

"All of us, I am certain, are united by more important things than those which superficially divide us. We are united, for instance, by a common detestation of colonialism in whatever form it appears. We are united by a common detestation of racialism. And we are united by a common determination to preserve and stabilise peace in the world."

-President Sukarno (1901-1970, Indonesia)

#### **International Conversations: The Global Housing Crisis**

# by Joe Hoover, ONE DC (International) Member & author, <u>Reconstructing</u> <u>Human Rights</u>

This is Part 1 in a series about Resource Organizer Dominic Moulden's visit to London in March 2018

For a number of years I have been trying to bring Dominic to London. This year I was finally able to do it. In March, Dominic visited London to do some teaching with me at Queen Mary University of London where I work. Our original plan was for Dominic to speak with students in two of my classes about his experience as a community organiser and the work of ONE DC, and to be part of a public lecture on justice in the global city. Even the most carefully arranged plans go awry, however, as Dominic's visit coincided with the largest-ever strike of University faculty in the United Kingdom, which meant that there would be no classes to teach or lectures to attend while the strike was on. While I was briefly worried that the trip would be a bust, it turned out there were plenty of opportunities for learning, teaching, and making connections.

With classes cancelled and the picket-line assembled across the entrance to the university, Dominic and I met up with <u>Glyn Robbins</u> (another international ONE DC member) and some of my students at the Boundary Estate in East London. Glyn was guiding us on a walking tour of the history of council housing in London (what is called public housing the US). The tour was a "teach out" activity organised as part of the strike, providing students a chance to learn about social housing in London, and meet Dominic and Glyn outside of the classroom. Glyn is a great guide and **the tour prompted a number of** 

conversations about the global housing crisis, gentrification, inequality in our cities, and what we might do to create better and more just cities.



Glyn Robbins leading the tour in foreground. Joe Hoover in background against the wall

The following day, with the strike still on, we organised another "teach out" - moving the planned lecture from Queen Mary's campus to the Ocean Tenants and Residents Association Hall across the street. The discussion we had was about the many injustices that we find in contemporary cities, with the lack of affordable and decent housing a key issue - which was fitting given that the event was hosted on one of London's largest social housing estates. The speakers included Dominic, Glyn, and Dr. Adam Elliot-Cooper, of Kings College London. And while the audience was small due to the strike and last-minute change of venue, a lively and informative discussion followed.



An unexpected benefit of the strike was that there was more time for conversations than there would normally be, when we are usually rushing through the day's many tasks. I know Dominic was able to meet with a number

of scholars, activists, and communities as part of his visit, while also seeing many diverse parts of London. As just one example, near the end of his time in London, Dominic joined me on protest march organised by the National Union of Students and the University and College Union in opposition to the marketisation of higher education. Marching through central London, we met a colleague who was starting work on a project on the relationship between art and gentrification and for several blocks had a great conversation, which resulted in Dominic making a new and wholly unexpected connection. After the march, Dominic and I went to Brixton to visit the Black Cultural Archives, which is the UK's only national heritage centre dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history of African and Caribbean people in Britain. Along the way we were able to trace the changing fortunes of Brixton through the redevelopment of the many market streets in the area.

Even as things did not go as planned on Dominic's visit to London, I think the visit was a great success. And there is even more reason to ensure he comes back to London again.

#### Hands Off Action in Greenbrier, West Virginia



ONE DC members Kelly Iradukunda, Jourgette Reid-Sillah, and Angie Whitehurst trekked with SPACEs DC to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, in January for a nonviolent protest march at the renowned historic Greenbriar resort, which was hosting President Trump and Republican leadership. Individuals and representatives from organizations across the country participated. In unison, we marched for minimum wage increases and against healthcare cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, SNAPC, WIC and other human service budget cuts. Everyone was in strong vocal support for DREAMers and immigrant rights.

Thanks to LaDon Love and Julian Blair from <u>SPACEs</u>, (Safe Places for the Advancement of Community and Equity) for asking us to participate.

