Join us on Dec. 2nd to pay tribute to the 1619 Project, a major initiative by The New York Times to observe the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. We have invited Dr. Alvin Powell, the Chief Health Equity Officer of Cone Health from Greensboro NC. On Nov 1st, 2016, to celebrate the 53rd anniversary of the 1963 landmark Simkins v. Cone Hospital lawsuit that desegregated hospitals, a historical marker was placed beside Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital by a local medical society. Cone Hospital CEO apologized to the community and the sole living plaintiff Dr. Alvin Blount, 94, for the hospital's past role in perpetuating discriminatory practices in healthcare.

Dr. Powell is a native of Boston, who received his undergraduate education at Columbia University, medical degree from Tufts University School of medicine, completed his residency training in Internal medicine at Duke University and a fellowship in nephrology at Emory University. He has been a nephrologist in private practice in Greensboro for 29 years and was the former President of medical staff at Cone Hospital. He was previously employed by the National Health Service Corps at a community health center in Florida and has been a volunteer in medical missions in Haiti and Honduras. As a child he received his medical at Boston City Hospital and Dimock Community Health Center.

This event is co-sponsored by the MGH's Office for Equity and Inclusion, the Disparities Solutions Center, Center for Community Health Improvement, Center for Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Emergency Medicine, Department of Psychiatry Diversity Center, Executive Committee on Community Health, Executive Committee on Diversity, Human Resources, Patient Care Services, Partners Employee Assistance Program, and Police, Security and Outside Services. *Stand Against Racism is a nationwide YWCA movement. Every year, the Stand campaign brings people together from all walks of life to raise awareness and empower action towards eliminating racism.