

"In order to build the movement capable of transforming our world, we have to do our best to live one foot in the world we have not yet created."



Aurora Levine Morales

## Living A Reproductive Justice Life

Are you living an RJ life? That's the question *In Our Own Voice* posed to hundreds of participants who attended our one-day public conference themed "Living A Reproductive Justice Life: The Health and Well-Being of Black Women" and our annual Summit for Policy Change. We were joined by activists and leaders from our eight partner organizations, as well as others, to envision and begin to realize a Reproductive Justice life. Together with National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) and National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (NLIRH), we also brought together 300 activists of color for the Intersections of Our Lives advocacy day on Capitol Hill.

This month, our newsletter is a special edition dedicated to the highlights of those four amazing days.

## A Note from Our Founder & President, Marcela Howell



When You Live a Reproductive Justice Life | In Our Own Voice

by Marcela Howell | October 2, 2019 | Posted in Reproductive Justice "In Our Own Voice is the safest place for a Black leader of a Reproductive Justice organization to be." Dazon Dixon Diallo, founder and president of SisterLove, Inc.

[Read more](#)  
blackrj.org

## Sonya Renee Taylor—A True Visionary Artist & Activist

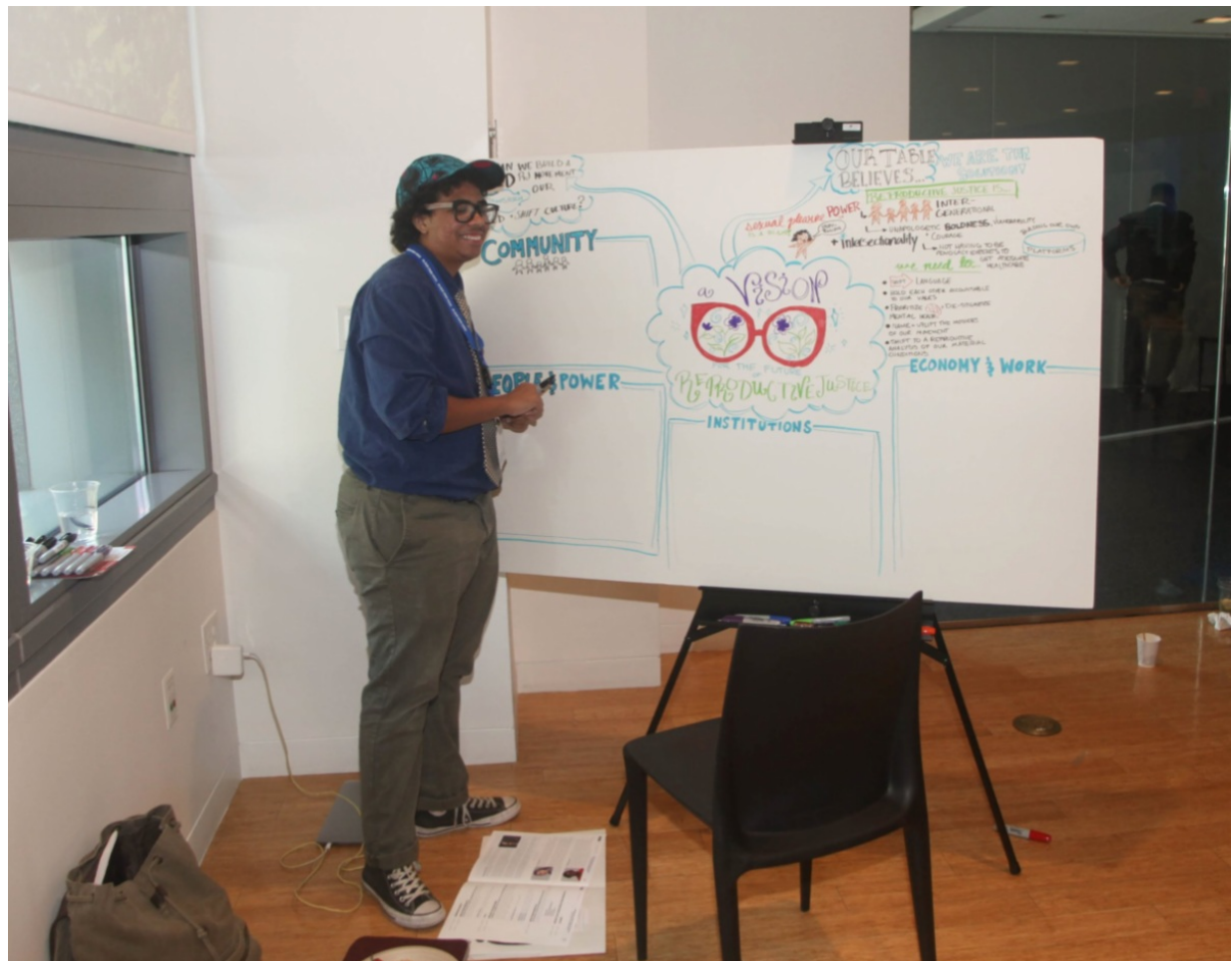
*"Reproductive Justice is a framework that imagines the possibilities of true liberation."*

