

We Dream in Black Organizing Institute 2023

PARTICIPANT MEMO



We Dream in Black (WeDiB) is an initiative of the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA) and is the organizing home that centers the voices and experiences of Black, Afro-Latinx, and Afro-descendant domestic workers. Across the diaspora, our organizing is our power.

We Dream in Black Organizing Institute is our annual gathering space that celebrates and uplifts the voices of Black domestic workers across the Diaspora. We come together to share stories, celebrate our achievements, learn collectively, showcase our leadership, share in healing, and foster community building.

The We Dream in Black 2023 Organizing Institute will be held in person from Friday, October 13th – Sunday, October 15th, 2023 in Atlanta, Georgia, and virtually via Zoom.

Throughout this 3 day hybrid event, domestic workers will be showcasing their special talents, and in the spirit of networking and community building, every worker is encouraged to invite other Black domestic workers to join us virtually on Saturday October 14th, 2023.

If you have questions, contact: (please save in your phones)

Allison Julien - (347) 282-4027, allison@domesticworkers.org

Isabella Louis - (301) 768-8207, isabella@domesticworkers.org

✨ Thank you, and we're looking forward to seeing you all in Atlanta! ✨

Overview

- **Who:** We Dream in Black; National Domestic Workers Alliance
- **What:** We Dream in Black 2023 Organizing Institute
- **When:** Friday, October 13th - Sunday, October 15th, 2023
 - Travel to Atlanta: Friday, October 13th
 - Travel home from Atlanta: Sunday, October 15th
- **Where:** Atlanta, GA
- **Accommodations:** Hilton Atlanta, 255 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303
- **Accessibility:**
 - Wheelchairs will be available to those who requested one via the registration form
 - The hotel and meeting space is both ADA accessible
- **Meals:**
 - Friday, October 13
 - Gift Cards will be provided upon arrival to cover breakfast on travel day Friday October 13th, 2023
 - Lunch and Dinner will be provided
 - Saturday, October 14
 - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner will be provided
 - Sunday, October 15
 - Breakfast and Lunch will be provided
 - Gift Cards will be provided upon arrival (Fri 13th Oct) to cover dinner on travel day Sunday, October 15th, 2023

Action Items



- Throughout the Organizing Institute, we will share updates and notices via WhatsApp.
- If you have not already, please download WhatsApp on your phone ([instructions here](#)) to ensure you are updated.
 - Please only use this What's App chat for all updates/questions/answers/information regarding the Organizing Institute
 - All members and participating staff will be also added to the group chat
- Interpretation equipment may be available for you to use during the event. If you prefer to use your own earbuds or headphones, please feel free to bring them!
Note: they must have a standard 3.5 mm jack.



COVID Safety Precautions

- NDWA/WeDiB will send you a brief COVID symptom screener with a couple of questions to make sure **you do not** have any COVID symptoms before you travel to Atlanta. We also request that all participants take an at-home rapid test either the day you travel or the night before and DO NOT travel if the test is positive for COVID-19, please immediately communicate that with your local Organizer. Tests and masks will also be provided on-site to ensure we are keeping ourselves and each other safe.
- **COVID Screener & Disclaimers**
 - All attendees (members & staff) must complete the [COVID symptom screener and release forms](#) before coming to Atlanta.

Reminders

Dress Code

- Dress appropriately and comfortably throughout the WeDiB Organizing Institute. Jeans and WeDiB T-shirts are encouraged! **Please note** that hotels are often chilly, so bringing a sweater or scarf is recommended!
 - There will be two special events during the Organizing Institute. Casual dress is completely fine for special events, but if you *want* to dress up a little, this is the time to do it (no need to run to the store but instead run to your closet)
 - **Dorothy Bolden Reception:** Saturday's Dinner & Reception will honor the legacy of Dorothy Bolden and it will be held at the hotel, enjoy the program/award ceremony, and an evening of dancing or watching others dance. If you have signed up to participate in the talent show come prepared to entertain the audience.
 - **Ebenezer Baptist Church:** On Sunday, attendees will have the opportunity to visit the historical Ebenezer Baptist Church for a church service starting at 10 am. We will be wearing our WeDiB shirts to church.
 - **Organizers will coordinate with you to ensure you have 3 WeDiB shirts. One shirt for each day Fri, Sat & Sun**
- **Please note:**
- Pack your luggage and check out of your room on Sunday morning. Bring your luggage when you go to breakfast. We will give you information on where to store your luggage safely and where to leave your room keys

Weather

☀️ The weather in Atlanta is expected to reach the 70's.

Contribute to the Community Altar

Together we create a sharing community

🌸 Write a few sentences that resonate with a particular area of Dorothy Bolden's life and why she is inspirational to you and the work you do today

🌸 Bring an artifact to contribute or lend to the community altar that represents a person, movement, or moment that expresses what keeps you moving forward in your work. This item can be a reflection of your culture, heritage, background, leadership style, career, or anything relevant that is an inspiration and connection to you. (additional ideas: a postcard, or photo of a loved one who inspires you, an ancestor, or a note of encouragement)

Accommodations

Hilton Atlanta

Address:

255 Courtland Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia, 30303

[Website](#) | **404-659-2000**

Check-In: 4:00 PM **Check-Out:** 11:00 AM

Parking: Self-parking and valet parking available



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Agenda

Friday, October 13th 2023

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Attendees arrive in Atlanta; travel to hotel
11:30 AM & 1:30 PM	Buses available from airport to hotel
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Welcome Program + Lunch
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Mural Tour + Care Cookout Check our Cultural Organizing <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Take a tour of the Dorothy Bolden murals in Atlanta, GA. The member-led tour series celebrates Dorothy Bolden and the work of Black domestic workers in the South.

