

## Racial Justice News Items - November 2020

Frederick Streets is a member:

[Local research and treatment program Black Church Project wins federal funding](#)  
[Yale Daily News](#)

In an interview with the News, the **Rev. Frederick Streets, senior pastor of the historic Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ**, echoed Jordan's sentiments. He emphasized the necessity of trust in the treatment project. "Part of that trust is seeing the treaters that reflect you, your own background, your own culture," Streets said. "Many in the Black community, he added, suffer silently due to stigmatization of asking for help with their addiction." According to Streets, others lack an understanding of where to go to receive this help. Streets said he hopes **his background as a clinical social worker** and senior pastor of Dixwell UCC will allow him to contribute the project's efforts.

[Police reform: Let social workers speak for themselves](#)  
[The Record \(Goshen College\)](#)

In their official statement on police reform, the **National Association of Social Workers** says that they advocate for the government to "reallocate and reinvest resources from law enforcement into mental health, living wage jobs, affordable housing and alternatives for anti-racist public safety services." You'll notice that it does not say, "Abolish the police," or "Replace social workers with police," which is what the above meme seems to be suggesting. Rather, many social workers and social work organizations are advocating for a reframing of how we think about safety.

[It's been an 'exhausting' four years for Black Americans. That likely won't end with Trump.](#)  
[NBC News](#)

**Mildred "Mit" Joyner, president of the National Association of Social Workers**, found that scary, as well, from a health and social perspective. "The last four years have been a very difficult process," Joyner said. "We were almost at the peak of bursting. It's been a lot. The White House hasn't served us. On top of the rhetoric, African Americans have had to solve the issues by voting in large numbers, by encouraging people to get out and vote. There's a lot of pressure specifically on the African American women. So, we're tired, yet jubilant."