

# **Equity Express**

**VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2** 

Self-care is how you take your power back.

- Lalah Delia

# **Radical Self and Community Care**

[Graphic image description: Three people being held by two hands.]

#### What is Radical Self Care?

"...involves owning and directing our lives and **choosing** with whom, how, and how often we engage in our nested, interconnected worlds so that we can be **unapologetically ourselves** in the face of unrelenting pressure and expectations to be otherwise" (Nicol & Yee, 2017, p. 134).

#### **And Community Care?**

"In moments of grief, crisis, or trauma, and in the time before and after, we need each other to survive and thrive. We are obliged to lift up, honor, and hold space for our self-determination, to fight for our lives, and to remind each other of our worth and that none of us are disposable... We must support each other's wellness" (The Audre Lorde Project, n.d.).

### And I Quote:

[Graphic image description: Three exclamation points.]



"Self-care, as it is conventionally framed, isolates marginalized individuals in their struggles, subscribing to a deficit philosophy...little to no attention is paid to the **institutions and systemic oppressions** that prevent wellness and self-care for marginalized peoples and their communities (Padamsee, 2011)" (Lazzell et al., 2019, p. 2).

[Graphic image description: Monochromatic tree with spreading roots and a full leafy canopy.]



Thriving:

- Mentally
- <u>Emotionally</u>
- <u>Spiritually</u>
- As a Community

[Graphic image description: Popcorn in a box.]



Something to Watch:

Radical Self Care: Alicia Garza

#### Something to Read:



Self-care Can Be Social Justice

[Graphic image description: Open book.]

Copyright © 2022 by Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center

newsletter to any specific publication, person, or idea is for the information and convenience of the public and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center. The contents of this document were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Grant S004D110021). However, the content does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and endorsement by the Federal Government should not be assumed.





## **Meet the Authors**

This issue of *Equity Express* was written and edited by:

#### Robin G. Jackson, Kathryn N. Rusnak, Seena M. Skelton, & Kathleen King Thorius

#### References

Afropunk. (2018, December 17). *Radical self care: Alicia Garza* [Video]. YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ7FGkfPwyE

Lis-Perlis, Abigail. (2021, May 6). What does radical mental health mean to you? [Video] YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AA1kS F35M

Lazzell, D. R., Huskins, K., Jackson, R. G., Skelton, S. M., & Thorius, K. A. K. (2019). Transforming the concepts of community and self-care. *Equity Digest*. Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center (MAP EAC).

Morton, C., Casimir, A. E., Lesesne, A., Tolókun, O. Y. O., Henry Anthony, R. C., & Emli, H. (2021). Faith Without Works is Dead: Exploring the Role of Faith in Equity and Justice Centered Work. *EquiLearn Virtual Roundtable*. Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center (MAP EAC).

Nicol, D. J., & Yee, J. A. (2017). "Reclaiming our time": Women of color faculty and radica self-care in the academy. *Feminist Teacher*, *27*(2-3), 133-156.

Padamsee, Y. M. (2011, June 19). *Communities of care, organizations for liberation*. https://nayamaya.wordpress.com/2011/06/19/communities-of-careorganizations-for-liberation/

Pitts, J. (2020, September 29). *Self-care can be social justice*. Learning for Justice https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/selfcare-can-be-social-justice

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2013). *Community conversation about mental health: Information brief.* https://greatlakesequity.org/sites/default/files/20130107976 brief.pdf

The Audre Lorde Project. (n.d.). *Breaking isolation: Self care and community care tools for our people*. https://alp.org/breaking-isolation-self-care-and-community-care-tools-our-people#:~:text=%E2%80%9CCaring%20for%20myself%20is%20not,%2D%2DAudre%20Lorde

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. (2016, June 15). #YBCA100 Sonya Renee Taylor on radical self-love [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqVTA3uluGo

Recommended Citation: Jackson, R. G., Rusnak, K. N., Thorius, K. A. K., & Skelton, S. M. (2022). Radical self and community care. *Equity Express*. Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center (MAP EAC).

Copyright © 2022 by Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center

Disclaimer: Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center is committed to the sharing of information regarding issues of equity in education. Reference in this newsletter to any specific publication, person, or idea is for the information and convenience of the public and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Midwest & Plains Equity Assistance Center. The contents of this document were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Grant S004D110021). However, the content does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and endorsement by the Federal Government should not be assumed.