- The murals span buildings in a five-mile radius within or close to Vine City – they will highlight different parts of Dorothy Bolden’s life and her story.
- We honor her contributions to the civil rights movement, her voter registration efforts, and her leadership in the fight for domestic worker’s dignity and rights.
- As storytellers, we are transforming the domestic work industry, building our narrative power from TV and film to murals in our neighborhoods.

Friday Care Cookout hosted by We Dream in Black - Georgia on Friday, October 13th from 5 - 8 pm. We Dream in Black - Georgia is celebrating 7 years of organizing, storytelling, and movement building while making strides toward creating a better future for all care workers and domestic workers. The Care Cookout is a time to lift up Black domestic workers and the contributions they make in the domestic work industry, a time to build community with our WeDiB members from across the country, local GA organizational partners, allies, and families.

Saturday, October 14th 2023

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Breakfast + Meet & Greet with We Dream in Black + Care in Action
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	Healing and Self-Care with Kemi
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>Welcome Program Keynote Addresses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allison Julien, National Director of We Dream in Black • Hillary Holley, Executive Director of Care in Action
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<p><u>Workshop 1: Recognizing Workplace Violations</u></p> <p><i>Historically, domestic workers lose millions of dollars in stolen wages due to unclear wage agreements and a lack of strong contracts. In addition to rampant wage theft, workers have been subjected to other forms of violations in the workplace. In this workshop, we will define wage theft and harassment along with behaviors that are inappropriate and specific to the domestic work industry. Join us for a robust solution-oriented dialogue to spot these violations in the workplace.</i></p>

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM	<p><u>Workshop 2: Workforce Development</u></p> <p><i>What expectations do you have when you are either entering into a new job or negotiating a new work agreement?</i></p> <p><i>In this workshop, you will access tools to prepare for an interview and skills to negotiate with confidence for a strong working agreement. Based on your research and skills you will arm yourself with knowledge about the job to better negotiate for the wage you deserve and secure the position you desire.</i></p>
3:15 PM - 3:45 PM	30 min Break
3:45 PM - 4:45 PM	<p><u>Workshop 3: Civil Engagement with Care in Action</u></p> <p><i>Black domestic workers have historically been excluded from significant federal and state law protections that most other sectors enjoy. Care in Action will share the importance of voter education, voting, canvassing, and other actions that domestic workers have the power to engage in. Black people have the power to make their voices heard in the future of this country and our community.</i></p>
4:45 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	1.5-hour Break
6:30 PM - 7:15 PM	Mix & Mingle & Photos
7:15 PM - 8:15 PM	Dorothy Bolden Dinner Reception + Awards Program
8:15 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Dancing & Desserts

Sunday, October 15th 2023

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast + Luggage drop off & check out
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Buses load and depart for Ebenezer Church
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Arrive at Ebenezer Baptist Church
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Sunday Service at Ebenezer Baptist Church

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Lunch at the hotel (box lunches)

3:30 PM & 5:00 PM Buses load and depart for hotel

Ground Transportation

Home to/from Airport

Attendees will be sent Uber Voucher Links to cover trips between their homes and the airport. Uber Voucher Links will be sent out the week of October 9th, 2023. Uber Voucher Links will be valid for 2 rides between October 12th and October 16th. [Click here to learn more about using your Uber Code.](#)

Hotel to/from Airport

On Friday, October 13th, charter buses will be available to transport attendees from the Atlanta airport to the hotel. Exact shuttle times will be available the week of the Organizing Institute.

On Sunday, October 15th, charter buses will depart from the hotel for the airport. Exact shuttle times will be available the week of the Organizing Institute and updated at the hotel and in the What's App group.

Special Events & Trips

Buses will be provided to transport attendees to and from the Mural Tour and Care Cookout on Friday October 13th, and to and from Ebenezer Church on Sunday October 15th, 2023.

Childcare

[Go Take a Break](#) will be providing child care and is open to children 12 years old and under. Only children who were pre-registered can be included in childcare. Parents are encouraged to have children over 12 years old with them at all times, children should not be left unaccompanied.

Childcare will be available during the following times:

- **Friday, October 13th** | 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Hilton Atlanta
- **Saturday, October 14th** | 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM at the Hilton Atlanta
- **Sunday, October 15th** | 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM at Ebenezer Baptist Church
 - Childcare 'helpers' will be available at Ebenezer Baptist Church in case children need to step out of the service:

Airport + TSA Info

Prior to travel

Luggage

- Your ticket will include one carry-on bag (22 inches by 14 inches by 9 inches) and one personal item (your purse or backpack). You are responsible for the cost of any larger checked luggage.
- If your luggage is lost let the airlines know immediately, AND, also let Allison know.
- In the event that your luggage gets lost, WeDiB will provide support to get your luggage back and/or provide support with basic necessities

Check before you travel

- Prior to travel make sure your ID/Passport is up to date & the correct spelling of your name and city is on your ticket
- Any discrepancies while checking in, please contact Allison or Isabella immediately we will support you with sorting it out
- Check in with your airline 24 hours prior to your travel - if you need support contact your local Organizer

Security

- Liquids, gels, or aerosols must be 3.4 ounces (100 milliliters) or less per item. **NO** water or beverages allow through security please be certain to empty your bottles
- Be prepared to remove your shoes and belts before going through security
- Computers and tablets may also need to be removed from your bags and placed directly in the bin
- DO NOT travel with pocket knives or mace. PLEASE leave them at home

Emergencies at the airport

- First let your group know via WhatsApp, text, or call to let them know what is going on to ensure you are not alone at any time. Someone from the group should be prepared to relay information to the WEDiB Staff immediately
- Second, get in contact with the nearest airport personnel.

We will see you soon!