

Durham CAN

Affordable Housing

Durham CAN responded to the City's affordable housing crisis by demanding available and vacant public sites will be used to build affordable housing for families at or below 60 percent of the AMI. Hundreds of leaders turned out over the last three years to win the following:

Jackson/Willard Street Site

Durham CAN demanded and won the construction of eighty-two one and two-bedroom units of affordable housing in a four-story structure. Sixty-one will be targeted for people earning 60% AMI or less, about \$48,000 for a family of four, and twenty-one will be for people earning 30% AMI or below. The project will also include retails and parking. The City of Durham committed \$3.6

million and conveyed the land valued at \$2.8 million, for \$1. Duke, Capitol Broadcasting and the AJ Fletcher Foundation are kicking in another \$2.5 million. Fifty-six additional units are contingent upon the award of a second federal tax credit and will be affordable to people at or below 60 % of AMI, most likely seniors.



Fayette Place

Durham CAN declared victory as the City of Durham awarded a grant to the Durham Housing Authority for \$4.2 million, and reacquired 20 acres of overgrown land and crumbling foundations for future affordable housing. A private company, the Philadelphia-based Campus Apartments, had bought the Fayette

Place property in 2007 with a promise to build affordable housing for N. C. Central University students. The City ratified its commitment to finance the repurchase of the property at a CAN meeting attended by 550 leaders. Hundreds of affordable units will be built at the site.



County Lots

After years of negotiation with CAN, the Durham County Commissioners agreed to affordable and market-rate

apartments on 300 & 500 blocks of East Main Street. Both sites will include parking decks for county employees and 437 apartments; 277

to be designated affordable for those who make 80% AMI or less, \$53,900 for a four-person household.

Acquisition Fund

CAN gained commitment from Mayor Steve Schewel to establish the Durham Affordable Housing Loan Fund. The first phase will reach \$10 million with Duke University, SunTrust Bank, the City

of Durham, and NC Community Development Initiative as investors. The Initiative is expected to grow to \$20 million the next fiscal year.

Durham CAN

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Hayti Community

Leaders from the historic Hayti community flexed their power muscle and organized to demand and gain improvements for their community. Six hundred leaders attended negotiations with the City of Durham and the Durham Housing Authority. The Leaders from the Grant Street community won the cleaning of a stream that flooded their neighborhood during heavy rains, park equipment, a reduction on the crime rate, and the designation for affordable housing of several publicly owned vacant lots.

Criminal Justice

Judicial candidates an Durham's district attorney-elect committed publicly to criminal justice reforms during the Durham CAN Public Action attended by over 623 leaders. District Attorney elect committee among other things to consider a defendant's ability to pay court fines and fees and support the reduction or waiver of fines and fees when a person is unable to pay. Also to consider money bail the last resort; work to restore suspended licenses and support a new expunction and license restoration clinic; and create a deferral program for driving without a license for people who are otherwise law-abiding but can't legally obtain a driver's license because of their immigration status. During the same meeting the Sheriff elect promised to end years of collaboration with ICE on immigration enforcement.

Transit

CAN has been a strong supporter of the light rail project ever since it was conceived. The Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project plans to connect Durham and Orange Counties with a 17.7-mile light rail line that has 19 stations, including University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Hospitals, Duke Medical Center and North Carolina Central University. The Project will not only curtail traffic congestion but also to increase access to quality health care, educational opportunities and jobs. The light rail connects both major hospitals in the Triangle, as well as three of the 10 largest employers in the area.

Most recently Durham CAN leaders negotiated an agreement with GoTriangle which will ensure all transit related jobs will pay a living wage.

Education

Durham CAN demanded and won the hiring of three bilingual interpreters the over 25% of the student body at the Durham Public Schools who speaks other languages. Parents and students have trouble communicating with teachers, principals and counselors. The Durham Public Schools new Strategic Plan reflects additional hiring goals over the next five years. The announcement was made at a public action attended by over 450 immigrants and allies.

Employment

Durham CAN expanded its work to open up paths to employment for unemployed, underemployed and formerly incarcerated returning citizens. The North Carolina affiliate officially launched a new grassroots jobs campaign after conducting listening sessions with at least 1000 ex-offenders, unemployed, underemployed and youth, and building relationships with groups and employers like Duke University, GoTriangle and the Durham Housing Authority that promote access to jobs, modeled after the BUILD/Turnaround Tuesday movement in Baltimore.

Durham CAN clergy have now approached top leaders from Duke University to discuss its collective agenda on jobs, living wages and local hiring, and have demanded that Duke leadership visit Turnaround Tuesday and Johns Hopkins University to learn about their public partnership around the hiring of ex-offenders. Duke University recently announced they would change their hiring policy, now permitting the hiring of those with criminal records. Negotiations are ongoing and Durham CAN leaders will meet with the President of Duke University, Vincent Price, to continue the conversation in early 2019.

Housing Repairs

Durham CAN demanded and won \$1.5 million in urgent repairs to permanently affordable homes owned by the Durham Community Land Trustees form the City of Durham.