

"You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time."

-Angela Davis

Celebrating Juneteenth in DC 2019

# 4TH OF JULY JUNETEENTH IN DC

Nobody's free until everybody's free -Fannie Lou Hamei

## Juneteenth in DC Festival Sat. 6/15 Parking Lot @ BWWC 2500 MLK Jr Ave SE 1-5PM

Celebrating liberation with live GOGO music, local vendors, food, live art, & learning how you can get involved with community organizing in DC! SEEKING VENDORS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS! Sign up at juneteenthdc.org/vendors to table or vend

## **Community Learning Event**

6-8PM

Wed. 6/19 NY Ave Presbyterian Church 1313 New York Ave NW Peter Marshall Hall

Featuring historians, community organizers, & artists celebrating the history & significance of Juneteenth, as well as the current struggle for liberation today.

We are raising funds to renovate the ONE DC Black Workers & Wellness Center, a community-controlled space in Anacostia that creates racial & economic justice through popular education, direct action, and the creation of worker-owned alternatives



More info & RSVP: juneteenthdc.org

All events are free & open to all ages

ONE DC is excited to announce our Juneteenth in DC 2019 events celebrating Black liberation and justice! Juneteenth is an annual celebration to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved Black people in Texas on June 19, 1865. This is a time for us to reflect on our collective history of fighting for emancipation and equity, to celebrate and be joyful about our triumphs, and to recommit with passion and discipline to the current struggle for liberation.

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

Each sponsor who gives \$100 or more will receive a Juneteenth commemorative poster, a Juneteenth t-shirt, and public acknowledgment on our website.

Click here to become a sponsor!

Over 100 Community Members Show Support for Racial Equity in DC



On April 25th, more than 80 people testified, and over 100 community members came to the Wilson Building to show support for Racial Equity in DC. A wide variety of advocates and activists packed a hearing on the proposed REAR Act, which is legislation introduced by Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie to assess the impact of government practices on racial equity in the city.

Witnesses testified on the impact of structural racism on the educational system, housing, healthcare, policing, and economic opportunities, as well as the disparities that persist in the city along racial and ethnic lines. Councilmember Brandon Todd presided over the Committee on Government Operations and heard seven hours of expert and powerful testimony; the councilmember pledged to continue engaging with constituents as the bill is evaluated by his committee.

Many of the community members present that day were motivated to join in because of a call from the DC Initiative on Racial Equity and Local Government, a diverse group of organizers and direct service providers that has been pushing for the city to do more to improve racial equity for all residents. The DC Initiative proposed several improvements to the legislation, increasing its scope and impact.

ONE DC organized with 9 residents to develop their testimony and show their support for these efforts, joining with Empower DC, Bread for the City, SPACEs, Jews United for Justice, Working Families, and several other organizations to hold educational sessions for community members about racial equity, the DC Initiative, and the REAR Act itself. The group plans to continue building a powerful coalition to demand intentional government action to reduce disparities and improve equity, using this legislation as a springboard to further acts to dismantle systemic racism and improve outcomes for all city residents.

#### **Collective Work & Cooperation**

Co-Familia: Bilingual Childcare Development Center By Silvia Inez Salazar



Organizing and buying our rent-controlled building in 2011 was a huge accomplishment that took 7 years. Our building used to be called the Norwood Apartments and today it is called 1417 N Street NW Co-operative. We converted our 84-unit building into affordable housing and no longer had to worry about being pushed out because of gentrification.

In 2015, we began to think about the need to have stable and dignified work with livable wages and benefits. Many people in our co-operative work two or three jobs in the service sector and they have no potential to be promoted or gain stable employment. We soon realized that a worker owned co-operative was the solution. A group of 16 women from the DMV area and our housing co-operative were interested in launching their own worker owned co-operative business that would provide childcare services in DC.

Although I had experience organizing my building into a co-operative, I did not know how to organize a worker-owned co-op. The support and collaboration provided by ONE DC was instrumental in getting started. Emily Sladek, Bryant Sewell, Tania Guerrero, Katharine Richardson, and Erin Kessler volunteered their time and expertise with the early phases of business planning. Luther Place Memorial Church lent their support and provided a place to meet. Professor Louise A. Howells, Clinical Instructors Jerome Hughes and Eva Seidelman and a team of law students with the UDC School of Law provided expertise with formulating bylaws and governance. The DC Childcare Collective continues to provide childcare during organizing meetings.

