



"Mask no difficulties, mistakes, failures. Claim no easy victories... Our experience has shown us that in the general framework of daily struggle this battle against ourselves, this struggle against our own weaknesses... is most difficult of all."

- Amílcar Cabral

Building the Foundation for the Work

In August, ONE DC's focus has been centered around the theme of "building": whether that be through the renovation of our home in the Black Workers and Wellness Center or through the strengthening of the organizational structure on which our future work will be done.

Over the past month, we have held both our Staff and Shared Leadership Team retreats, in which we molded our goals and strategies for the future. During the SLT retreat, we reflected on our accomplishments over the past five years and developed our *Movement Vision* in which we identified our goals for the next five years.



ONE DC's Shared Leadership Team at the Annual Retreat

As well as renovating the Black Workers and Wellness Center, we want to develop more community alternatives in the future. We plan on creating an East of the River worker coop with MOMIES LLC, base-building with Black and Brown workers and returning citizens, in partnership with Trabajadores Unidos, Afro-Latino Caucus, Family and Friends of Incarcerated People, Serve Your City, National Reentry Network, DC Jobs with Justice, LiUNA, and GRID Alternatives. Similarly, we want to continue creating political education spaces and other opportunities for popular education on worker rights, racial unemployment, job related opportunities, and economic alternatives. We focused our intentions to expand on our base building movements by: cultivating the next generation of leaders through youth apprenticeships and internships and gaining 500 members per year, leading to 2,500 new members by 2025. Furthermore, we aim to continue our work in political education and leadership development by sustaining 25 members per year in our LEAP program and holding more Freedom Schools in conjunction with our larger campaigns.

In our People's Platform, People's Assembly & Right to Housing Campaigns we aim to preserve public land by gaining community control of land through a community land trust located East of the River. This work will be spearheaded by our Fall People's Assembly and will work hand in hand with our continued affiliation with Homes for All (Right to the City) and grassroots housing organizations around U.S. The People's Platform will also hold monthly political education with curriculum geared toward community control over land and housing. Finally, we aim to send members and staff on learning journeys to visit Chainbreakers, Dudley Street LT, City Life/Vida Urbana and Charm City Land Trust to learn and build.

Entwined in the future of ONE DC is the transition of long-time Resource Organizer, Dominic Moulden, from staff to member. ONE DC and Dominic are committed to ensuring the organizational history and information is transferred on to the next generation. Because of this, a Transition Committee has been formed made up of ONE DC members, the Shared Leadership Team, and staff, and is responsible for identifying knowledge transfer, strengthening staff leadership, and working to ensure a smooth transition for the organization. Recently, we hired a documentation consultant to assist the transition committee and on September 19th the committee will hold a Funder's briefing to update major ONE DC contributor's on the transition and our work as a whole.

As a result of both this transition and our movement vision, ONE DC is now hiring! We are looking for three exceptional organizers who are passionate about grassroots community organizing and committed to the struggle for liberation.

We are currently hiring for the following positions:

- [Resource Organizer \(full-time\)](#)
- [Black Workers & Wellness Center Organizer \(full-time\)](#)
- [Black Workers & Wellness Center Coop Organizer \(part-time\)](#)

Please share with your networks!

Housing the Work

Over the past couple years, the Black Workers and Wellness Center's role has predominantly been to offer space for a wide variety of community groups and events that support popular education and economic opportunities for Ward 7 and 8 residents.

One such group, National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens, hosted its 1st Cohort of its "Ready to Work Program" at the BWWC. The program is designed to assist returning citizens in their transition back into the workforce. Members learned how to write a resume, deliver a 30 second pitch and participated in mock interviews to prepare them to find work. Since its introduction last year, 60% of the participants of the cohort were hired within two weeks of starting the program.



1st Cohort of the National ReEntry Network or Returning Citizens' "Ready to Work Program" at the BWWC



Willie M. Hill, founder of the Coming Home Coop

This summer, the Coming Home Coop also found a home in the BWWC. The Coming Home Coop is a new project whose purpose is to empower District of Columbia returning citizens and other justice-involved persons to work together to create financially stable futures for themselves and others. The Coop is operated by Haul Masters LLC, a local business owned by returning citizen entrepreneur Willie M. Hill, and is currently funded by the District of Columbia Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD). “The Coop’s mission intersects with the BWWC’s mission in various ways,” said project manager Clark. “By hosting our meetings at 2500 Martin Luther King Avenue, we hope to introduce returning citizen entrepreneurs to all that BWWC offers, and to support the Center through our rental fees. As the Coop grows and evolves, we are confident we will identify even more synergies between our respective missions.”



