

American Baptist Women's Ministries

June 2017 Report to Board of General Ministries

by Rev. Angel L. Sullivan (president) and Virginia Holmstrom (executive director)



Beloved Community initiative is changing ABWM from the inside out. President Angel Sullivan and Executive Director Virginia Holmstrom, with consultation from Rev. Dr. Trinetta V. McCray, continue to guide the national ABWM Board in its critical assignment to hear the opinions and perceptions about ABWM received from 214 ABWM/ABC leaders in 2014, and create and implement a strategic plan toward transformational change. Here's what's happening with our four strategic themes:

- 1) Strengthened relationships.** We're nurturing beloved community throughout AB Women's Ministries by building and strengthening relationships across races/ethnicities, cultures, generations, and languages, so that women and girls from every ABC congregation experience welcome and acceptance. We're also affirming our relationships with the wider ABC family.
- 2) Inclusive leadership.** We're working to assure that pathways to leadership throughout AB Women's Ministries are open and welcoming to all so that our leadership more fully reflects generational, racial/ethnic, and social status realities where everyone's voice is being heard.
- 3) Relevant and vital programming/missions.** Strengthened relationships and inclusive leadership are generating relevant, vital ministries that inspire and prepare Christ-centered women and girls to engage in radical and relevant acts of mission and ministry.
- 4) Competent, Responsive Governance.** National and region ABWM leaders are learning and teaching skills in cultural competency so that women and girls can leverage the craft of making quality decisions amid differences, similarities, and related tensions.

A Beloved Community tool kit will be available in June 2017 on ABWM's website to engage our wider ABWM constituency in the changes needed at every level of the organization. www.abwministries.org



ABWM's Executive Director search process is underway. Rev. Angel Sullivan, ABWM's national president is chairing the search committee that anticipates naming the next executive director before Virginia Holmstrom retires on March 1, 2018.