-Sonya Renee Taylor

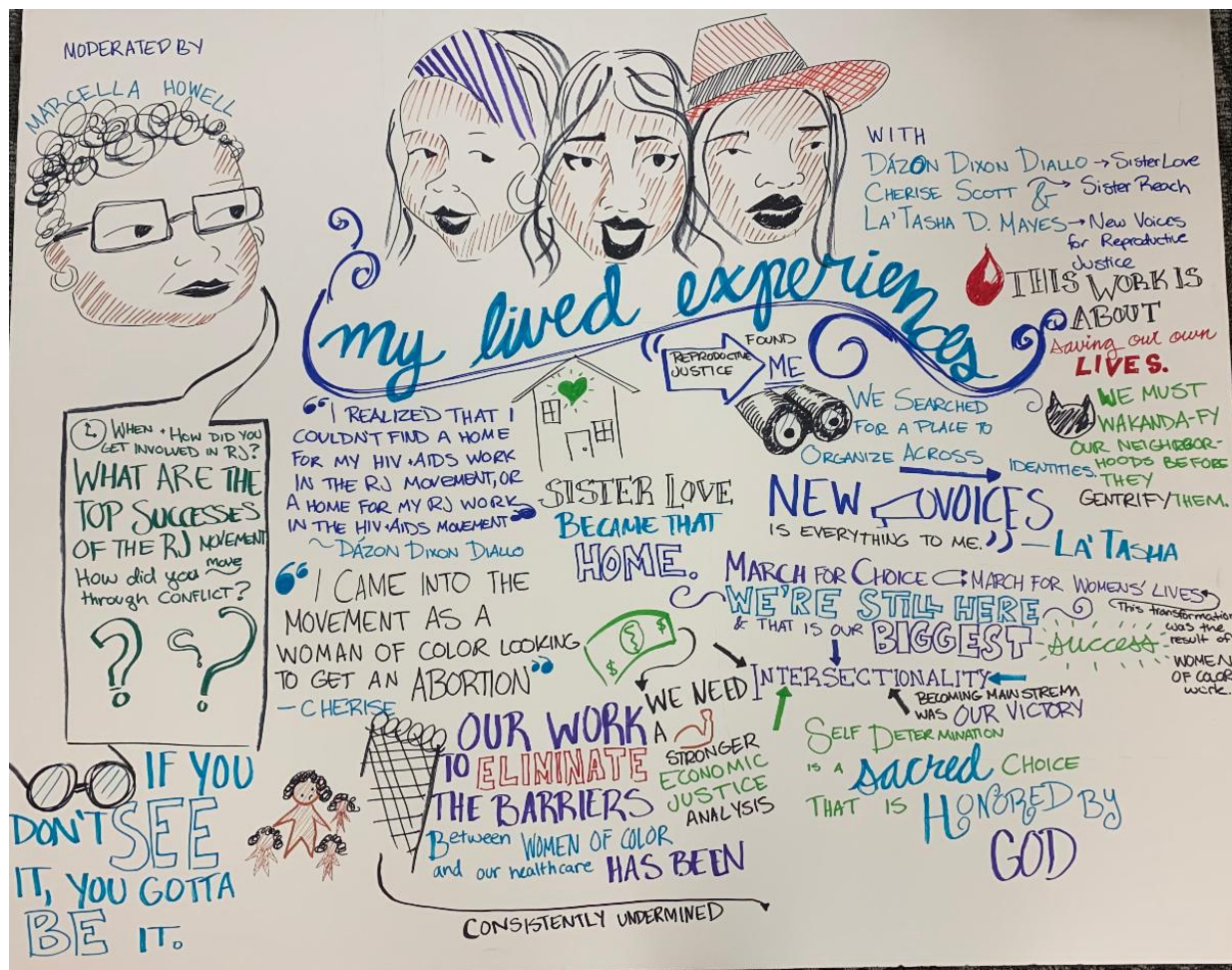
[Watch the inspiring opening remarks of Sonya Renee Taylor](#)



## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

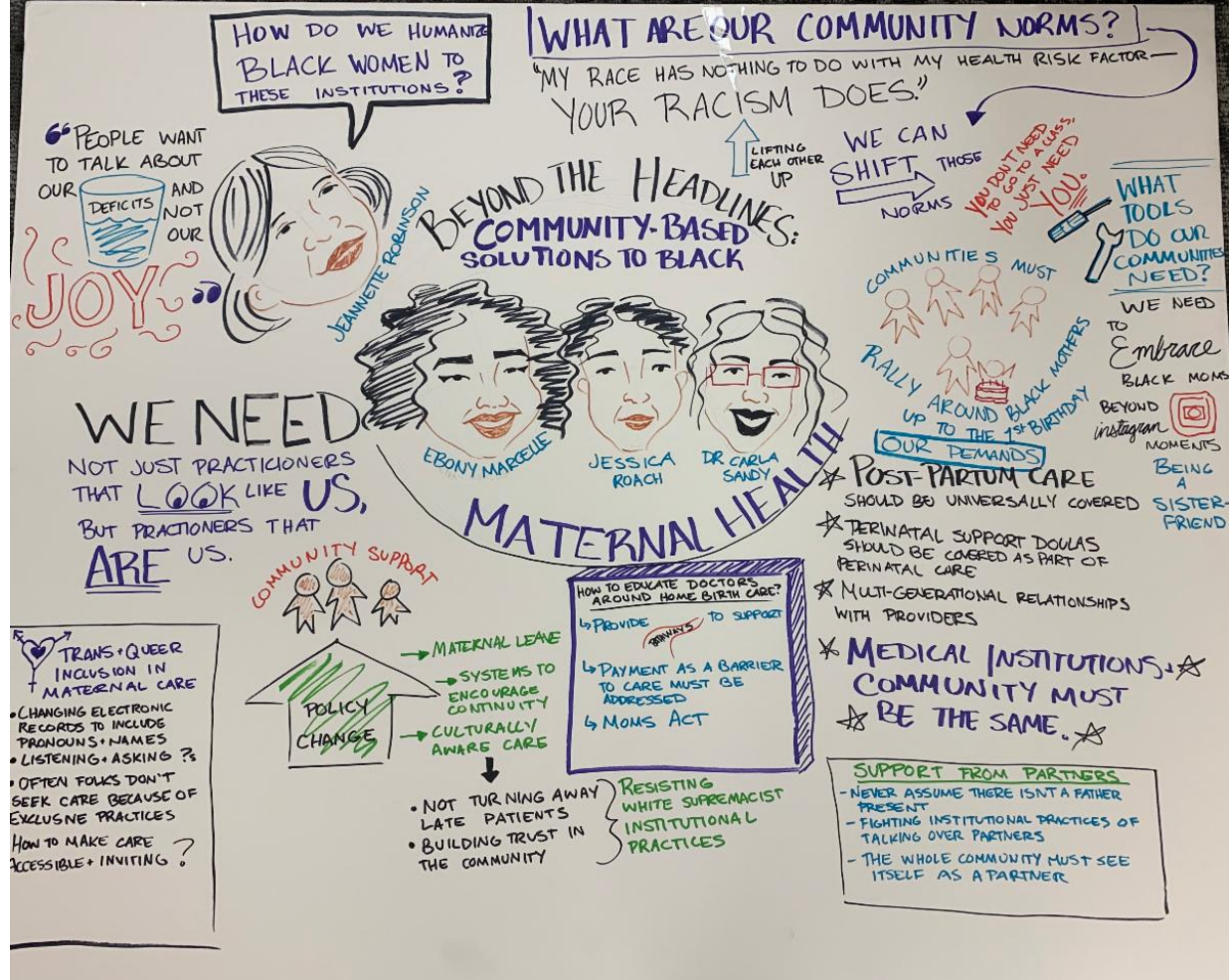




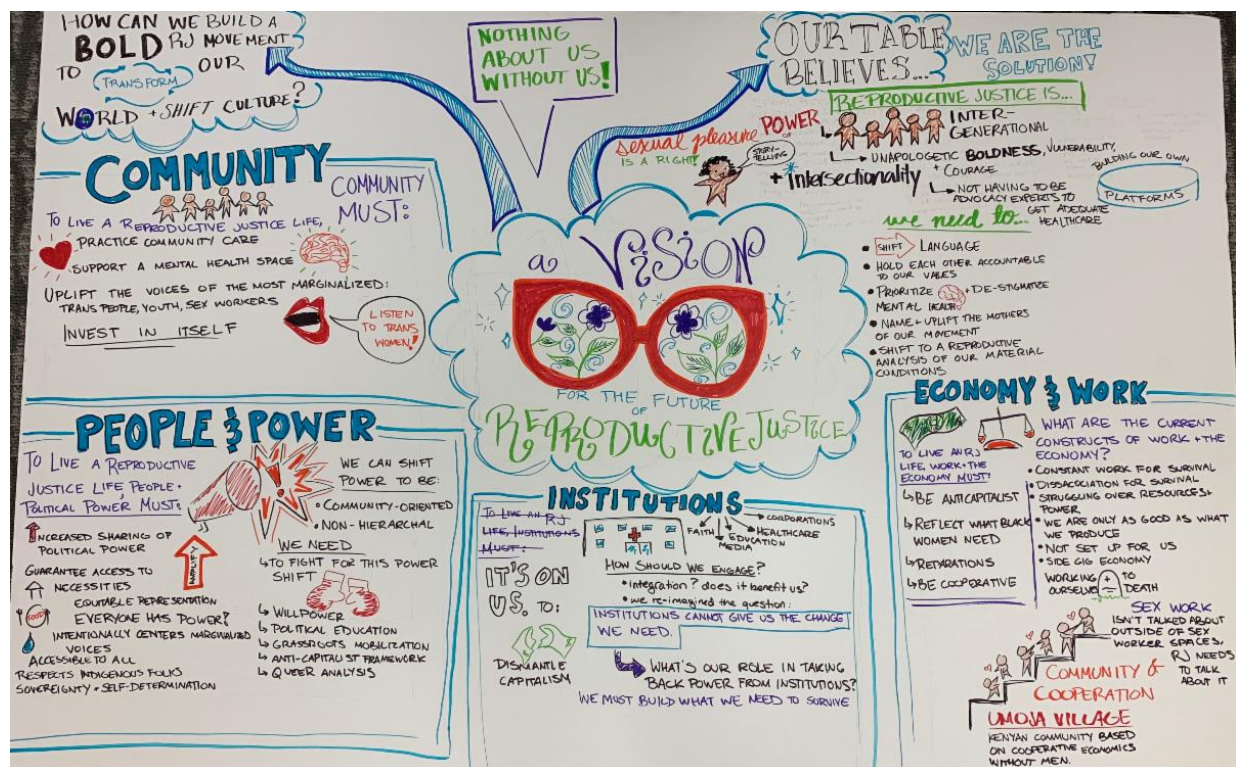


In conversation with our Founder and President Marcella Howell, executive directors of SisterLove, Inc., SisterReach, and New Voices for Reproductive Justice shared their experiences as Black RJ leaders.





Jan Robinson-Flint, executive director of Black Women for Wellness moderated an engaging panel looking at community-based solutions to Black maternal health.



Discussion groups shared their bold vision for the future of Reproductive Justice related to community, economy and work, institutions, and political power.

If you'd like to see more photos from our conference, Summit, or advocacy day, visit our [Facebook album](#).

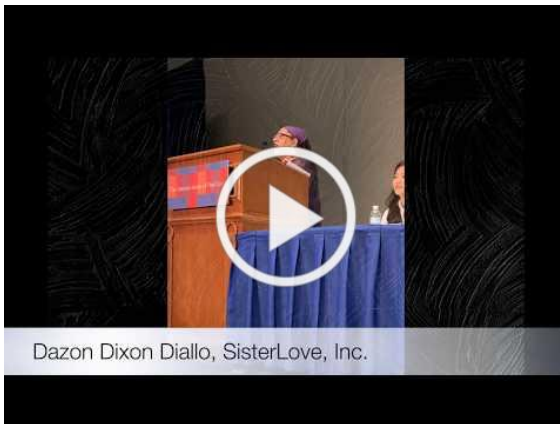
# Next Generation Leaders Embrace Living A Reproductive Justice Life

Aman Tune is a senior at Hampton University and one of *In Our Own Voice's* Next Generation Leadership Institute fellows. When asked about her experience at the Summit she said, "This is the type of work that I see myself doing and to know that there is such a strong movement around these issues and that I have so many people in my corner means everything to me."

Shamya Hutchinson, a junior at Lincoln University says she is honored to be part of this historic movement. [Read Shamya's blog to learn more about her experience.](#)



## Intersections of Our Lives Advocacy Day



While preparing for the first ever Intersections of Our Lives advocacy day with NAPAWF and NLIRH, participants heard from Dazon Dixon Diallo, President of SisterLove, Inc. Check out a clip of her inspiring remarks [here](#).





The first Intersections of Our Lives advocacy day was a huge success. Together, 300 activists of color went to Capitol Hill decked out in bright orange t-shirts to talk about policy and values with members of Congress. Our [opening rally with Representatives Ayanna Pressley \(MA\) and Veronica Escobar \(TX\)](#) was powerful and reminded us of our collective power. Our hope is that we are able to sustain this power and influence as we continue to fight for Reproductive Justice.

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