



"Justice is not a flexible tool. Unless we all do our part to ensure that justice is applied equally to all human beings, we are a party to its' abuse. We must stand together to protect the rights of others."

-Leonard Peltier

D.C. Residents at ONE DC People's Assembly Set Housing and Income Priorities for 2020

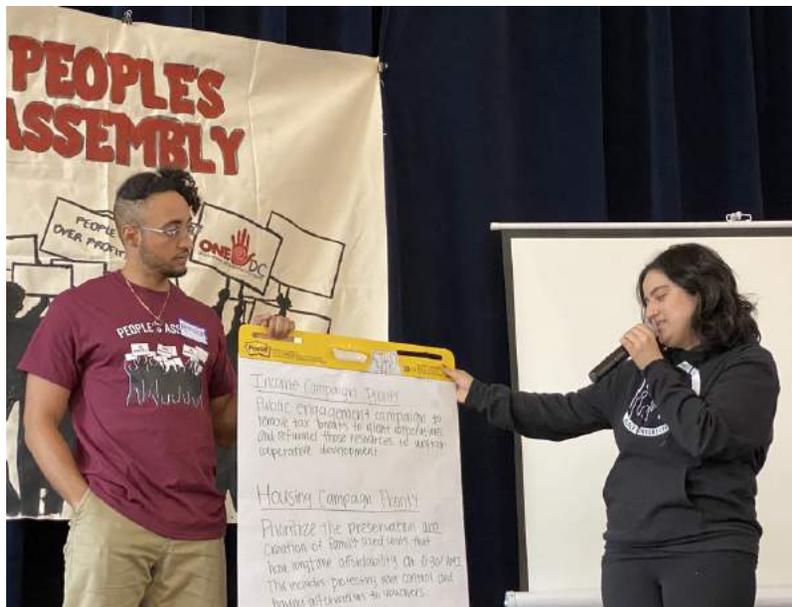
On Saturday, February 1, over 140 D.C. residents participated in ONE DC's first ever People's Assembly in order to craft our campaign priorities for 2020. Ta'Lisa Turner, ONE DC member and Outreach Coordinator, noted that the People's Assembly was held on the first day of Black History Month. In this spirit, we began the program by calling out our movement ancestors, such as Fannie Lou Hamer, Claudia Jones, Nannie Helen Burroughs, and others. Designed to build power among D.C.'s Black working-class and engage long-time D.C. residents in our campaigns, this all-day event was a resounding success.



With a mix of large and small group discussions, ONE DC's People's Assembly encouraged democratic participation and consensus-building. Attendees spoke about how gentrification, policing, ruling-class politicians, and capitalist corporations shape our city through neoliberal policies which negatively impact our lives.

After introducing ourselves and reflecting on ONE DC's past victories, we watched several skits about how politicians, large corporations, and developers work together to exploit and displace working-class Black Washingtonians in the interest of making profits. Through discussing these skits and our own experiences living in the city, we thought about how we could build campaigns around housing and workplace justice in 2020. Specific campaign priorities include:

1. **Right to Housing:** prioritize the preservation and creation of family-sized units with longtime affordability at 0-30% AMI that includes protecting rent control and housing alternatives to vouchers
2. **Right to Income:** get rid of tax breaks to corporations and developers and funnel those resources to the development of worker cooperatives
3. **Neighborhood & Worker Defense:** create community-controlled alternatives that address access to food, housing, childcare, and recreation



In the afternoon, we heard from Pan-African Community Action (PACA), the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative, and Dr. Amanda Huron about alternative models: community control over the police, community land trusts, housing co-operatives, and worker-owned co-operatives. Attendees discussed how these radical alternatives could improve our lives—and how we could work together to fight for community-controlled housing and workplaces.

At the end of the People's Assembly, we elected our 2020 Organizing & Member Development Committee Coordinators, who will help guide ONE DC's organizing in the coming year by coordinating Right to Housing and Right to Income campaign meetings, recruiting and orienting new members, and crafting

campaign strategy, with the support of ONE DC members. While the votes were counted, the Black Workers Chorus led us in singing several movement songs.



For the next few weeks, members of the Right to Housing and Right to Income committees are meeting weekly to create campaign strategies, which will be voted on at the [Annual Membership Meeting](#) on March 14.