#### Todos Somos Venezuela! We Are All Venezuela!

From March 5 to March 7, 2018, 245 international delegates from across five continents gathered in Caracas, Venezuela for the Todos Somos Venezuela (We Are All Venezuela) Forum. ONE DC attended, represented by Claire Cook, Administrative Organizer. Below is the text of the Caracas Declaration that was

adopted at the convening to express solidarity with the Venezuelan people.



We, citizens from distinct countries, social movements and organisations, political parties, women, youths, workers, creators and intellectuals, peasants, and religious leaders, gathered here in Caracas on the 5, 6 and 7th March 2018, reaffirm our solidarity and militant support of the Venezuelan people, the Bolivarian Revolution and its popular government, which is headed by Nicolas Maduro Moros.

We energetically reject the grave escalation of aggressions against Venezuela's democracy and sovereignty by the war-like government of Donald Trump, global corporate powers, and the American imperialist military-industrial apparatus, which looks to overthrow the legitimate government of Venezuela, destroy the project of Bolivarian democracy and expropriate the natural resources of the Venezuelan nation.

We denounce that this operation against Venezuela forms part of a global strategy of neo-colonialization in Latin America and the Caribbean which seeks to impose a new era of servitude and looting through the resurrection of the shameful Monroe Doctrine, a plan which has already begun in numerous countries across the continent.

We reject the threat of Donald Trump of a potential military intervention in Venezuela and we alert that such declarations by him are not mere charlatanism. The military option against the Bolivarian Revolution forms part of the strategic and geopolitical doctrine of the US for the 21st Century. The world must know that a military aggression against Venezuela would provoke a crisis in the region of historic dimensions and uncountable and unpredictable human, economic, and ecological impact.

We warn imperialism and their elites lackeys that play this game: the peoples of Latin America, the Caribbean and the world will never allow that Venezuela be touched by the ambitions of the American military boot! If, in their crazy obsession, the hawks of Washington dare attack Venezuela, the homeland of

Simon Bolívar, as it was more than 200 years ago, will again be the tomb of an empire.

We denounce the blatant pressure of US imperialism on the region's governments to involve them in political, diplomatic, and even military operations against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. With these actions, they seek to destroy regional integration and bring about the de-facto abolition of the principle of the founding charter of the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States which declares the region as a zone of peace.

We reject the shameful and historical opposed attitude of governments in the region that have caved in to Washington's politics through the creation of illegal and spurious organisms such as the so-called Group of Lima. The shameful regional elites who today lead the plundering of their peoples, hand over their sovereignty to the transnational corporations, and increase poverty, inequality and violate human rights, lack any moral and political authority to question Venezuelan democracy.



Since 2009, Venezuela has built over 2 million homes to house working class people

We reject the unilateral and illegal sanctions of the US Government and the European Union against the Venezuelan people, which seek to destroy its economy and break their democratic will. Blockades and sanctions are crimes against humanity carried out by the international capitalist system, and are severely hurting the Venezuelan people by sabotaging their productive, commercial and financial processes, preventing access to food, medicines and essential goods.

We reject the perverse U.S. sabotage of the process of dialogue developed in the Dominican Republic and reiterate that only the absolute respect for the sovereignty of Venezuela, non-interference in their internal affairs, sincere dialogue and electoral processes based on Venezuelan legislation can define the path to recover the political coexistence between Venezuelans.

In this regards, we welcome the call for presidential, regional legislators and councilor elections for May 20, a result of a political agreement with a sector of the Venezuelan opposition. In these absolutely constitutional and legitimate elections, the Venezuelan people in a transparent and sovereign way will decide the course of their homeland.

We alert the peoples of the world to the counterproductive intentions of international governments and organizations that are directly involved in the war against Venezuela to not recognize the results of the elections on May 20, and accelerate attacks after what – no doubt – will be a real democratic expression of the Venezuelan people.



