



Institute for Health Equity, Research, Policy & Evaluation

Supporting emancipatory research driven by community health centers.



Freedom Summer: 60th Anniversary

At their 2024 Juneteenth celebration, the **Institute for Health Equity, Research, Policy & Evaluation** honored Mandela Yoga patient-turned-Peer Facilitator Carlos Santiago and MYP Seed Teacher Felipe Rosario as Community Heroes.

[See video here](#)

INSPIRE: Investing in Community-Led Scholarship in Community Health Centers

In 2024, joint recipients of a **Harvard & Legacy of Slavery reparative grant**, partnered with IHE, health centers, and Harvard Medical School, to create **INSPIRE** – a pioneering program of self care, mentorship, and health systems policy advocacy to support descendants of American enslavement.

August marks the close of the 60th Anniversary of Freedom Summer. Please view our celebration of this momentous point in history here: <https://vimeo.com/984470020/a5ef887bc4?share=copy>.

On Thursday, June 20th, 2024, the Mass League's Institute for Health Equity Research, Evaluation and Policy's Mission Committee hosted a virtual open house: a celebration of Freedom Summer's 60th anniversary and the unveiling of our first-ever Community Hero awardees! Remarks were given by Civil Rights leader Reena Evers-Everette of the Medgar and Myrtle Evers Institute with an introduction by Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, Undersecretary for Health in the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Community Hero awardees were Felipe Kalatauma Rosario and Carlos Santiago of Mandela Yoga Project, Inc.

Pictured here left to right: Carlos Santiago and Felipe Kalatauma Rosario

INSPIRE for Nurses of Color

In 2025, nurse descendants of slavery at **Codman Square Health Center** and **Brockton Neighborhood Health Center** will practice the Mandela Yoga intervention combined with advocacy training.

They will build nurturing peer and mentor-scholar networks with Harvard-affiliated hospitals.

Develop and disseminate a legal-informed toolkit to re-set expectations for equitable research.

INSPIRE for Youth of Color

In 2025, **high school student** descendants of slavery in Randolph, MA will practice the Mandela Yoga intervention, receive policy advocacy training, a paid health center internship, and a Harvard University-affiliate mentor.