

CREATING AN MST FOR ALL

Highlights from Friends of the MST Diversity & Inclusion Efforts

Accomplishments in 2022

2022 Gathering at Lake Junaluska

- ◆ Joined by members of GirlTrek, a global movement focused on Black women walking for self-care
- ◆ First presentation on diversity and inclusion efforts during Gathering of Friends
- ◆ Two workshops on diversity attended by over 60 people
- ◆ Tours of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and programs by Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians leadership & performers



Formation of MST Allies Volunteer Group

Volunteer outreach highlights:

- ◆ Create MST quilt illustrating the land's history
- ◆ Volunteer with Issa Vibe Adventures, a Black outdoors group, in their community service days
- ◆ Connect with African American Blue Ridge Parkway staff
- ◆ Create a plan to present MST to 12 churches along Segment 17
- ◆ Work with donor and Black leadership in Roseboro to feature Black residents (past and present) on the MST paved walkway
- ◆ Beverly Scarlett and Seletha Pherribo represent MST at Outdoors for All conference in Old Fort, NC



Task Force Leaders expand outreach

Welcoming a more diverse group of volunteers to trail work through intentional outreach and creating a welcoming space.



Building Relationships on the Trail

Connecting with outdoor groups that serve to bring more people of color to trails and the outdoors.

- ◆ GirlTrek and MST members hike in Wake, Alamance, Orange and Guilford Counties
- ◆ Latinos Aventureros and MST member hike at Falls Lake

