



# Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development

*A division of the American Counseling Association*

*www.amcdaca.org*

November 15, 2007

## **2007-08**

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Reverend Al Sharpton, President  
National Action Network  
Crisis Department  
106 W. 145th Street  
Harlem, New York 10039

Dear Rev. Sharpton,

One of our executive council members, Mr. Mark E. Kenney, has informed us about the march against hate crimes, scheduled for Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Washington, DC. We believe that this is a very important event that will bring attention to the kinds of terrorist acts that people of color and others who are socially marginalized face on a frequent basis. Just recently, one of our colleagues, Madonna Constantine, was the target of a hate crime on the Teachers College campus of Columbia University.

As the multicultural association that brought out the multicultural counseling competencies in 1992 and its updates in 1996 and 2003, we raise our voices against intimidating acts within our own counseling profession and within our teaching and training environments. AMCD has steadfastly been at the forefront, addressing issues of injustice since its inception; let us remain proactive in our efforts.

The AMCD executive council has taken concrete actions that will aid in: (a) decreasing the number and intensity of hate-crime incidents nationally and (b) ameliorating the effects of systemic oppression on socially marginalized individuals and communities. We will continue to work toward long-term solutions to this pervasive problem in our society.

In the meantime, we send our strongest support and spirit of unity to your organization for your courageous acts to stand against interpersonal and institutional oppression.

Sincerely,

Cirecie West-Olatunji, Ph. D.  
AMCD President

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