ONE DC Annual Membership Meeting



ONE DC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, March 14
2pm to 5pm

Thurgood Marshall Center
1816 12th St NW
(U Street Metro)

*Food will be served. All ages welcome
Please let us know if you need transportation or childcare!*

RSVP: onedconline.org/annualmeeting2020
organizer@onedconline.org
202-232-2915

The Annual Membership Meeting is a space for members to guide the vision of ONE DC. The agenda will include:

- Presentation and voting on our campaign strategies for 2020
- Community learning about Shared Leadership
- Elections for open seats on the ONE DC Shared Leadership Team
- Financial updates

[RSVP here](#)

[Per our by-laws](#), ONE DC is governed by a Shared Leadership Team (SLT) made up of appointed and elected board members, other designated ONE DC member-leaders, and ONE DC staff. At the 2020 Annual Membership Meeting, we will hold an election for two open elected positions.

The qualifications for being appointed or elected to the Shared Leadership Team are:

1. Be a resident of the District of Columbia,
2. Be at least 18 years of age,
3. Be a ONE DC member for at least 6 months and current in the payment of membership dues,
4. Complete ONE DC leadership and capacity training, and
5. Demonstrate commitment to ONE DC's values, work and mission as demonstrated through an interview process with the Shared Leadership Team.

[Click here for more information](#) about the roles and responsibilities of being on the ONE DC Shared Leadership Team. You can nominate yourself or another person by sending an email to organizer@onedconline.org, and we will take nominations from the floor on March 14th.

The ONE DC Annual Membership Meeting is open to the public and all are welcome and encouraged to attend. However, only members whose names appear on the membership list will be eligible to vote in the election and on other matters put before the members for a vote. If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Claire at ccook@onedconline.org or 202-232-2915.

Membership dues are used to build a people's movement funded by the people. They are used to fund membership activities & the ongoing campaigns & projects of ONE DC. Our goal for 2020 is for **300** people to [pay their membership dues](#) this year and bring our total membership up to **750!**

[Click here to pay your dues for 2020.](#)

If you would like to join the planning committee or help with phone banking, outreach, or other volunteer roles for the Annual Meeting, please email organizer@onedconline.org.

Reclaim Rent Control!



DC is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis. As of September 2019, Washington, DC was the 6th most expensive city to be a renter in the U.S. There are over 40,000 people on the waitlist for subsidized housing and over 6,000 people are sleeping on DC streets or in shelters each night. Almost half of DC residents pay more than 30 percent of their income in rent, and one-in-five spend more than 50 percent of their income on rent.

It's been clear for a long time now that our nation's capitol is in the middle of a housing emergency. We cannot afford to keep the status quo any longer. It's time for action.

The [Reclaim Rent Control campaign](#) is calling for the DC Council to use the upcoming reauthorization of the rent control laws as an opportunity to expand and strengthen rent control in order to protect the affordable housing we already have as well as drastically increase the number of units protected by rent control.

[Join us in the fight to expand and strengthen rent control. Sign the petition to Reclaim Rent Control!](#)

Upcoming Events

Resource Development Committee

Tuesday, February 25 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM

ONE DC Office - 614 S St NW

Interested in writing grants and proposals for ONE DC? Come learn what it means to be a member of the Resource Development Committee and support ONE DC's fundraising efforts!

[RSVP](#)

Admin & Member Engagement Committee

Tuesday, February 25 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM

ONE DC Office - 614 S St NW

Admin committee is responsible for organizing administrative support for the organization as a whole, such as our communications, website, social media, grassroots fundraising, event logistical support, and other needs for ONE DC organizing campaigns and programs. It is a space where ONE DC members and supporters, both new and long-time, can learn more about ONE DC, find out what's upcoming, and engage in the everyday work of the organization.

[RSVP](#)

**Fight for a Hospital East of the River! DC Health Justice Coalition Meeting
Thursday, February 27 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

United Medical Center - 1310 Southern Ave SE, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

Hosted by DC Health Justice Coalition

It's time we build a world-class hospital in Southeast DC. We hope that you'll be able to join us when we testify for a world-class hospital at the DC City Council's Committee on Health hearing on March 5 at 10:00 AM at the Wilson Building (1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW) in Room 412.

[Sign the petition today.](#)

Opening Reception for "Art of Palestinian Women"

Friday, March 6 - 7:00 -9:00 PM

Museum of the Palestinian People - 1900 18th Street NW

Join us in celebrating our premier exhibition, Art of Palestinian Women, with the Museum Board, Staff, and Supporters.

