



Organizing San Antonio  
Since 1974



### Who are we?

Communities Organized for Public Service (C.O.P.S.) and the Metro Alliance are a coalition of congregations, schools, and unions coming together to effectively act on behalf of families. By learning to work together for the public good, C.O.P.S. and Metro Alliance leaders are able to work with the business community and elected officials to make San Antonio a better place for families. C.O.P.S./Metro is strictly nonpartisan and does not endorse candidates for any elected position, but asks candidates whether they will work with us to support an agenda of issues important to our organization.

### What issues do we support?

C.O.P.S. and Metro Alliance leaders have held hundreds of conversations in recent months to develop an agenda of issues important to leaders across the diverse neighborhoods we represent. On April 19, 2015, 400 leaders met with candidates for Mayor (Leticia van de Putte & Ivy Taylor) and City Council to ask for their support of the following agenda:

***San Antonio Workers Deserve a Living Wage***— While the number of people unemployed in San Antonio is less than 4%, 1 out of 5 residents of San Antonio live below the federal poverty line, and 1 out of 3 children in San Antonio is growing up in poverty. This means that people have jobs but aren't being paid enough to make ends meet. We asked candidates to lead by example and pay a living wage to their employees, beginning with setting a floor of \$13/hour for the next fiscal year.

***Support Workforce Development Initiatives***— Along with higher wages, long term job training programs are critical for breaking the cycle of poverty in our neighborhoods. Project Quest, a workforce development project created by C.O.P.S./Metro leaders, was recently recognized by the President of the United States as a leading workforce development program in the nation. But locally, city funding for Project Quest has been cut. We asked candidates to restore funding for Project Quest at \$2 million/year.

***Invest in Housing Rehabilitation***— Many people on fixed income, especially senior citizens, live in homes with extreme temperatures during the summer and winter months and may need to make burdensome repairs in order to weatherize their homes. We asked candidates to follow the example set by the city of Austin and pass a bond in 2017 to reinvest in housing rehabilitation programs.