



Leslie Hill

Professor Emeritus, Bates College

(Photo credit: Genius Black)

Leslie Hill lives her life's Third Chapter learning from and engaging with Maine's BIPoC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) communities. Before retiring from Bates College, where she helped establish interdisciplinary programs in Africana and America Cultural Studies as well as Gender & Sexuality Studies, Leslie taught a range of Politics courses addressing racial and gender injustice in both domestic and international settings.

Now, her volunteer work with Maine philanthropic and non-profit organizations focuses on – as she formerly urged students – learning more about structural inequities to resource racial justice, decolonization, and liberatory equity work in Maine. She extends that effort in work as the Sewall Foundation board's Equity Committee chair, and with Maine Initiatives' racial justice grantmaking programs.

Leslie champions non-profits that generate cross-class and multiracial community engagements among people aiming to reimagine systems and practices and create policies that make it possible for everyone to thrive, to build a world where power is shared and everyone can thrive. Leslie's learning through the Maine Council on Aging's Leadership Exchange on Ageism inspired her own "community organizing," convening BIPoC Elders to make their experiences, contributions, and resilience visible, and their voices heard in Maine. The photovoice project ***Making the Invisible Visible: A Maine Black Elders Photovoice Project*** enhances BIPoC Elders' visibility. Leslie aims to continue convening Elders to enrich the cross-generational learning, story-sharing, and lives of communities of color in Maine.