[CLICK TO
WATCH &
SHARE OUR
NEW BWWC
FUNDRAISING
VIDEO!](#)

The ONE DC Black Workers & Wellness Center is a member-led community & wellness space in Anacostia that builds racial & economic justice through popular education, organizing toward sustainable employment, & the incubation of economic alternatives such as worker cooperatives.

We are an organization with a membership base comprised of longtime DC residents who have been directly affected by displacement, gentrification, and structural unemployment. Our organizing model centers the voices of those who are ignored by wealthy developers and government officials. **Our strength comes in numbers, and need YOU to help us build political strength in the District.**

When you donate to our BWWC Capital Fundraising campaign, you are joining hundreds of others in making a community-controlled Black-led space in DC a reality. [Please give today!](#)

Upcoming Events

ONE DC Right to Housing Freedom School Saturday, October 5th

Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter High School - 2427 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020

On October 5th, ONE DC's Right to Housing Committee will be hosting a Freedom School. At this event we'll be diving deeper into the issues raised by participants in our July mini assembly: Displacement by Force and Landlord Neglect. All of this work will lead to our city-wide People's Assembly in the Fall. To get involved, email Patrick at pgregoire@onedconline.org or call 202.232.2915.

On a MOVE! Repression, Resistance and Freedom Saturday, August 31 - 12:00 - 2:00 PM

Watha T Daniel/Shaw Library - 1630 7th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
Organized by Stop Police Terror Project DC and Pan-African Community Action
Join Stop Police Terror Project DC and Pan-African Community Action as we honor [#BlackAugust](#) by hosting a panel featuring Eddie and Janet Africa, members of MOVE a Black liberation group based in Philadelphia that suffered deep police repression and terrorism in the 1970s and 80s.
[Click here to RSVP](#)

Black Labor Day 2019

Monday, September 2nd

Organized by the National Black Worker Center Project

This Labor Day, we are asking that you stand with us- and raise your voices with us as we come Out of the Shadows and expose the truths of Working While Black. No longer will the plight of Black workers be forced into the shadows and ignored. Participate in the Twitter storm on **Monday, September 2nd from 3:00 - 5:00 pm ET** using [#BlackLaborDay](#) [#BlackWorkersRising](#) and [#WorkingWhileBlack](#).

Accounting Basics Workshop

Saturday, September 7th - 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

ONE DC Black Worker's and Wellness Center - 2500 Martin Luther King Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020

Organized by Coming Home Coop

This accounting workshop--presented by Keila Hill-Trawick, owner of Little Fish Accounting--will help you get your business financial record keeping on solid ground regardless of how you currently keep your books and manage your accounts. Accounting is not just a chore you need to do to enable you to prepare your tax return. It is set of tools that will help you understand and grow your business. Whether you're a complete novice or have been in business for a while, we'll provide you with helpful accounting information to help you chart your course toward business success. The event is FREE to attend.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/accounting-basics-for-returning-citizen-business-owners-tickets-70054247139>

3rd Annual Worker Co-op Jumpstart

Saturday, September 14th - 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Impact Hub Baltimore - 10 E. North Ave, Baltimore, MD

Organized by the Baltimore Roundtable for Economic Democracy

On September 14th, the Baltimore Roundtable for Economic Democracy (BRED) will be hosting our third annual Worker Cooperative Jumpstart! It will be a day-long series of workshops focused on establishing and running worker cooperatives. We have something for everyone. So whether you've been a worker-owner for years, are thinking about starting a co-op, or just want to learn more this event is for you! Organizations and individuals welcome! We will be having exciting new content that focuses on cooperative conversions.

<https://baltimoreroundtable.org/category/news-and-updates/>

ONE Piece of Good News - Dominic Moulden wins Black Collar Award



On August 24th, at the Working While Black Expo, ONE DC Resource Organizer, Dominic Moulden, was selected as the first recipient of the National Black Worker Center's Black Collar Award. The Black Collar Award is the National Black Worker Center's annual recognition of an individual who inspires,

supports and expresses effective social and worker justice for African Americans. Tanya Wallace-Gobern, Executive Director of the National Black Worker Center Project, said this award honors "tireless dedication to acting in solidarity with Black workers in the quest for racial and economic justice and end the Black jobs crisis through: confronting racism and oppression as barriers to social change and healthy human relations; building multicultural community and solidarity; achieving diversity in membership, leadership, and staffing." Congratulations, Dominic!

[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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