We worked collectively to share the basic concepts of a cooperatively owned business and more importantly, we set aside time for the women to transition from seeing themselves as employees and changing into owners of their own business. By 2018, Co-Familia Childcare Co-operative had evolved into a core group of women leaders with a vision of how their business would function. ONE DC interns Citlalli Velasquez and Esmi Huerta worked with the leaders to create visual illustrations of services to be provided. A grant from the Meyer

Foundation provided funding for the worker-owners to take childcare development classes at Montgomery College.

In spite of our collective accomplishments, I was not sure about what direction to take or where we were along the co-op development lifecycle. ONE DC provided support to me and Emily Sladek with applying for a training provided by CooperationWorks! at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The training was focused on implementation and providing practical tools and skills for co-op developers. The courses and case studies presented during the training provided perspective on where Co-Familia is towards launching and what steps to follow. Learning the viewpoints of fellow co-op developers helped us understand the challenges we are facing and how common they are. As a result of the training, we can now provide Co-Familia with the support and direction they need to establish their business.

Co-Familia worker-owners are currently taking child development courses at Montgomery College and are scheduled to graduate this coming July. We plan to celebrate and move forward with renting a locale that will house the cooperative.

#### **Dulce Hogar Cleaning Cooperative**



Dulce Hogar Cleaning Cooperative, a worker-owned cleaning cooperative, became operational in February of 2019. Dulce Hogar is being supported by ONE DC, <u>Beloved Community Incubator</u>, and Luther Place Memorial Church. The seven worker-owners participated in a year long training process, which included logo and brand development, governance, financial literacy, and cooperative principals. Dulce Hogar has now begun taking on clients across DC and in the immediate Virginia suburbs.

Check them out or request an estimate at dulcehogarcleaning.com

**ONE DC Learning Circle** 



The ONE DC learning circle has started study groups focused on specific types of co-ops. As Jessica Gordon Nembhard remarks in her seminal book, Collective Courage: A History of African American Cooperative Economic Thought and Practice, "[e]very African-American-owned cooperative of the past that I have researched, and almost every contemporary cooperative I have studied, began as the result of a study group or depended on purposive training and orientation of members." We are taking this guidance, and starting study groups.

The Housing Co-Op study group will meet on Wednesday, June 26, from 6:30-8pm at the ONE DC office. At our first meeting, we'll set goals, decide how often we want to meet, etc. Contact Eric Fullilove (eric.fullilove@ri.org) or Gabrielle Newell (gnewell14@gmail.com) if you're interested in being part of this group moving forward.

Kim Lee (<u>klsourceinc@gmail.com</u>) will convene the **Health Co-op Study Group!** Reach out to her if you want to join in this effort or learn more.

The **monthly Learning Circle** explores the principles and legacies that ONE DC moves forward. The Learning Circle continues to meet on the first Wednesday of every month, from 6-8pm at the Black Workers and Wellness Center. **The next session on June 5th (6-8pm at the BWWC)** will explore 400 Years of Inequality. Click here to RSVP

Contact Gabrielle Newell (<a href="mailto:gnewell14@gmail.com">gmail.com</a>) for more information about the Learning Circle or to join the Learning Circle email list

#### No Pride in Displacement!

Join ONE DC this weekend as we celebrate Pride!

### Dykes Against Displacement Friday, June 7 - 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Dyke March, a grassroots march for queer liberation led by self-identifying dykes, first started in the District in 1993. It subsequently spread to major cities

in North America and the UK, but fizzled out in DC. Be a part of it's revival on June 7 after a more than decade-long hiatus. Our inaugural theme is "Dykes Against Displacement" and we will be raising funds for a variety of organizations doing anti-displacement work, which includes: ONE DC, BLM DC, NJNP, HIPS, and Casa Ruby.

