

## Move agenda forward

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for them. East Mecklenburg High School students Crystal Brown and Danielle Fuller echoed those feelings as they stopped and spoke with Kwain Bryant after his discussion on Saturday.

"I would've brought more people," said Brown, "because I know it would have broadened their horizons."

"They found ways to connect with the teens. Sometimes adults can't always connect with [us], but I'm glad they found people who did," she said.

"It was important that people listened," Fuller said. "That doesn't happen every day, that we have a chance to be heard, but today we did. Now I expect to see change...and I'm willing to get involved to see it happen."

What happens next, as listed by organizers is a summary of what was said and resolved will be published on the website. Next is the development of objectives and goals. There will be a CM3A for youth, in order to get them involved.

Along with the initial objectives, common themes were listed under the top five priorities to be addressed,

including better access to jobs, career training, affordable housing, mandatory parental classes, PTA involvement, and collaborations between non-profit organizations, corporations, and the faith community with schools.

The foundation has been laid, now the question is will the work get done?

"In 100 days the Urban League will release a plan with the ideas put forth," said Ahmad Daniels, one of the facilitators. "People who came up with resolutions for issues will need to start acting on them. People who met other people here will be able to network, and work together to get things done. We are only limited by our own imagination."

"Paul Robeson once said 'The battlefield is everywhere, there is no shelter.' This past weekend allowed people to find their place on the battlefield."

As he prepared to leave armed with the information he had learned, and his Urban League application, Travis Roseboro felt it all came down to the individual.

"We've gotten all these things from the civil rights

movement, now what do we do with them," asked Roseboro. "Do we squander it all or do we find a way to do more?"

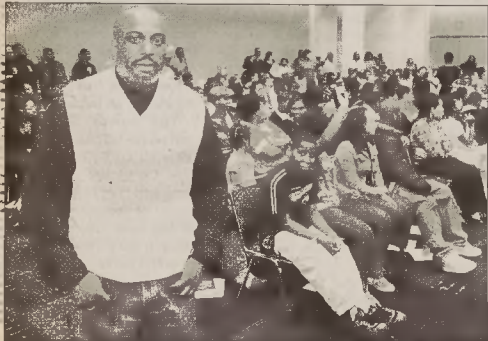
"If there is a lack of resources or aid in one area, and I know I can fill it, why not? I believe it all starts with self, what am I going to do?" Roseboro asked. "Three months from now, I can't speak for others, but I need to hold myself accountable. If I haven't done what I said I would, I need to try harder, or figure out why."

As with others who attended, Sanders doesn't believe the forum will be another Million Man March, where black men came together for a day of atonement, but missed an opportunity for long-term change.

"I feel this is the ready, set, go method that (U.S. Rep.) Mel Watt spoke about," said Sanders. "We researched, we are developing a plan, and then we can take action."

"The media was here...it's going to be on the website. It's all written down now, so you can't not do anything about it," she said.

On the Net:  
CM3A town hall summary  
[www.cm3a.org](http://www.cm3a.org)



N.C. Sen. Malcolm Graham, co-chair of the Charlotte Mecklenburg African American Agenda, attended a youth rally during the town hall forum Saturday.

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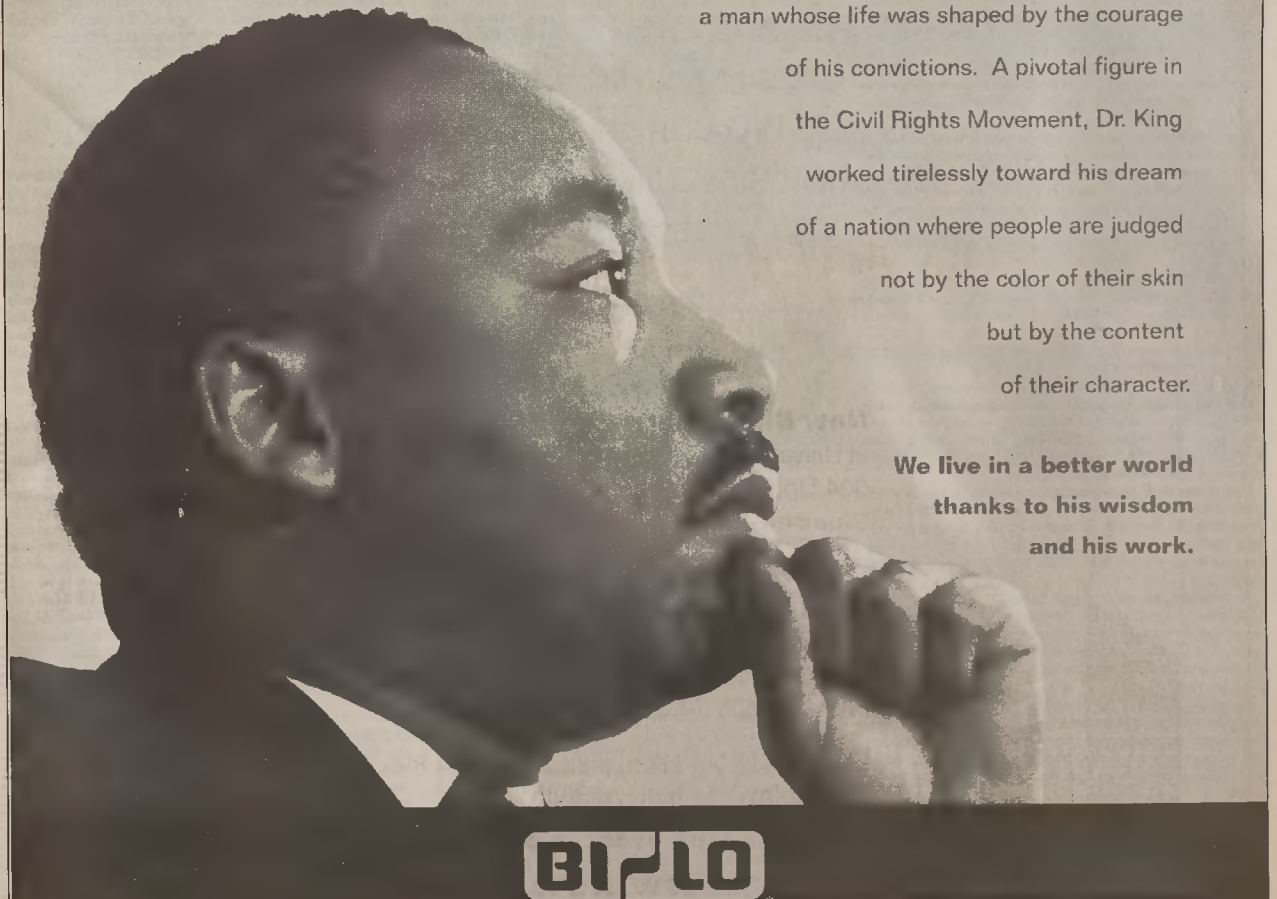
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