Making new connections: Booker Ngesa of the Social Democratic Party of Kenya (SDP) receives a BWC tee

We welcome and support the declaration of the presidential summit of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of our America ALBA-TCP that categorically rejects the exclusion of Venezuela from the next Summit of the Americas, to be held in the city of Lima, Peru. Similarly, we support all diplomatic and political actions that governments, countries and peoples take to defend plurality and political diversity in the continent and to safeguard the sovereignty and self-determination of peoples.

We recognize the heroic resistance of the people of Venezuela when confronted by the ravages of economic aggression, the financial blockade and all the forms of sabotage that Venezuela is suffering from, and support the economic, financial, political and diplomatic strategy that the Bolivarian Government and President Nicolas Maduro are carrying out to overcome the problems and construct the humanist model of Bolivarian socialism.

We are committed to continue the battle for the truth, peace and the sovereignty of Venezuela, to expand the ties of friendship, solidarity and revolutionary

commitment to the Venezuelan people. The peoples of the world, the consciousness of all those who struggle for the just cause of mankind, accompanies at this time and always the Bolivarian revolution, its leadership and its people.

We are convinced that Venezuela will be able to – through dialogue, respect for the Constitution, and the indefatigable democratic will of his people – overcome the problems that besets it, and that the Bolivarian revolution will remain a beacon of hope for the peoples of the world who search for a worthy and just destination for humanity.

In commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the physical passing of Commander Hugo Chávez, historical leader of the Venezuelan people, from Caracas we say to the world: Venezuela is not alone, we are all with her!

We are all Venezuela! We will win! Caracas, March 7 2018

#### **People's Platform Updates**

#### March People's Platform - Cooperation DC



At our March People's Platform event, we focused on principle #2, decent, dignified, and sustainable work or occupation for anyone who wants it, by highlighting our Cooperation DC work. Cooperation DC is a project of ONE DC. Our mission is to expand dignified employment opportunities in low-income communities of color through the development of <a href="worker cooperatives">worker cooperatives</a>, businesses owned and managed democratically by their employees.

Participants engaged in a community learning exercise to explore democratic decision-making practices within worker cooperatives. The exercise was followed by a panel featuring lnes Chavez from Co-Familia, a worker-owned childcare cooperative located in NW DC and Felipe Barroso, a ONE DC member who works at the Democracy Collaborative.

#### How can you support the Co-Familia Childcare Cooperative?

- 1. Scouting for potential childcare business locations in the NW area
- 2. Provide childcare for the worker-owners at their meetings
- 3. Public speaking training for the worker-owners For more info and to offer your support, please contact Silvia Salazar at silv24@gmail.com.

# April People's Platform - Where's the Bill? Climate Day of Action! Friday, April 13 - 12:30 to 3:00 PM

John A. Wilson Building - 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 506 Hosted by the <u>Put a Price On It DC Coalition</u>



Calling all students, professors, and D.C. residents who care about the future of our city! We're bringing EVERYONE together to descend on the D.C. Council Building just before Earth Week to urge our Councilmembers to support and pass a carbon fee-and-rebate policy. On April 13, we'll kick off an action-packed day with a rally at 1:00 pm outside the Wilson Building led by students and professors from across D.C. Then at 2:00 pm we'll head inside to lobby for the proposed carbon rebate bill. We'll meet our legislators face to face to showcase the students urging the D.C. Council to protect their futures. Everyone who cares about the future of the city is invited to join and support the students as we work together to pass a carbon fee-and-rebate this year. We need your help to ensure we have a great turn out! It's time to rally together and show the Council that the time is NOW to introduce a carbon fee-and-rebate bill, for our climate and our future. Wear yellow!

#### **Click here to RSVP**

#### Divest DC from Wells Fargo, Reinvest in Our Communities

<u>D.C. ReInvest</u> is a diverse coalition of DC-based grassroots groups working to divest taxpayer funds from Wells Fargo, and reinvest in our communities. We are answering the call of local indigenous leaders and local organizers to ensure DC's resources are used to promote racial and economic justice, not perpetuate historical inequities. We urge the passage of "Sense of the Council

Urging Reassessment of the Relationship with Wells Fargo Resolution of 2017," as well as the "Strengthening Community Development Amendment Act of 2017."



In recent years, Wells Fargo has discriminated against communities of color, illegally opened unauthorized accounts and insurance policies, invested in destructive pipelines such as the Dakota Access and Potomac Pipeline, and supported the private prison industry. Wells Fargo's record is disgraceful, and though other major financial institutions are flawed, Wells Fargo stands out amongst its peers for its discriminatory and shameful practices. D.C. Council should immediately take all steps necessary to begin divesting from Wells Fargo and expand partnerships with local banks and other qualified financial institutions. Meanwhile, D.C. should expeditiously pursue solutions such as a public bank and stronger requirements for banks to adhere to socially and environmentally responsible practices.

We've gathered nearly 1,000 petitions, have more than a dozen organizations signed on in support, and have built support from a broad array of Councilmembers for divestment from Wells Fargo. Find out how you can get involved below!

### DC Reinvest Lobby Training Tuesday, April 3 - 6:00 to 8:00 PM

1730 M St NW, Suite 1115

Do you want to join us to lobby the Council to divest from Wells Fargo, which has a long and shameful history of racially discriminatory lending, ripping off customers, and investing in fossil fuel pipelines and for-profit prisons? Join us on Tuesday, April 3rd to learn more about the ins and outs of how to advocate to your Councilmember, as well as the campaign to divest DC from Wells Fargo and reinvest in our community.

#### **Click here to RSVP**

### DC Reinvest Lobby Day

Monday, April 9 - 2:00 to 5:00 PM

John A. Wilson Building - 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW Join us for meetings with Council Member staff to encourage DC to cut ties with Wells Fargo!

**Click here to RSVP** 

# Pack the Room and Rally to Divest DC from Wells Fargo! Wednesday, April 18 - 8:30 to 11:30 AM

John A. Wilson Building - 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Show up to pack the room at the DC Council's CFO Oversight Hearing. On April 18th, the DC Chief Financial Officer will be called to testify before the Finance Committee on the work they've done over the past year, including around the feasibility of a #BankExit. We will first rally outside the Wilson Building to hear from community leaders on why they support divestment, and why they fight for the city to invest in its own community. Then, we'll head inside to pack the room and each testify demanding the CFO and Council support the Wells Fargo divestment resolution! Help us pack the room, gather a crowd outside, and convince our elected officials that divesting from Wells Fargo and reinvesting in our communities is the right move for DC!

Click here to RSVP

#### **Upcoming Events**

# Women's Liberation: The Roots of Oppression, International Solidarity, and the Ongoing Struggle

Saturday, March 31 - 4:00 PM

Justice Center - 617 Florida Ave NW

Hosted by the Party for Socialism & Liberation

Join the PSL for a series of short talks on women's liberation, including the root of women's oppression in class society, women in revolution around the world, and the women's liberation struggle today. We will also have a community networking hour, featuring local thrift fashion vendor Skeletons in my Closet.

### **Click here to RSVP**

# Carving Out the Commons - Book Launch with Author Amanda Huron Wednesday, April 4 - 4:00 to 5:00 PM

Katzen Arts Center at American University - 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW Hosted by American University Metropolitan Policy Center

The Metropolitan Policy Center is pleased to host Amanda Huron as she leads a discussion on her book *Carving Out the Commons: Tenant Organizing & Housing Cooperatives in Washington, D.C.* Professor Huron is an assistant professor of interdisciplinary social sciences at the University of the District of Columbia, where her research focuses on housing, gentrification, the decommodification of land, and the history of Washington, D.C. In Carving out the Commons: Tenant Organizing and Housing Cooperatives in Washington, D.C., she theorizes the urban commons through examining the experiences of limited-equity co-ops in the fast-gentrifying city of Washington, D.C.

#### **Click here to RSVP**

# Visions Through Art, Action & Alchemy Thursday, April 5 - 6:00 to 8:00 PM

The Potter's House - 1658 Columbia Rd NW

Co-hosted by Braxton Institute Dialogues on Resisting and Thriving
In this dynamic, participatory conversation, we'll deeply explore the ways in
which creatives are expressing their politics and creating collective healing
through the vehicles of art, media, and ritual. We'll examine the rich history of
art activism, resistance, and survival, in communities of color, and how these

legacies are shaped in the heightened time of 2018. This conversation, the fourth in a series of Braxton Institute Dialogues on Resisting and Thriving, will be led by three artists: Nicole Oxendine (RiverShe Collective Arts), J. Valoris (the xigga.Projeck) and Richael Faithful (folk healing artist).

#### **Click here to RSVP**

### Secular Social Justice Conference 2018 Saturday, April 7 - 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

All Souls Church - 1500 Harvard St NW

Hosted by the American Humanist Association

The Secular Social Justice Conference was developed to emphasize the connection between secular humanist values and social justice activism. This conference is a platform for activists of color to lead workshops and discussions that address the ravaging effects of systemic racism, sexism, heterosexism, transantagonism, and white supremacy.

#### Click here to register

### Stand with Workers Town Hall Tuesday, April 10 - 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Westminster Presbyterian Church - 400 I St SW

Hosted by DC Jobs with Justice

Across DC, luxury apartments are going up, the restaurant industry is booming, and new stores are opening. And yet, many of the workers in those industries and others are still not paid what they are owed. Wage theft – including not getting overtime, sick days, the DC minimum wage, working off the clock, and misclassification – are still too common in some of DC's hottest industries. It's time for DC government to do more.

#### **Click here to RSVP**

# Pack the Hearing! {Wear RED!} Justice for Terrence! Wednesday, April 11 - 7:00 AM Rally // 9:00 AM Hearing

MPD Building - 801 Shepherd St NW

MPD's internal Use of Force Review Board recommended termination for Brian Trainer in December based on its investigation into Trainer's killing of Terrence Sterling. This hearing is Trainer's opportunity to dispute that recommendation, and the hearing tribunal could potentially issue a lesser penalty for Trainer than termination. Community members are being asked to show up and wear red to indicate that they support Trainer being taken off of the force, out of the city's streets, and off of the city's payroll. Let's make sure that Terrence's murderer and MPD know that we are there for JUSTICE.

#### Click here to RSVP

### In the Spirit of Dr. King—Fight the War Machine! Saturday, April 14 - 12:00 to 5:00 PM

Gather at the White House for a Rally and March

Followed by a teach-in at George Washington University

Initial sponsors (list in formation): ANSWER Coalition; Justice First; Family and Friends of Incarcerated People; CODEPINK; Popular Resistance; Partnership for Civil Justice Fund; Imam Mahdi Bray, National Director of the American Muslim Alliance; Stop Police Terror Project DC; Virginia Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality; Internationalist Students Front at George Washington

University; Returning Citizens United, ONE DC

Join us on Saturday, April 14 for a rally, march and teach-in against war, militarism and empire. These actions are timed to coincide with the anti-war Spring Actions 2018.

#### **Click here to RSVP**

#### NJNP Pride Season 2018 Kickoff

Sunday, April 15 - 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Hosted by No Justice, No Pride

It's time. Join No Justice No Pride for our 2018 pride season kick off and let's work together to make Pride something to actually be proud of. There can be no pride for some, without liberation for all. This will be a chance to get updated on everything that has happened behind the scenes with pride, and where we're at as we look towards 2018 pride weekend. We'll also be breaking up in to committees and working groups as we move forward planning for June. Make sure you get plugged in. You won't want to miss this year's activities. \*\*This is police and media free space. ASL interpretation will be provided.

#### **Click here to RSVP**

#### Celebrate the Commons - Emancipation Day 2018

Monday, April 16 - TIME TBA

ONE DC Black Workers Center - 2500 MLK Jr Ave SE

Join us on Emancipation Day as we 'celebrate the commons!' Event will include: History of Emancipation Day as told by ONE DC members; *Carving out the Commons: Tenant Organizing and Housing Cooperatives in Washington, D.C.* author talk with Amanda Huron; Volunteer clean-up day at the newly purchased Black Workers Center building in Anacostia; Community cook-out. Email ONE DC at organizer@onedconline.org to join the planning committee. Additional details to be announced.

#### Additional details to be allifou

5th Annual Parren J. Mitchell Symposium

Race & Wealth Inequality - Examining Shades of Opportunity Wednesday, April 18 - 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union • University of Maryland, College Park Hosted by the Critical Race Initiative

#### **Click here to RSVP**

**Click here to RSVP** 

#### Ward 1 Candidate Forum

Thursday, April 19 - 6:00 to 9:00 PM

St Stephen Church - 1525 Newton St NW

Co-Hosted by AARP DC, The Washington Teachers' Union, Democrats for Education Reform, Ward 1 Democrats, Ward 1 Grassroots Planning Coalition, Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless, Pleasant Plains Civic Association, Empower DC, Many Languages One Voice, NEAR Act Ward 1 Coalition, DC for Reasonable Development, North Columbia Heights Civic Association, Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association, & ONE DC

The forum will focus on senior issues, public safety, and education and feature the Ward 1 and Chairperson Candidates.

#### **DC Expungement Day**

Friday, April 20 - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

DOES - 4058 Minnesota Ave NE Hosted by Law Students in Court

Do you have a criminal record? Find out how to seal it! Free expungement screenings.

**Click here to register** 

#### **Build the Movement - Job Postings, Apprenticeships, & Trainings**

MLOV Seeks Bilingual Labor Justice Organizer!

 Many Languages One Voice (MLOV) seeks to hire a motivated and charismatic Community Organizer. The MLOV "Worker Justice" Community Organizer will steer our campaign for securing rights at work by directly organizing with immigrant worker members of MLOV's Committee for Labor Solidarity and Worker Power members. This individual will work under the supervision of the Executive Director of MLOV and with the members of the Committee for Labor Solidarity and Worker Power. MLOV is seeking an individual with experience in recruitment, base building, campaign management, and leadership development of immigrant community members who speak languages other than English. MLOV values a positive work ethic, open communication, attention to detail, and self-driven motivation. The Worker Justice Community Organizer will strategically collaborate with the other organizers at MLOV on organizational-wide initiatives, as well as the members of Coalitions that MLOV participates in to advance labor and immigrant justice. Application date has been extended. Click here to read more & apply.

#### WILL Empower Apprenticeship Program

- WILL Empower is a bold and ambitious new initiative to identify, nurture, train, and convene a new generation of women labor leaders. It reaches women both in traditional unions and other worker-based organizations. It is designed to complement rather than replicate existing movement leadership development and training programs.
- Apply for the inaugural Apprenticeship Program, a new program designed to identify and recruit activists who are passionate about economic justice.
   If selected, paid apprentices will be placed with a union or worker organization for three to twelve months.
- The WILL Empower Apprenticeship Program seeks to address a clear need for early career training and on-ramps to jobs with economic justice organizations. Apprentices may work in a variety of capacities, including organizing, research, communications, politics, mobilization, and policy. They will meet as a cohort for a formal orientation and each will benefit from ongoing mentorship, with mentors both within and outside of the host organization.
- Click here to learn more. If you are a ONE DC member interested in this program, please reach out to us at organizer@onedcoline.org!

Facilitation for Movement Training, April 26 - 27, Washington, DC

• In this current moment when more people are being energized by our movements for social change, there are more organizations, projects, ideas and movements that are calling on the expertise of facilitators to help support their vision. Facilitation for Movement Training intends to provide a space for advance training for facilitators and space holders who are involved with the following type of work: Strategy planning, coalition, movement and network building, program and project specific facilitation, organizational culture, conflict resolution and organizational development. Join us for this 2 day training with our incredibly skilled and knowledgable movement trainers, Inca Mohamed and Makani Themba. Facilitation for Movement training is \$500 per participant. This training is for Black and People of Color only. Any questions? Contact paris@blackfeministfuture.org.

<u>Click here to learn more</u> about the trainers, what is included in the participant fee, and to register for the training. Deadline is April 2nd.

#### Say NO to Subsidizing Amazon! Say YES to a Fair Budget!

#### By DC Fair Budget Coalition

Join us in urging Mayor Bowser and the DC Council to issue a a public statement affirming their refusal to provide any local subsidies to Amazon to entice them to locate their second headquarters here in the District.

We share a belief that the District's resources should address the social, racial, and economic inequalities that plague our region, rather than enrich corporate profit. Over the past few decades, the District's economic development policies have led to a massive increase in the cost of living. As a result, many low-income residents of color have been displaced from the District, or are struggling every day to survive here. We fear that an Amazon headquarters will only exacerbate our affordable housing and transit crises, speeding up gentrification and displacement until DC is effectively only home to the rich.



We will not abide by the bidding war that Amazon has created. Jurisdictions across the country are offering "blank checks" to this company, setting a terrible precedent for private companies across the country. What will stop Google or any other company from following suit and opening up a bidding war with cities

and states to drain their coffers? How will we keep these corporate giants from profiting off of public land and money at the expense of the people who live and work here?

We will not accept our tax money being used to enrich the wealthiest man and company in history. Instead, we urge you to fund initiatives that will address the District's long-standing social, racial and economic inequality. Specifically, the District must prioritize housing security, economic justice, food access, healthcare, and community safety.

We urge you join local leaders from New York, Indianapolis, and Austin and issue a public statement affirming your refusal to provide massive subsidies to the tech giant.

- 1. Click here to read the full letter & sign the petition as an individual.
- 2. Click here to sign as an organization.
- 3. You can learn more about the Fair Budget Coalition & Metro DC DSA's "No subsidies for Amazon" campaign at www.obviouslynotdc.com

#### **Congress Heights Updates**

#### By <u>Justice First</u>

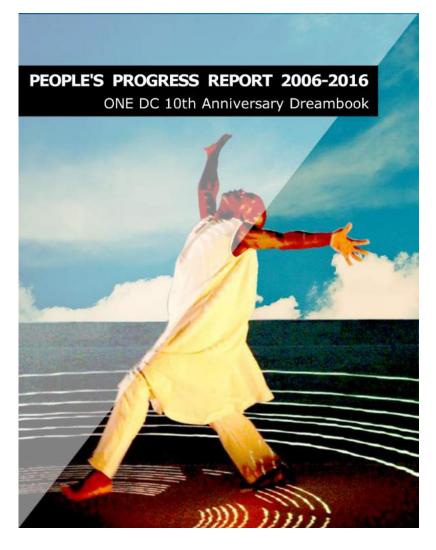
We wanted to update you on last Friday's court hearing regarding conditions at the <u>Congress Heights</u> properties. Geoff Griffis' attorney is again slowing down the process by arguing that the repairs the receiver suggested are not necessary and that it's best to just partner with Griffis and his company City Partners.

Tenants' counsel stated that wasn't an option and that they will continue to fight to exercise their rights under TOPA in order to build 200 units of affordable housing.

Slumlord Sanford Capital was again delinquent in making payments to the court for much needed repairs at the property. Judge Mott ordered \$25 thousand in delinquent payments to be made by end of the business day on Tuesday. The excuse that Sanford's attorney gave is that Carter Nowell could not make the payments because he's in Dubai. Needless to say, Judge Mott stated that the lawyer can send his client an email -- the \$25 thousand is still due on Tuesday.

As you can see then, It's important that we keep up the pressure and continue to fight. Thank you to all those who stood in solidarity with Congress Heights last week. More direct updates about future actions will be forthcoming.

ONE Bit of Good News - 2006-2016 People's Progress Report, "10th Anniversary Dreambook" Released



<u>Click here to view & download the report</u>. We also have copies at the office to share with members, donors, & supporters.

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

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