**Click here to RSVP** 



## Stonewall Turns 50 - Join the PSL's Contingent at Capital Pride! Saturday, June 8 - 3:30 PM

June 28th of this year will mark the 50 year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, widely regarded as one of the most historic events of the contemporary LGBTQ movement. That night, members of New York City's LGBTQ community fought back against constant police violence, which they faced in their community spaces -- namely, the Stonewall Inn, a prolific bar in Manhattan's historic "gayborhood" and the namesake of the Stonewall Riots. This year, the PSL-D.C. contingent at Capital Pride will be honoring this history of LGBTQ resistance. 50 years later, the LGBTQ community has made many strides despite widespread repression, homophobia, transphobia and biphobia -- but many of these forces still oppress LGBTQ people today.

Click here for meet-up location & to RSVP



#### **Community Announcements**

#### **Bring Human Rights Home**

The American Friends Service Committee, in partnership with UNA-NCA, is conducting a survey to determine the most pressing human rights issues in DC-from the perspective of its residents. Do you think DC stands up for human rights? Will you take a moment to tell AFSC which human rights issues matter to you?

#### **Support a Mission Trip**

Hi! I'm Detrice Belt, long-time resident of Barry Farm in southeast Washington, DC and mother of one-- an 11 year old daughter who's homeschooled by me this first year, which was very challenging. I was not able to work. However, I have been offered an opportunity to go on a mission trip where all expenses are paid except for my flight to Tanzania in Africa.

I am a dental assistant and this trip is taking volunteers from the District of Columbia area -- nurses, doctors, dental assistants, hygienists and other specialties in the medical field -- to this country every year for a medical mission. I'm very hopeful that I will be able to take this trip as this will be my first trip out of the country and I was informed that I could take my daughter. However she won't be joining this year because she's too young and would have to stay behind on some of the missions which are at night and she's too young to stay in a hotel by herself so I will be taking the trip myself.

This year, the trip is June 13th through June 30th. I need help with my air ticket which will cost up towards \$1375. I have been working with ONE DC and Empower DC to organize my community for over 5 years and plan to share this work with my African community. Any little bit would be greatly appreciated!

#### To support Detrice, go to paypal.me/bdetrice

#### **Upcoming Events**

### ONE DC Happy Hour Fundraiser (+ Open Mic Night!) Thursday, June 6, 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Madam's Organ - 2461 18th St NW

ONE DC inviting you for a night of fundraising and fun at a special ONE DC Open Mic Night. Please fill out this form if you would like to perfom! This fundraiser will feature raffle prizes, t-shirt and tote bag sales PLUS \$1 of every drink and food item sold during happy hour benefits ONE DC!

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

**Great Labor Arts Exchange 2019** 

Thursday, June 20 - Sunday, June 23

Tommy Douglas Conference Center - 10000 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD

Join us for a weekend of workshops, films, discussion groups, spoken word, jam sessions and open mike! Bring your instrument, your voice, your beat box, your song, your poem, your story or just yourself!

Click here to register

#### **Play-in for Climate Action**

Thursday, July 11 - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The National Mall at 3rd St NW & Madison Dr NW

Hosted by Moms Clean Air Force

Parents and kids from across the country will gather near the US Capitol in Washington, DC to call for climate action. This family-friendly protest against the air pollution that causes dangerous climate change showcases exactly what's at stake as temperatures and sea levels rise: our kids. Moms know that kids can't sit still, so we are ditching a traditional sit-in and holding our sixth annual Play-In.

**Click here to RSVP** 

Special Request - Support a Member's Healing Journey after Domestic Abuse



We want to support someone in our community who has been supporting countless others for many years. Ms Bilal is a social worker, a long-time active member of ONE DC, and a woman who works hard to brighten every room that she walks into.

But Ms Bilal has also been suffering silently at the hands of a domestic abuser for many years. We are, together, saying 'No More', and taking a stand to support her and her 6 children as they seek safety and security in their new life. This new journey has MANY challenges. Please consider giving generously.

Funds raised here will help to re-locate her and her family to safety, buy furniture, provide transportation costs, and help in their physical and emotional

healing. We want this process to be as painless as possible given what they have all been through. We know that any amount helps.

Please give today and share widely.

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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