

The Monthly Voice

May 2015 - ONE DC Newsletter

"Displacement is about many things. For sure it is about 'dissing' the people. The people often times with no voices or power to stop the 'plan.' Pittsburgh is by no means unique in this movement, but it is part of a similarity that so many communities are and have been faced with. Diss-placement is about many things. But clearly it is about \$\$\$\$, power, control, exploitation and oppression of a group of people who often have no real voice." -Tamanika Howze, quoted in Root Shock by Mindy T. Fullilove

Greetings from ONE DC, Friend

Why I Donated to ONE DC

By Aaron Goggans

I got an [e-mail from ONE DC](#) saying that they were raising money to send their organizers to the BOLD leadership conference. [BOLD](#) stands for Black Organizing for Leadership and Dignity. Since Chigozirim Ugonna and Jennifer Bryant are two amazing Black Women doing awesome organizing in my city, I thought I'd donate to ONE DC for day two of #ILoveBlackWomen. You all should check out the amazing work that Marybeth and Jennifer are doing at ONE DC. I'm excited that there will be soon be a home for Black worker power in DC. I'm also excited to see the energetic [not to mention successful] tenant organizing ONE DC is doing. [Remember to donate to organizations, projects, or campaigns that empower Black Trans* Women, Black Women and Black Girls today! #ILOVEBLACKWOMEN!](#)

ONE DC member Aaron Goggans helped 'carry the water' by donating & sharing the above message on social media with family & friends.

Building Towards an International Movement for Justice

By Sara Mersha



On April 11, [Grassroots International](#) was thrilled to have a chance to bring some of our global partners and allies to meet with staff and leaders of ONE DC, to learn more about how ONE DC is organizing. Our two international guests were Graça Samo and Maria José Urbina. Graça Samo

comes out of a women's group in Mozambique called Forum Mulher, and is the new International Coordinator of the [World March of Women](#), an international feminist action movement connecting grassroots groups and organizations working to eliminate the causes at the root of poverty and violence against women, and to build solidarity between struggles around the world. Maria José Urbina is part of the Central American Women's Commission of [La Via Campesina](#), a global movement of over 250 million small-scale farmers, peasants, farmworkers, fisherpeople, and other food producers in over 70 countries around the world, working towards food sovereignty and climate justice. She is also an active member of the Association of Rural Workers (ATC), a member of La Via Campesina in Nicaragua.

During the visit, Graça Samo of Mozambique and Maria José Urbina of Nicaragua commented on how surprised they were to learn about the similarities between their struggles in their own countries with the struggle of communities of color and low-income communities in the DC area. During our discussion, we talked about common themes such as the struggle for land, the importance of deep political education as an integral part of grassroots organizing, and the potential for building more solidarity across borders.

Grassroots International focuses on accompanying with social movements of small-scale farmers, peasants, Indigenous Peoples, and Afro-descendent communities, with leadership of women and youth, throughout many parts of the Global South - in particular movements that are focused on rights to land, water, food sovereignty, and climate justice. Grassroots International has known of ONE DC's work through several networks (including Right to the City and BOLD), and is excited to be building a relationship with ONE DC more directly as a result of this visit!

ONE DC Featured in #BlackWorkersMatter Report

"Organizing—community and worker organizing—is the only way for black workers to challenge the structural racism that maintains and perpetuates black social, political, and economic inequity. To advance racial and economic justice, and make black economic equity a real possibility in the twenty-first century—and not only a dream—black workers must build enough political and institutional power to challenge inequality, change policies, and transform the country." -Dorian Warren, Excerpt

[View and download the full Discount Foundation report by clicking here](#)

Thousands of Black Residents Displaced is Not Success!

Mayoral Tour Highlights Affordable Housing

by Deirdre Bannon, The Current, May 27, 2015

"According to data from The Urban Institute, blacks made up 65 percent of the Shaw and Logan Circle neighborhood populations in 1990; by 2010 that figure decreased to 29 percent. 'An equitable D.C. would mean that longtime residents

would be able to participate in the revitalization, but they're not — they're being pushed out,' Moulden said."

"Shaw is an example of success if you're naïve and think any kind of development is good," Moulden said. "People say they want diversity and equity, but development doesn't work if it only benefits a homogeneous wealthy group. We need innovative affordable housing so long-time residents along with the history and culture of the neighborhood aren't uprooted."

[Click here to download the full Current article about Mayor Bowser's tour of Shaw](#)

Analyzing Mayor Bowser's FY16 Budget

By Eugene Puryear, Justice First

If nothing else, the D.C. FY 2016 budget reflects the urgent need for our work. **Mayor Bowser's first budget seeks to close a revenue gap with regressive taxes that hurt low-income communities without asking for any sacrifices from the wealthiest individuals and corporations.**

In addition, the mayor's budget uses funding for homelessness services as a "progressive" smokescreen **to hide inadequate spending on housing and continue a clearly failed approach to "job training."** In short, the mayor's budget keeps the District on the track it has been for the past decade—rapid gentrification and growing income inequality. Further, despite the unprecedented attention on unjust police practices in the United States, this budget continues to fund the broken model of militarized policing.

[Read the full piece on the budget & the People's recommendations](#)

Upcoming Events

Member Orientation - June 10th

New & longtime members are invited to learn more about ONE DC history, mission, values, vision, & organizing model. Learn how you can get more involved with committees & ongoing campaigns!

6:00 PM - ONE DC 614 S St NW

[RSVP Here](#)

People's Platform General Body Meeting

Join us in Southeast this month as we engage in community learning & planning for upcoming actions.

June 3rd - 6pm

LOCATION CHANGE UPO - 2907 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE

[RSVP Here](#)

Juneteenth Press Conference

Food & fellowship afterwards.

Friday, June 19th - 10 AM

United Black Fund - 2500 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE (Anacostia Metro)

[RSVP Here](#)

Party with a Purpose!

House party fundraiser hosted by ONE DC member Art Brown
Saturday, June 20th - 5PM - 9PM
1252 New Jersey Ave NW

[RSVP Here](#)

Learning Journey to Philadelphia June 25-28

In Philadelphia, June 25-28, we will engage in peer-to-peer learning and build relationships with workers who have started or are in the process of starting worker-owned cooperatives in Philadelphia. We will discuss cooperative models, cooperative training and popular education, best practices, challenges and successes. We will share our stories and experiences of organizing Black workers in Washington, DC to co-create, plan and launch the DC Black Workers Center. Email Jennifer at jbryant@onedonline.org if you are interested in attending.

[Help Make it Happen!](#)

ONE Bit of Good News

The DC Worker Coop Coalition received funding to hold a worker coop training in DC this fall! Email Jennifer Bryant at jbryant@onedonline.org if you are interested in volunteering, planning, participating or starting your own worker-owned cooperative enterprise.

[Become a Sustaining Donor](#)

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Do you want to be a writer or editor for the *Monthly Voice*? Email organizer@onedonline.org

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