People’s Alliance Action Teams

PA members organize action teams focused on specific issues that affect our Durham community. The focus of these teams vary depending on the current prominence of issues and on volunteer leadership. All committees are open for all PA members to join. If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to the listed contact!

Accountability Team: Holding our elected leaders accountable doesn't start or stop around elections. We must ensure that our progressive champions are fulfilling the promises made to us — the voters — by introducing and passing policies that align with People's Alliance values. We also make sure PA is accountable to its own commitments.

- **2020 Priorities:** Develop an elected official scorecard; host 3 progressive issue forums; use PA's social media to organize members and drive our advocacy
- **Meetings:** TBD
- **Contact:** Charles Douglas (charles.douglas65@gmail.com)

Affordable Housing: The Housing Action Team works with the Coalition for Affordable Housing & Transit, so residents of all incomes can afford to live near transit in Durham. Our vision is access to affordable housing and transit for all.

- **2020 Priorities:** Stand with McDougald Terrace residents and leadership to get safe, healthy housing and wrap-around services for residents; stop evictions; Ban the Box on rental applications so that returning citizens can access housing; advocate for more vouchers for homeless and low-income Durham residents; expand tax assistance and repairs to help lower-income homeowners stay in their homes; improve bus transit and equipment for ParaTransit ACCESS
- **Meetings:** Join us at the Coalition for Affordable Housing & Transit meeting on the Transit Plan Monday, January 27, 12-1pm, First Presbyterian Church (305 E Main St.)
- **Contacts:** Lorisa Seibel (LorisaSeibel@gmail.com), Ray Eurquhart (r.eur@frontier.com)

Environmental and Climate Justice: Advocates for environmental and climate policies that ensure clean air, safe drinking water, renewable and democratic energy, reliable transportation, accessible green spaces, nourishing food, and a stable climate for everyone in our community. Our work centers folks disproportionately impacted by environmental racism and hit “first and worst” by the climate crisis.

- **2020 Priorities:** Building the Action Team membership and partner relationships; highlighting environmental and climate justice considerations in affordable housing; expanding options for and access to climate-friendly transportation; solar-powered and energy efficient public schools; equitable implementation of Durham’s commitment to 100% renewable energy
- **Meetings:** Kick-off meeting will be Monday, January 27, 6:00 - 7:30pm, Durham ID WeWork, 300 Morris Street, 7th floor
Economic Inequality: Advocates for policies that ensure that all Durham residents have access to high-quality jobs that pay a living wage with benefits and the opportunity to acquire and make use of productive assets. In addition, we advocate for progressive tax policies that ensure businesses and residents pay their fair share to support adequate public services.

- **2020 Priorities:** workforce development (esp. through Durham Tech); development incentives; fair wages; transit; tax policy; entrepreneurship/economic development
- **Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of the month. This month: Tuesday, 1/21, 6:30 - 8:00pm, at Provident 1898 (411 W. Chapel Hill St., concourse level)
- **Contact:** Carl Rist (carlrist62@gmail.com)

Education: Works to support a unified public education system for all families in Durham. We believe in local control of tax dollars so that families and elected officials can make decisions about Durham’s educational system. The Education Team encourages collaboration and creative approaches to education. Teachers, families, and students should be participants in the decisions made about our schools.

- **2020 Priorities:** Tracking county budget; work with Durham partners to review disparities in DPS around equity issues (including suspensions); increase conversation around universal pre-K; Spanish language programs to all schools
- **Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of the month (phone call); quarterly in-person meetings. This month: call on Tuesday, 1/28, 7:00 - 8:30pm
- **Contact:** Millicent Rogers (mr52181@yahoo.com)

Racial Equity: Works to dismantle systemic racism — a system of societal and institutional beliefs and policies that upholds white supremacy and oppresses people of color — throughout our community.

- **2020 Priorities:** building collaboration with partner organizations in order to: end the school-to-prison pipeline; follow up on criminal justice reform recommendations made in 2018 to hold officials accountable; assure that jail contracts for health care, commissary, and telecommunications are of the highest quality and more affordable to justice-involved residents and their families; assure safe, affordable housing for all low-income families, including those living in public housing; assure that Durham school redistricting policy is fair, equitable, and supports integration.
- **Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 - 9:00pm, Raise Up NC/Fight for $15 office (205 S Gregson St.). Childcare provided
- **Contacts:** Nicole Netzel, (nicolenetzel@gmail.com), Josephine Kerr Davis (josephinekerr@gmail.com), Katie Mgongolwa (KatieM526@gmail.com)

For general information, visit www.durhampa.org or email us at pa@durhampa.org.