

# HAMPTON VA

## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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## Unity Commission honors citizens, organizations supporting diversity

June 11, 2018 - The Citizens' Unity Commission held its annual Unity Awards ceremony Friday, honoring groups, individuals or initiatives that have made a positive impact supporting diversity in Hampton. Honorees were:

- Elizabeth T. Lacroix. She was honored posthumously for her "extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to fostering healthy racial and cultural relations" and advancing an awareness of diversity issues and concerns. According to the Commission: "Having demonstrated a commitment to cultural diversity through community involvement, Ms. Lacroix was one of the four professionals who designed the award-winning 'Diversity 101 Series' for the city of Hampton that evolved into the Diversity College." She facilitated multi-cultural dialogues and workshops for other city departments, and "made a lasting and positive impact on diversity and inclusion" in Hampton.
- The One Love Community Organization. The Commission noted that One Love, formed two years ago by Imara Diaz to establish an open dialogue between community members and local law enforcement, "has more recently expanded their focus to addressing issues pertaining to the homeless population of Hampton Roads, and community beautification. Through their efforts, faith-based organizations, community leaders, local businesses and non-faith based groups are partnering with citizens of various neighborhoods... working collaboratively to bring about diversity and acceptance."

- Calvary Community Church of Hampton. The commission said that Calvary Community Church, lead by Bishop L. W. Francisco III and Dr. Natalie Francisco, "has made it their mission to advance awareness of **diversity issues and concerns within our community.**" Calvary, also known as C3, "holds various activities throughout the year where the community is served and positive dialogue among diverse cultures is accomplished. The church holds game nights with the homeless, young adults and seniors throughout Hampton. Calvary also makes regular visits to local nursing homes to sing and fellowship with those who are convalescing."

To learn more about the awards, and the Unity Commission, visit [www.hampton.gov/unity](http://www.hampton.gov/unity).

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