[RSVP](#)

ONE DC Member Orientation

Tuesday, March 10 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM

ONE DC Office - 614 S St NW

We welcome all supporters of ONE DC, whether long-time members or new volunteers, to join us for our next Member Orientation, where you will learn about: ONE DC Mission, Vision, & Values; Our organizing model and principles; Our history, shared leadership model, and organizational structure; What it means to be a ONE DC member.

[RSVP](#)

We Need Your Voice at the Black Worker Listening Sessions

BLACK WORKERS LISTENING SESSIONS

BE HEARD. BE THERE.

Fact: D.C. has the highest unemployment rate in the country for Black workers!!!

Join In This Important Conversation On...

March 7th (12 - 3pm)

March 21st (12 - 3pm)

April 18th (12 - 3pm)

**Location: Bread for the City,
1525 7th St. NW**

**Cash Stipend! Food!
Child Care! Accessible!**

Register at
<https://forms.gle/iU2gRbLbUWPceNK39>

For More Information, Contact:
Nzingha Hooker at (202) 599-6527 or Nhooker@nelp.org
Naana Ewool at naanaewool@gmail.com



WHY BLACK WORKERS LISTENING SESSIONS?

- **TO HEAR FROM BLACK WORKERS IN D.C. ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND HOW THIS PROGRAM HAS IMPACTED WORKERS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.**
- **TO REIMAGINE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SO THAT BLACK WORKERS (UNEMPLOYED, UNDEREMPLOYED, AND EMPLOYED) CAN THRIVE AND NOT JUST SURVIVE.**
- **BLACK WORKER-LED SOLUTIONS FOR BLACK WORKERS!**



[Register Here](#)

Digging up the Root Series: How UNC Housekeepers Connected Workers' Rights with Reparations and Won



"...the actual labor movement in the United States started during the colonial period with the introduction of indentured servants – from Europe, Africa, and the First Nations – onto North American soil." – Bill Fletcher, Jr. And Fernando Gapasin, Solidarity Divided, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008, page 10.

Originally posted at nelp.org.

I became involved in labor organizing nearly 25 years ago, when I helped mobilize campus and community support for an organization of mostly Black women workers called the University of North Carolina Housekeepers Association (HKA).

When the workers formed the HKA in 1991 to fight against “poverty pay, dead-end training, and demeaning work conditions”[1], few people would have imagined that five years later, they were on their way to winning one of the most significant reparations and workers’ rights victories of the 20th Century.

The site of this Black worker resistance was the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), the oldest public university in the United States. It was established in 1789, more than 100 years after the colony of North Carolina was established in 1665.[2]

Like many institutions and businesses, UNC, its faculty and students owned enslaved Black laborers. In 1860, the town of Chapel Hill where the University was built, had 464 enslaved Black laborers and 104 freed Black residents – 48% of the town’s population.[3]

The root of economic oppression in the United States is the enslavement of Black bodies and this root lives and thrives above-ground in North Carolina. UNC keeps the curtain pulled back when it comes to celebrating the legacy of slavery at that institution.

[Click here to continue reading](#)

ONE Bit of Good News - SURJ-DC Raises \$10,200 for the Black Workers & Wellness Center!

Thank you to SURJ-DC (Showing up for Racial Justice) for planning and hosting a house party fundraiser this month towards renovations to the Black Workers & Wellness Center. As these vital changes to the space start to get underway, we continue to work on closing the fundraising gap. Thanks to recent commitments, **we only [need \\$100,000](#) to meet our fundraising goal for renovations!**

Want to plan your own house party fundraiser for ONE DC? Whether it's \$100 or \$10,000, every gift makes a difference! Contact us at organizer@onedconline.org to get started.

HOST A HOUSE PARTY FUNDRAISER FOR ONE DC!

WHY?

- House parties are a fun way to build community and raise money from your network of friends, family, co-workers, & neighbors.
- House parties link ONE DC's organizing work with the joy found in coming together and raising funds!
- House party fundraisers are a critical piece of ONE DC's grassroots fundraising strategy.

HOW?

- Email us at organizer@onedconline.org to receive a house party fundraiser toolkit and set up a one-on-one meeting to begin organizing a house party!



[You can find past editions of the Monthly Voice here.](#)

Do you want to be a writer, editor, or designer for the ONE DC *Monthly Voice*? Email organizer@onedconline.org

**Become a
ONE DC
Member**

**Donate
to the
Movement**

**Become a
Sustaining
Donor**

**Volunteer
Your
Skills**



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