Transformation starts with understanding, but understanding does not create change. Taking action creates change. Brenda Rosenberg has worked tirelessly creating effective initiatives that create both understanding and action.

Rosenberg is the co-founder of Tectonic Leadership Center for Conflict Transformation and Cross Cultural Communication, which pairs leaders from across the lines of conflict to take joint responsibility in transforming conflict, the President of Pathways to Peace Foundation, which develops programs to foster interfaith, intercultural and interracial understanding, and the executive producer of Reuniting the Children of Abraham a multi-media tool kit for peace.

In From Hate to Hope, she will facilitate a panel of Sikh, Muslim, Native American, African American, and Jewish leaders as they each discuss the misunderstandings faced by their religious or ethnic group.

“We are the most segregated city in America,” says Rosenberg. “Unfortunately, racism, discrimination, hate speech, and hurtful acts occur almost daily.”

The panel will specifically discuss the types of hate speech faced by their community. The frank discussion of key points of misunderstanding will provide the basis for a discussion about action plans for addressing them that will include panelists and attendees.

“For me, there’s nothing more important than deconstructing the negative narratives that we have about each other.”

The question, says Rosenberg is “what can we put in place as a community to create a better level of understanding?”

Each attendee will be encouraged to think about their own opportunities and intentions and to form a personal plan of action by writing down their commitment to increase understanding within their communities.

Rosenberg says, “We have to move beyond holding hands and singing kumbaya. We need to talk about what’s dividing us. And we need to put an action plan in place to create better understanding.”

NAIN information / registration: http://www.detroitinterfaithcouncil.com/nainconnect-detroit/

To learn more about Brenda Rosenberg visit www.brendanaomirosenberg.com

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