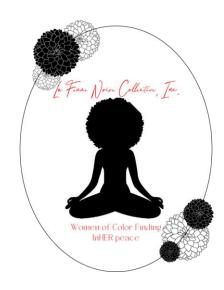
# Prospective Member Guide



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# Women of Color finding in HER peace.



# Who we are...

#### Our Mission

❖ The mission of La Femme Noire Collective. Inc. is to create a support network for women and girls of color. that will help them prioritize their mental health and wellbeing.

#### Core Values

- Advocate for culturally appropriate mental health services
- Normalize therapy
- Prioritize your mental health.
- Practice Self-Care

#### Our Story

On May 12. 2022. Tracey. with the encouragement of her mother Lonnette. came up with the idea to create an organization for women that focused on mental health. This organization differs from other women's groups in that. rather than primarily focusing on community events. it would provide a space for women to come together and work collectively. on their own mental health and wellness. This concept follows the basic principle of helping yourself before you can help others.

Tracey pitched this idea to her best friend. Genika. and the two met on Saturday. May 19. 2022 to develop the bylaws and submit the Articles of Incorporation. The application was approved by the State of Florida. and the organization was Incorporated on June 1. 2022.

This is just the preamble to our organization's origin story. The women who choose to become the inaugural members of this organization. will be part of building its history.

#### Our Founders



Tracey Seabrook Visionary Founder

Tracey is a Palm Beach County native. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from Florida A&M University. and her Masters and Specialist Degrees from Nova Southeastern University. She is a School Psychologist in the School District of Palm Beach County. She was previously a Middle School Math & Science teacher, and the Head Cheerleading Coach at Palm Beach Atlantic University.



Genika Chery Jones. Co-Founder

Genika is a wife and mother of two. She is originally from Haiti. but has lived in Europe. prior to moving to Miami. Fl. She majored in English at Florida State University. She is currently a Confidential Secretary at an elementary school in the School District of Palm Beach County. Additionally. Genika is an novel editor.



Lonnette Seabrook Founding Director

Lonnette is a Palm Beach County native. and mother (and grandmother) of two. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biology/Pre-Med from Florida A&M University. She is a retired Chemistry teacher.

### Symbols

Colors: Black & White

Flower: Red Dahlia Jewel: Ruby

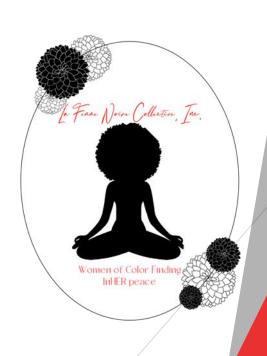




#### Logos







#### Membership Criteria

- A prospective member must identify as a woman. Preferred pronouns must include she/her or they/them.
- A prospective member must be at least 18 years of age.
- A prospective member must not have been convicted of a deadly or violent crime.
- \* While the primary focus of La Femme Noire Collective. Inc. is to prioritize the mental wellness of women of color. this organization does not refuse membership on the basis of race. color. religion. sexual orientation. educational background. or socioeconomic status.

#### Membership Process

- Prospective members are required to attend an informational meeting.
- ❖ The Membership committee shall screen applications.
- \* Applications that clear the screening process will be scheduled for interviews.
- ❖ The Collective shall vote on new members.
- Prospective members are notified and must submit new member fees. [\$100.00]
- Prospective members must attend a New Member Orientation. An alternative New Member Orientation may be scheduled due to extenuating circumstances.
- Prospective members must participate in the Dahlia Bloom Induction Ceremony. Participation may be virtual in the event that member is unable to travel to the Ceremony site.

#### Membership Timeline

- ❖ Dahlia Season begins June 1 and ends July 31.
- ❖ Application Deadline: June 14. 2023
- ❖ Interviews: June 20-21. 2023
- ❖ Decision Notification: June 26. 2023
- ❖ New Member Fee Due: July 7. 2023
- ♦ New Member Orientation: July 15. 2022
- ❖ Dahlia Bloom Ceremony: July 22. 2023

#### Membership Fees

- Application Fees are waived for the 2023-24 Bloom.
- New member fees are \$100. These fees pay for costs associated with member materials and Bloom Ceremony costs.
- ❖ The current annual dues are \$150.
- ❖ The deadline for annual dues is the 1<sup>st</sup> scheduled meeting of the operational year (September). and are considered late after October 31<sup>st</sup>. However, annual dues may be paid in two \$75 payments due September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### What to Expect

- \* Collective meetings shall be held monthly from September-June. Regular Collective meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month via Zoom at 7:00pm.
- ❖ The Annual Retreat will be held at the end of June. The exact date will be announced no later than the January 2024 Collective Meeting. The organization's annual review will be held during this retreat.
- As with any organization. there is a time commitment: however, as a new organization, we have the luxury to build what this commitment will look like and how best to make it work for its members. At the end of the day, the commitment is to yourself, as the purpose of this organization is to work on our own mental wellness.



Thank you for taking this time to meet with us!

Membership Applications will be emailed to you at the address you registered with.



## Contact Us

Email: <u>LaFNC22@gmail.com</u>

Phone: (561)290-2429