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JSD Foundation receives \$330,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to raise awareness and disrupt systemic dehumanization of children of color

Jackson, MS November 20, 2020- The Juanita Sims Doty Foundation (JSDF) has received a 3-year, \$330,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to focus on raising awareness and disrupting the systemic dehumanization of people of color that perpetuates racialized trauma in Mississippi. The specific purpose of this funding is to help create solutions for the systemic racism in the area of dehumanization within organizations that serve youth of color, as well as to mobilize individuals, groups and agencies in these efforts and bring awareness to the communities in which the children live and play.

During this 3- year period, JSDF, in collaboration with the Moriah Group Research Firm, will identify barriers that keep many children of color from thriving in Mississippi as a result of systems, policies and/or practices,

As JSDF commemorates its 10th year anniversary of providing services to and advocating for communities of color, Dr. Karla McCullough, the Project Director of the grant and Executive Director of JSDF stated, “For a decade our focus has centered around direct services for youth of color and over the last 5 years, organically expanded into systems-driven work, as we help to disrupt systemic racism in a time that it is vital to our community and the state. We are extremely excited that the W.K. Kellogg Foundation is partnering with us and look forward to intentionally working with a diverse group of individuals, agencies and organizations that share the same goal. When the full humanity of people of color is afforded, our community, state and country will thrive!”.

JSDF’s Program officer from W.K. Kellogg Foundation says:

The key outcome of this project is to bring awareness to and create more equitable practices, policies, and procedures at the systems level. This will involve developing relationships and partnering with ‘decision makers’ in various Mississippi systems in order for the appropriate changes to occur and to ensure people of color, specifically, children, in Mississippi can grow and thrive.

About The Juanita Sims Doty Foundation (JSDF)-*The Juanita Sims Doty Foundation’s mission is to positively impact the lives of children, specifically children of color and their families, through youth development, mentorship, education and advocacy. The purpose is to ignite a “spirit of service and collaboration” that promotes community, coalition building and partnerships. JSDF’s signature program is the Ambassadors of the Evers Academy for African-American Males (A-TEAAM) National Mentoring Initiative in partnership with the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute and other local and national community-based organizations. JSDF has expanded its scope of work to include advocacy and research on disrupting the Dehumanization Cycle and empowering youth of color with the goal of helping to create an Anti-Racist community.*

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation - *The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal pioneer, Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.*

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Mich., and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special attention is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.