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## TOC: What's Happening?

Volume 2.6

May 2010

### Where is Everyone??

If you build it, they will come. That's what Founder and CEO Cynthia Primo Martin heard over and over when proposing the idea of Trustees of Color (TOC). Well, she built it, so where is everyone who said the idea was long overdue and would be welcome?

TOC recently completed a very successful pilot program and invested significant resources in upgrading its website to make it interactive for both trustees and nonprofit organizations. "We've continued to make improvements and enhancements to our service based on feedback from users," says Martin. "Yet when we went live with the new website and membership program, the response was not what we anticipated."

While TOC's membership for both trustees and nonprofit organizations is growing, it is doing so at a slow pace. Martin notes that the response from the nonprofits has been very good, but the response from potential trustees has not been at all representative of the interest and feedback generated by people of color throughout the region. Martin believes that the matching service and level of education provided by TOC is far more valuable than the small membership fee.

"Right now, you can join TOC for only \$10 with the prorated fee structure," says Martin. "That includes membership through the end of June, which is our fiscal year. And as an added incentive for those who sign up this year, we're adding an extra year to their membership and extending it through the end of June 2011 at no additional charge."

In addition to matching people of color with nonprofit board positions, TOC offers an extensive program of services, such as a mentoring program, education modules, and networking events. "TOC is the only program of its kind in this region. We've had great success with those people we've matched to nonprofit boards," remarks Martin. "Both the trustees and nonprofit organizations have been very pleased with the outcome."

Now is the ideal time to join since spring is traditionally the time when many

nonprofit organizations begin their search for new board members. Currently, there are a number of positions posted on the website at different nonprofits.

You can visit the website [www.trusteesofcolor.org](http://www.trusteesofcolor.org) for more information, or contact Nova Johnson, TOC Administrative Manager at (302) 573-4473.

### TOC Expansion Efforts Begin



TOC has begun plans for statewide expansion. Volunteers who would like to serve as TOC champions to help with this effort are being sought. Throughout the months ahead, TOC will be holding networking and welcome events to introduce its program to people of color and nonprofit organizations in Kent and Sussex counties. Anyone interested in helping with this effort can contact Nova Johnson at [office@trusteesofcolor.org](mailto:office@trusteesofcolor.org).

*"Enriching Communities through diverse nonprofit boards."*

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