

# The Monthly Voice

December 2014 - ONE DC Newsletter

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“Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.”

— Voltaire

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## Greetings from ONE DC, Friend

Black lives matter, and must be appreciated. December is about appreciating all members of our community, and demanding that they are respected in their workplaces, homes, and in their city. We give thanks to all of our members, volunteers, donors, and partners who helped make 2014 an incredible year of growth and movement building.

[Make your 2014 contribution to ONE DC today.](#)

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## Celebrating our Members - Member Appreciation Day

[Watch the 2014 campaign wins highlight video here](#)

On December 13th we came together for food, fun, and jubilation. We celebrated our members for all of their hard work and courageous wins over the past year.



[View more photos here](#)

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## ONE DC Stands with Ferguson

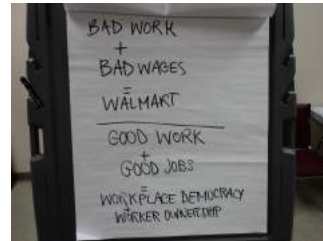
[DC Ferguson](#) organized a die-in across from ONE DC's office. ONE DC members Rosemary Ndubuizu and Billy Hart participated, among others.



## ONE DC Furthers Community-Based Education: December Freedom School

By Campbell Johnson  
Urban Housing Alliance

ONE DC facilitated a well-organized, engaging session that gave participants a broad understanding of the conceptual context that informs our efforts. We were treated to several able facilitators who introduced the concepts of “solidarity economics” and “neoliberal economics.” These were backed by real world examples.



Throughout our time together group discussions targeted much of the work progressives have been doing in recent years to meet the challenges of DC’s rapid increases in commercialization and gentrification.

Our discussions were fast-paced and conceptually rigorous. But, at the same time they maintained an inclusive, grassroots focus. Additionally, this session provided opportunities for everyone to share their individual experiences. Ultimately, we targeted the advocacy and civil disobedience tools needed to challenge displacement and bring about meaningful change so our neighbors can be preserved.

### What does Black Freedom look like?

By Gabrielle Newell, ONE DC member



"What does Black Freedom look like?" This was the opening question of the 2014 National Convening of Black Workers Centers, a gathering that brought together labor activists from around the country. I, along with 3 other ONE DC members and organizers, had the opportunity to attend and kick-off ONE DC’s efforts to create a [DC Black Workers Center](#). As a young, 22-year old, who has just returned to my

hometown of DC after graduating from college in Chicago, I have energy, but what I need is a vision. Organizing with ONE DC, I’m reminded that I am part of a powerful and historic legacy.

[Continue reading Gabrielle's reflection here](#)

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### **Save the Dates**

#### **People's Platform Meeting**

Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 6pm  
New Community Church  
614 S Street NW

[RSVP Here](#)

#### **Black Worker Center Advisory Committee Meeting**

Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 6pm  
ONE DC Office  
614 S Street NW, Carriage House in Rear

[RSVP Here](#)

#### **Equitable Development in DC: Sustainability from Below**

Thursday, March 26, 2015  
George Washington University

ONE DC and George Washington University are joining forces for the second annual conference on equitable development. *Equitable Development in DC: Sustainability from Below* will bring together residents of neighborhoods throughout Washington, DC, organizers, students, scholars, elected officials, and others who are engaged in efforts to create more living-wage jobs, affordable housing, and other opportunities for wealth accumulation for residents of traditionally underserved communities, many of which are experiencing rapid gentrification and displacement.

[Read more here](#)

#### **9th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Walk and Parade**

*Looking Back, Moving Forward Together*

Monday, January 19th

Peace Walk: 11:30am-2pm - 2500 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE

Parade: 12-2pm - St. Elizabeth's East, 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE

Visit [mlkholidaydc.org](http://mlkholidaydc.org)

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### **ONE Bit of Good News**

Thank you to the Resource Committee for raising the funds and other resources needed to build ONE DC. Special thanks to Alexa, Beth, Gina, Leigh, Rosemary, Virginia, Ben, Lasitha, and Nick. ONE DC looks forward to another resourceful year in 2015. The Committee's goal in 2015 is to raise \$402,000 to support community organizing, community learning, cooperative development, membership training and development, staffing and administrative needs of

ONE DC.

**Volunteers Needed:**

Resource Development and Fundraising Committee: ONE DC need volunteers to do grant writing, grant reports, database charts and timelines. Last year the Committee raised 100% of the revenues needed to keep ONE DC's organizing work strong and growing in DC. Please join us!

Email: [dmoulden@onedconline.org](mailto:dmoulden@onedconline.org) or call 202-361-9051

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**Reunite Haitian American Families**

One major effort of the [Black Alliance for Just Immigration](#) right now is the [Reunite Haitian Families](#) campaign. This initially involved calling for a parole program that would allow Haitians with family approved visas to come to the U.S. and stay with their families while their visas are being processed. This work has been spear headed locally by Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees. They were able to get the parole program, but it covers only 5,000 of the 110,000 Haitians with approved visas.

ONE DC is calling on our members and partners to join us in endorsing the petition for a comprehensive parole program:

[Organizational Endorsement](#)

[Individual Petition](#)

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**ONE DC in the News**

[D.C. Housing Crises: Gentrification, Revitalization or Renaissance?](#)

**By Christina Sturdivant**

Dominic Moulden, representing non-profit ONE DC, views gentrification as an injustice against people of African descent. "D.C. claims to be a human rights city," he said. "The crime [of gentrification] is the erasing of civil and human rights for D.C. citizens — the erasing of history, culture and art of long time D.C. residents." Whether a natural shift in urban cities or an intentional disregard by local government, District residents are ultimately interested in solutions.

[Read the full article here](#)

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**Thank you Maitri House, from ONE DC**

**ONE DC is grateful to Maitri House for hosting an evening in support of ONE DC.**

Please consider holding a house party to support ONE DC in 2015. ONE DC wants to thank the House of Maitri for leading the way in 2014. Who's next? Contact [dmoulden@onedconline.org](mailto:dmoulden@onedconline.org) or call 202-361-9051.

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## Connecting with International Allies - A Message from a Member

Hello All,

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Sylvie Lerner. I am a senior at American University (B.A. Sociology, Minor: Spanish). I am a relatively new addition to ONE DC as an Organizing Apprentice. I studied social movements in Mexico during the Spring Semester of my Junior year with the Mexican Solidarity Network. The last location to which we traveled was Mexico City where we lived with and learned from a leftist housing justice movement that organizes within the city. I am in the process of preparing to lead a Winter Break trip back to the community of Acapatzingo in December to do continued study with a group of students. My co leader for the trip (Also MSN participant and AU student) and I have developed a [brochure about the Panchos](#) (FVFVI-UNOPII) and their movement for dignified housing and a dignified life. [Here is a description of the trip I will be leading this winter.](#)

There is no service involved, purely learning.

Lastly, thank you all for your time. I am sending this to you because of your involvement with ONE DC and the struggle for dignified housing within this city! I am hoping you will feel solidarity and strength from the compas in Mexico as we organize and push for similar goals! Thank you again.

Best,

Sylvie Lerner  
ONE DC Organizing Apprentice

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Do you want to be a writer or editor for the *Monthly Voice*? Email [organizer@onedconline.org](mailto:organizer@onedconline.org)

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