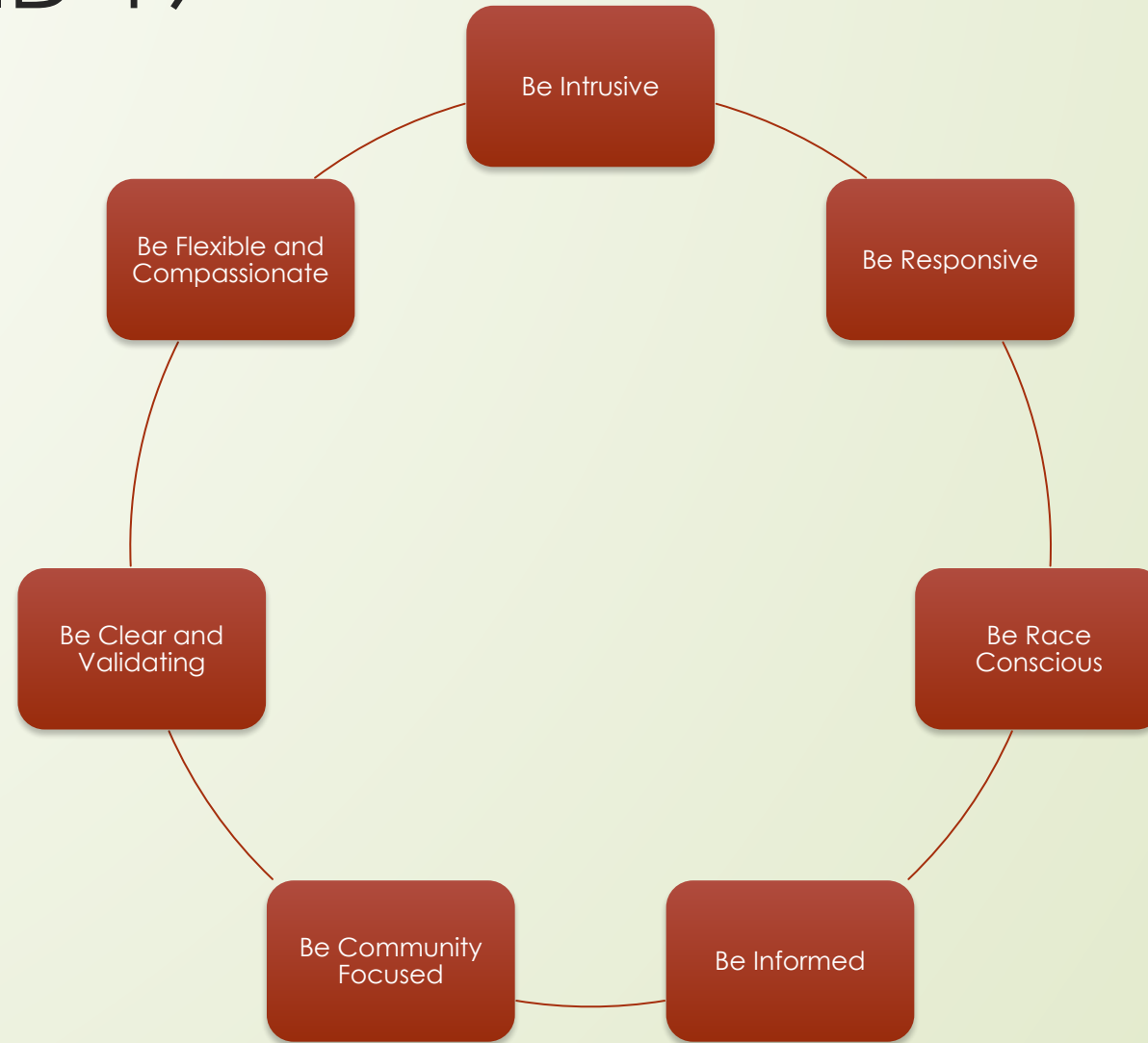
This was retrieved from: [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)



# National Practices and Scenarios

- UC San Diego:
  - Clinical Testing, Improving environmental and community health, New therapies for treatment and vaccine: <https://campaign.ucsd.edu/impact/coronavirus/>
- Tulane University:
  - Social Distancing, Rapid Testing for students and employees, modifications to housing plans, changes in classroom settings: <https://president.tulane.edu/view-from-gibson/finals-and-plans-fall-heroes-helper-s>
- Morgan State University: Developing financial strategies across the state to keep institutions open, enrollment deposits are up by 150 students since last year, <https://www.baltimoresun.com/coronavirus/bs-md-johns-hopkins-pay-cuts-20200422-tjkj7pipj5f3xm5xc372wuao4u-story.html>
- New Jersey Institute of Technology: Pandemic Recovery Plan provides Transparency with in person plan to return, comprehensive approach with academics, student affairs, athletics, research, and dining services, <https://digitalcommons.njit.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1009&context=prp>

# Inclusive Approach During Times of COVID-19





# Best Practices At Stony Brook University

- Race and Populations Conscious Focused
  - The University recognizes the historically legacy of inequities for underrepresented groups
  - Revisiting Diversity Plan and Diversity Funded Initiatives
- Community Focused
  - Student Emergency Support Fund (Student Affairs, Advancement, Diversity Office)
- Responsive Focused
  - Technology Loan Program
  - Hybrid and Social Distancing Practices
- Intrusive, Flexible, and Compassionate Focused
  - Intentional Communication between Faculty and Administration Student Support
  - Wellness Checks with missing students and students in crisis

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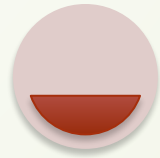
*PolicyLink*

A large, stylized graphic of the word 'FLOW' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are composed of overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in shades of green, orange, and yellow. The 'F' is primarily green, the 'L' is orange, the 'O' is a mix of orange and yellow, the 'W' is primarily yellow, and the 'Y' is primarily green. The overlapping creates a sense of depth and movement.

**FLOW**

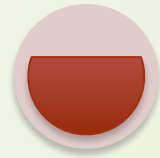


# Vision Moving Forward



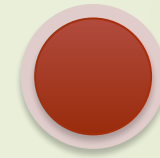
Phase 1

Virtual  
Community



Phase 2

In-Person  
Collective



Phase 3

Collaborative  
Of  
Community  
Leaders



# Next Community Dialogue

Thursday May 21, 6:00pm

Topic: Health

Title: COVID Basics and its Impact on our Community

Guest Speakers:

- Dr. Gregson Pigott, Commissioner Suffolk County Health Services
- Dr. Alexa Gaffney Adams, Infectious Disease, Stony Brook Medical Center
- Moderated by: Adesuwa I. Watson, Health Analyst and Coordinator of Community Based Programs





For More Information and Links to Resources visit us @

- YouTube Channel: Trusted Voices of the Community
- SOBLI: State of Black Long Island
- Contact us:
  - [trustedvoices20@gmail.com](mailto:trustedvoices20@gmail.com)