

**ONE WAKE
2022
ANNUAL
REPORT**

WHO WE ARE

ONE Wake is a strictly non-partisan, multi-racial, multi-issue group of 46 religious congregations, associations, and other non-profits in the Wake County area with membership totaling in excess of 50,000 residents.

We marshal the two universal sources of power -- organized people and organized money -- so that our organizations can collaborate with or confront powerful institutions in the governmental and private sectors.

We are non-ideological and pragmatic -- building working relationships, based on shared interests, across many of the lines that divide individuals and institutions. We are also strictly non-partisan, not favoring or supporting any party, but fiercely favoring and supporting those issues and strategies that bring more dignity and greater opportunity to an every-widening circle of society.

We challenge people to imagine the change they can accomplish, connect individuals and organizations to multiply their power, and organize people by the thousands to make their voices heard. We set high goals, design innovative strategies, and stick with issues until they are fully addressed. Our time frame is not the market cycle or the news cycle or the election cycle, but the generational cycle of families and institutions.

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

Antioch Bible Fellowship
Baptist Grove Church
Beth Shalom
Cary First Christian Church
Cary Presbyterian Church
The Caring Place
Christ the King Lutheran Church
Common Thread
Dorcas Ministries
Eastern Wake Ministers Alliance
Ekklesia
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
First UMC Cary
Friendship Chapel Baptist Church
The Fountain of Raleigh Fellowship
Good Shepherd United Church of Christ
Greenwood Forest Baptist Church
Hayes Barton UMC
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Iglesia Fiesta Cristiana
Islamic Association of Raleigh

Juniper Level MBC
Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church
Las Americas R2W Association
Macedonia UMC
Pleasant Grove Church - Cary
Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
Raleigh First Baptist Church
Raleigh Mennonite Church
Raleigh Vineyard
Saint Francis UMC
Southeast Raleigh Table
St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
St. John's Episcopal
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Tapestry Church
Temple Beth Or
Trinity Episcopal Church
UU Fellowship of Raleigh / Yavneh
Watts Chapel MBC



Pictured above: Mayor Baldwin, Council Member Branch, and other candidates for city council make commitments to 477 ONE Wake members in October

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

104

ONE Wake leaders attended a press conference to call on the Wake County Commissioners to address the rising housing cost burden facing low-income homeowners (February)

150+

leaders turned out to the Wake County Board of Commissioners meeting to demonstrate a broad base of support for action on housing cost relief (April)

\$9 MILLION

historic affordable housing investment approved by the Cary Town Council after 10 months of public pressure from ONE Wake (June)

41

leaders attended the Cary Town Council public hearing to show support for rezoning 921 SE Maynard for affordable housing. Over 130 also sent in emails expressing support in advance (April)

175

leaders attended ONE Wake's second assembly with candidates for Cary Town Council to win commitments for affordable housing, and then marched to the polls to vote (April)

300

infrequent voters engaged by volunteer canvassers in Cary's runoff election to draw attention to this crucial race and the impact of the election on local housing policy (July)

477

leaders attended ONE Wake's assembly with 19 of 26 candidates for Raleigh City Council, including all Mayoral candidates, to win commitments on housing cost relief (October)

\$5 MILLION

for a pilot investment from the Wake County Commissioners to address rising housing cost burden impacting low-income homeowners (September)

40

leaders returned to the Cary Town Council for a second public hearing to show support for rezoning 921 SE Maynard for affordable housing. The rezoning passed unanimously! (November)

3,000+

infrequent voters engaged during ONE Wake's fall relational Get Out the Vote campaign in precincts that were hardest hit by rising housing cost (September - November)

CARY HOUSING FUND

Over 10 months, from October 2021 to July 2022, hundreds of ONE Wake Cary leaders showed up persistently and consistently to call on the Cary Town Council to invest in a new fund to support the preservation and creation of affordable housing.

Efforts included: a virtual assembly with candidates for Town Council in November attended by over 350 households; a second, in-person candidate assembly in April that was attended by over 175 leaders and followed by a march to the polls; and several small actions that delivered dozens to Council meetings over the spring.





In late May ONE Wake leaders celebrated the news that the Town of Cary had earmarked a historic \$9 million in new funds for affordable housing, including: \$2.9 million from the capital improvements budget, \$1.1 million in additional town funding, and \$5 million from the American Rescue Plan Act!

In July ONE Wake leaders also had the opportunity to ask run-off candidates whether they would support the continuation of the affordable housing fund into the following fiscal year. The candidates who won their race answered YES! We look forward to working with the Town as the Council begins to allocate these funds.

Pictured: Cary Town Council candidates attend ONE Wake's 175 person public assembly to pledge support for affordable housing, followed by a march to the polls (see next page)







HOMEOWNER CARE FUND

On October 6 over 477 members of ONE Wake institutions and neighborhoods across Raleigh turned out for a hybrid assembly with 19 candidates for Raleigh City Council, including all mayoral candidates. Together we called on them to work with us and our partners, Habitat for Humanity of Wake County, to address the rising housing cost burden that is displacing long time, low income homeowners in gentrifying neighborhoods.

This assembly was the culmination of 16 months of patient, grassroots organizing that engaged over 1,500 households in Southeast Raleigh through canvassing and house meetings.

ONE Wake leaders and homeowners met regularly with the Wake County Board of Commissioners to help shape a new program, the “Homeowner Care Fund,” which, if implemented, will reduce some housing costs to help keep homeowners in their homes. The County is currently considering an initial \$5 million investment in this program.

During our Raleigh Candidate Assembly, ONE Wake leaders asked each candidate whether they would follow the County’s lead and make an equivalent investment by the next fiscal year to help keep low income homeowners in their homes. Every candidate said YES!

Left: 477 ONE Wake leaders meet with 19 candidates for Raleigh City Council in October



GET OUT THE VOTE 2022

This fall, 81 members of ONE Wake institutions volunteered a total of 571 hours to support our non-partisan, relational GOTV campaign that engaged thousands of infrequent voters in precincts hardest hit by rising housing cost.

Our strategy was to help voters understand how the local election affects housing policy, and to help them connect the act of voting with the everyday acts of compassion that they perform for their neighbors.

This campaign followed our GOTV work in Cary that engaged 300 infrequent voters during the runoff election in July.

SPRING AND FALL RELATIONAL GOTV TOTALS

106

relational GOTV volunteer
canvassers

3,300+

doors knocked in precincts
hardest hit by rising
housing costs

649

total canvasser hours
volunteered

*Left, top: 150+ ONE Wake leaders at the Commissioner work session in April;
Left, bottom: ONE Wake leaders, homeowners, County Commissioners and County staff on a neighborhood tour in August prior to negotiating the Homeowner Care Fund.*



*Top: GOTV kickoff for the Cary runoff election in July;
Bottom: relational canvassing team after a successful shift in October*

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

ONE Wake's power comes from our broad base of member institutions, including churches, mosques, synagogues, non-profits, and neighborhood associations. ONE Wake also regularly partners with non-member groups on issues of shared interest.

Members have committed to:

- 1) send leaders to organizing training;
- 2) form a core team of leaders capable of identifying the top concerns and interests of their membership; and
- 3) initiate public action through ONE Wake to resolve those concerns.

Members have also committed to pay annual dues equivalent to 1% operating budget (Floor: \$2,500, Ceiling: \$15,000).

FINANCES

ONE Wake is funded by dues from member institutions, individual donations, and private foundations. ONE Wake does not accept government funds so we can remain autonomous and politically independent.

Starting in 2023, ONE Wake will engage in an annual audit performed by an outside firm. Financials are available for members' review upon request.

