



"Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice, are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you, has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth [of] July is yours, not mine." -[Frederick Douglass](#)

ONE DC Members Commemorate Juneteenth with Cancel Rent Rally

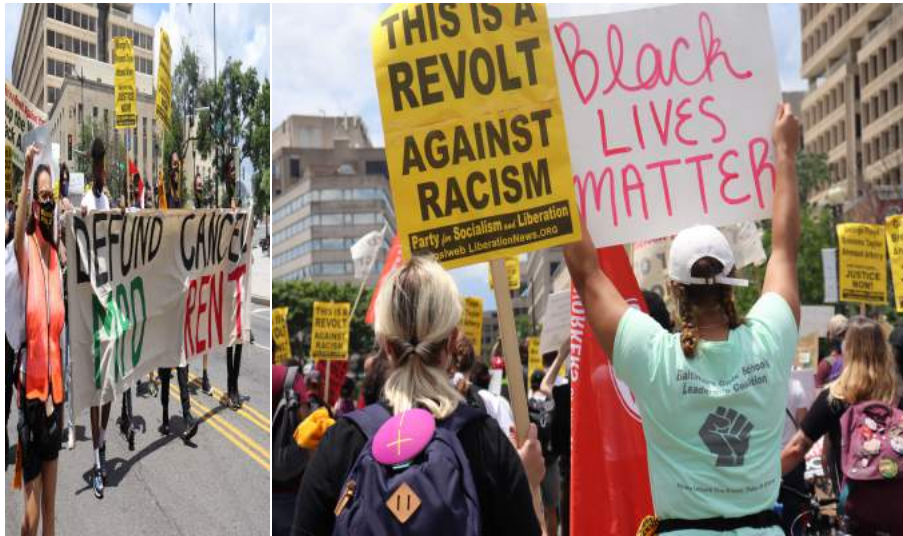


On Friday, June 19, ONE DC partnered with Serve Your City, Bigger Than Key, Party for Socialism and Liberation, SURJ DC, IWW DC, It Takes Roots, Right to the City Alliance, and the Movement for Black Lives to commemorate Juneteenth with a Defund MPD / Cancel Rent Rally & Protest March. We gathered outside Landlord-Tenant Court in Judiciary Square to call attention to looming mass evictions. Tens of thousands of D.C. residents have lost work since the pandemic began, and ONE DC estimates over 1/3 of residents haven't been able to make their rent or mortgage payments. While Mayor Bowser pushes forward "ReOpen DC," Black and working class residents still haven't

gotten the relief they need. ONE DC's Right to Housing Committee is demanding the city "Cancel Rent" by creating a way for tenants affected by COVID-19 to have their rent forgiven.



ONE DC member-leaders Nzingha and Shakeara co-MC'd the rally. You can watch the rally on our [Facebook Live](#) (speakers start at about the 14:00 minute mark) or [Instagram Live](#). Speakers connected the issues of racist police terror and displacement. The mayor's proposed budget adds an additional \$18 million to MPD, on top of a budget that is already over half a billion dollars, while affordable housing programs [face cuts](#). We also heard performances by poets Christian Sutton and Kiana Kelly, and BYP 100's Black Joy Experience.



The Defund MPD/Cancel Rent protest was one of four local feeder marches that converged on Freedom Plaza as part of the Movement for Black Lives national day of action. Thank you to all of our members, supporters, and partners who joined!



The Cancel Rent campaign continues! The Right to Housing Committee meets every other Thursday. Coming up we will join the [#BlackHomesMatter Rally](#) on July 6 (details below). [Click here to join the Cancel Rent campaign and receive updates.](#)

Photo credits: JoJo Morinvil

#BlackHomesMatter Rally with Empower DC

Featuring Performances by **TOB THE CRANK**

Backyard 4Life

#BLACK HOMES MATTER
• STOP DISPLACEMENT •

RALLY FOR HOUSING JUSTICE IN THE DC BUDGET
MONDAY JULY 6
3-6PM
FREEDOM PLAZA
I4 & PENN AVE NW

SAVE PUBLIC HOUSING
HOUSE RETURNING
CITIZENS & THE HOMELESS
CANCEL RENT
EXPAND RENT CONTROL

TAKE ACTION NOW!
EMPOWERDC.ORG/TAKE_ACTION

DC JOBS WITH JUSTICE - DC TENANTS UNION - DSA DC - EMPOWER DC - FAIR BUDGET COALITION - MARCH FOR RACIAL JUSTICE - MIRIAMS KITCHEN - ONE DC PEOPLE FOR FAIRNESS COALITION - PEOPLE POWER ACTION - RECLAIM RENT CONTROL - RISE AND MOVE - SURJ DC - UPO - WASHINGTON LEGAL CLINIC FOR THE HOMELESS - WHO SPEAKS FOR ME? - WPFW 89.3 FM - 70K STRONG

RSVP

Although the mayor included some funding for public housing repairs in her budget, it is still not enough to truly address the terrible conditions many public housing residents have to live in. On July 7th, the DC City Council will have its first vote on the 2021 budget and we need to let the Council know that Black Homes Matter and they need to fund all of the critical components that ensure Black Lives truly do matter.

TAKE ACTION

On Monday, July 6th, from 3-6 pm at Freedom Plaza (14th & Pennsylvania Ave NW) ONE DC is joining Empower DC and a host of other organizations for #BlackHomesMatter - A Rally Against Displacement to demand money for critical housing programs!

Help ONE DC Reach 200 Sustaining Donors



With a looming great recession, high unemployment, and mass evictions on the horizon, we can anticipate grassroots organizations like ONE DC will face our own economic challenges. **Grassroots fundraising has been a critical piece of ONE DC's resource development strategy for years, and is even more important now.**

Over the last few weeks, we've seen unexpected growth in our number of sustaining donors, as many people have responded to the Uprising against racist police terror and state violence by making contributions. We have grown from 73 to 117 monthly sustainers! **Our goal now is to reach 200 sustaining donors by August 31. [Become a sustainer today.](#)**

Here is what one new sustaining donor had to say:

I've known and respected ONE DC's work for many years...Unlike so many, I'm in a position where I can afford to contribute. ONE DC seems to be an organization committed to a holistic approach to black liberation in DC. ONE DC's ceaseless fight against gentrification, a commitment to a shared leadership model (as

difficult as I'm sure it is), development of a Black Workers & Wellness Center, and seemingly inter-generational approach all led me to see ONE DC is working not only to fight oppression, but has a long-range vision to developing radical autonomous spaces. I'm sure all this comes with much difficulty and imperfection, but I feel inspired by what I understand as ONE DC's goal.

[If this resonates with you, then become a monthly sustaining donor!](#)

ONE Bit of Good News - Welcome New Black Workers & Wellness Organizer JoJo Morinvil!



Jokebed (JoJo) Morinvil is the Black Workers and Wellness Center organizer and excited to be the newest member of the ONE DC team! JoJo moved out to Washington D.C. in 2018 after graduating Rutgers University with a Bachelor's in Biology. She spent most of her undergrad participating in grassroots organizing and fighting for a living wage for all campus workers. Since graduating, she has been a research intern at Jobs with Justice through the WILL Empower program, organized school bus drivers in Texas and worked alongside students to strategize against privatization by building student-worker power. She plans to stay in D.C. for the long-run to continue organizing in the community she calls home.

To get involved with the Right to Income Committee and Black Workers & Wellness Center, you can contact JoJo at jmorinvil@onedconline.org

ONE DC is still hiring a full-time Resource Organizer! The Resource Organizer is responsible for organizing with the Resource Development committee to developing and implementing ONE DC's fundraising strategy. [Click here for more info and to apply.](#)

[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

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