

AHTF 2019 End of Year Report

Accomplishments of 2019

January

- Strategic Planning goals determined
- Celebrated retiring chair, Dr. Paulette Coleman
- Participated in TIF study committee meetings and supported Paulette. (Jan - May)

February

- Held 3 meetings with Mayor Briley's staff about housing plan before it was announced.
- Spoke to Peace Corps workers from Minnesota.

March

- 3 Working Groups set up - Education & Outreach, Local Government, State Government
- Local and State Government group members attended multiple MDHA, Barnes Fund, Planning Commission meetings (March to December)

May

- Wrote opinion piece for Tennessean about shortcomings of Briley's housing plan (printed Aug)
- Riverchase Apartments (May through December) - Researched potential redevelopment of apartments, by meetings with Metro Planning Department, McFerrin Park Neighborhood Association, Council Member Sean Parker, tenants, and 2 phone meetings with owner. Testified at Metro Planning Commission about need for affordable housing in redevelopment plans.

June

- NOAH Issues Convention chooses AH as a main issue of NOAH

July & August

- Leadership transition of task force
- Three meetings with Matt Wilshire of MDHA for clarification on Briley's affordable housing plans
- Contributed questions at two NOAH Public Meetings with Mayoral Candidates
- Students engaged from Vanderbilt Office of Active Citizenship and Service
- Established Google Drive repository of info for Task Force

September

- Participated in Good Neighbor Festival

October

- Dr. Paulette Coleman appointed to MDHA Board
- Recruited our task force members for the October Task Force training
- Initial contacts made with CALEB, MICAH, Council on Aging, Catholic Charities, League of Women Voters, others

November

- Presentation about affordable housing made to Metro Council (Paulette Coleman)
- Organized Power One-on-ones with Metro Council Members (continuing now)
- Worked on materials for outreach (PowerPoint, etc.)
- Worked on a one-pager on the Task Force's work for Campaign Coordinating Committee

December

- Organized a rally/press conference, email/phone call campaign re Barnes Fund cuts

Goal(s) for next year?

- Work with Metro Council and others to create a Housing Department with civil servants
- Attain recurring Barnes Fund funding for three years out.
- Do more One-on-Ones and report about them at Task Force meetings. Analyze, look for trends.
- Set a number goal for public presentations about affordable housing

What did we learn this year that we didn't know before?

- Realized we need to have a rapid response plan for taking action under the banner of NOAH.
- We were reminded of the importance of strong relationships with decision makers.