



Growing Together Connecticut

Building Community Power: A Pressing Need and a Central Priority

growingtogetherct.org

Growing Together Connecticut is a collective seeking to create growth, opportunity, and justice in housing and beyond. Our goal is to build 300,000 new housing units and help build community power in cities over the course of the next 10 years, all while creating tens of thousands of good-paying jobs and generating up to \$12 billion in tax revenue.

Connecticut’s cities are the innovation, business, and culture centers of our state. But decades of disinvestment and segregationist housing practices have undermined our cities’ growth and development and constrained opportunity for urban residents. Too many communities in our cities are trapped in cycles of poverty, unable to receive sufficient municipal support from a too-thin property tax base, and priced out of educational and economic opportunity. Connecticut’s unjust policies and history of disinvestment hold back hundreds of thousands of people, needlessly limiting our state’s potential.

Hundreds of thousands of families choose to live in cities because they love their communities, the atmosphere, amenities, excitement, cultural institutions and influences, and possibilities of urban life. But they didn’t choose to be limited by segregation or held back by structural barriers to opportunity.

Together, we can improve life in all of Connecticut’s cities - and the state as a whole.

Higher levels of black-white segregation are associated with lower levels of bachelor’s degree attainment for both Black and white students.

According to DataHaven, children born in Connecticut’s cities can expect to live 6 fewer years than children born in CT’s wealthy towns.

The School + State Finance Project reports a \$639 million funding gap between predominantly white school districts and districts with at least 25% students of color.

According to Data Haven, 27% of high-earning CT households are in neighborhoods that are predominantly white and wealthy, as compared to only 10% in other large metropolitan areas.

Our Plan: Supporting Community-Driven Change

- **Every City Matters:** Growing Together CT is committed to partnering with residents and community leaders in every city in the state.
- **Deep Listening:** We will center the perspectives and experiences of people who live with the reality of segregation and disinvestment every day and will design policies that directly improve their lives.
- **Transformative Change:** We will propose solutions that substantively address the needs of our cities and their most-impacted communities.

Our Core Policy Areas

- **Create Wealth:** promote homeownership, small business ownership, and broad-based economic growth.
- **Support Renters:** support subsidized housing, remove harmful hazards, and housing opportunity.
- **Neighborhood Investment:** invest in community spaces, parks, playgrounds, and public transportation.
- **Community Power:** support local advocacy efforts, fight for government transparency, and combat displacement.

Join us! You can help Connecticut grow towards justice. Contact us at growingtogetherct@gmail.com.

Steering committee partners include:

