



# ORANGE COUNTY JUSTICE UNITED

**SPRING / SUMMER 2017 UPDATE**

## **MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

Binkley Baptist Church  
Chapel of the Cross  
Chapel Hill Carrboro NAACP  
Church of the Holy Family  
Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist  
Chapel Hill Friends  
Church of Reconciliation  
El Centro Hispano  
EmPOWERment, Inc.  
Episcopal Church of the Advocate  
Habitat for Humanity of Orange County  
Interfaith Council for Social Service  
Kehillah Synagogue  
Lattisville Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
RENA  
St. Paul AME Church  
St. Matthews Episcopal Church  
St. Thomas More  
United Church of Chapel Hill  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Hillsborough

## **District Attorney Commits to Deferral Program to Support Safe Drivers, Increase Public Safety**



On March 28 Orange County Justice United leaders delivered an organized constituency of over 600 community members and made a deal with District Attorney James Woodall that has the potential to reduce tens of thousands of dollars in fees and fines paid by unlicensed yet otherwise safe drivers.

Drivers who complete eight hours of rigorous drivers education, as well as four hours of related civic courses, will be eligible to participate.

Since a state policy change in 2006, drivers without a social security number have been unable to apply for or renew their drivers licenses. From 2008 - 2015, drivers in Orange and Chatham County have paid over \$1.8 million in fees and fines for driving without a license.

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## **Housing Bond Funds Support Creation of 55 New Affordable Housing Units**

On June 6 the Orange County Commissioners moved to allocate \$2.5 million (50% of housing bond fund) to projects that will deliver 55 units of housing, 28 of which target those earning less than 50% of AMI, with a priority for the disabled and homeless.

JU leaders played a key role in a larger effort to pass the housing bond in 2016. Last September leaders turned out 493 members and pledged to deliver 2,640 YES votes for the affordable housing bond: a nonpartisan effort that led to the referendum passing by the highest margins in county history.

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### Record Attendance for May Training

81 leaders were engaged in organizing training over the month of May. Topics included:

How to Raise Money For Anything  
Fundraising for Congregational Development  
Leadership Training for Congregation and Community Renewal (IAF 3 Day)  
Listening Session Training

### 300% Increase in Individual Donations

Justice United leaders raised \$13,576 individual donations during the Friends of Justice United Campaign in May.

The campaign represents a major improvement over the 2016 campaign which raised a total of \$4,283.

Our overall 2017 goal for individual donations and grassroots fundraising is \$20,000.

### WHO IS ORANGE COUNTY JUSTICE UNITED?

Justice United is a non-partisan vehicle for ordinary people to have a powerful voice in the decisions that affect their lives and communities, instead of leaving decision-making in the hands of a select few.

Since 2008 JU has strengthened congregations and community institutions in Orange County by developing the skills and capacity of their leaders, and by taking action on the concrete, winnable issues that are transforming our communities every day.

JU is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), comprised of 65 locally controlled organizations across the world. The IAF provides access to mentoring and supervision of organizers and key leaders, regional and national leadership development training, and broader power to make change at the statewide and national levels.



### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Internal Assembly to Set a New Agenda

Sunday September 10, 5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Lattisville Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
1701 Jimmy Ed Rd, Hurdle Mills

**LEARN MORE AT**  
**OCJUSTICEUNITED.ORG**

### How to Get Involved

There are many ways to support Justice United's work: by signing up to attend large actions, helping to lead a research action team to shape an issue campaign, by making a donation to the Friends of JU Campaign. We have meaningful ways for you to get involved, whether you have two hours a year or two hours a week!

Contact the JU Core Team within your institution to learn how you can participate. If you are unsure who to contact, email the JU organizer Devin Ross at [ross.devin@gmail.com](mailto:ross.devin@gmail.com) or (919) 328 3966.