

# REDEMPTION SONG

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**ONE DC PEOPLE'S PROGRESS REPORT 2012**

Re - demp - tion songs Re - demp -



# ChorUS

## Shared Leadership Team – Board of Directors

Allison Basile, *Secretary*

Dewayne Brown

N'ya Finley

Linda Leaks

Jessica Gordon Nembhard, *President*

Rosemary Ndubuizu, *Treasurer*

Pat Penny

Charles Turner



## Shared Leadership Team – Staff

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Ronald Harris, *Black Organizing and Leadership for Dignity*

Dominic T. Moulden

Gloria Robinson

Linette Robinson

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Martha Davis, *Housing Development*

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Bunny Jackson, *Finance*

## Interns

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Falon Shackelford, *Howard University*

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## Volunteers

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Jaime Nelson, *Newsletter*

Thomas Neumark Jones, *Website*

## Credits

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Almah LaVon Rice, *Editorial Choreography*

Michael Swartzbeck, *Layout and Design*

**Dear Friends,**

We are entering our third year of shared leadership, and despite a few discordant moments, we are now in tune. Well, we're in tune with our mission, values, and vision – but quite out of tune with hierarchy and “power-over” structures. Every leadership structure has its challenges, and ONE DC continues to work on building a learning organization, bolstering the capacity of resident leadership, and strengthening our practices of appreciative inquiry and collective accountability.

Trust, we are harmonizing. We are committed to composing a DC with:

1. no displacement zones;
2. reclaimed wellness and healing spaces;
3. shelter, democratic work, restoration, and common space for all residents, including those with little or no money.

One definition of redemption is the “recovery of something pawned or mortgaged.”\*

That's exactly what ONE DC's work is about: recovery and reclamation. To heal our ransacked commons. To address the wreckage of officialdom's broken promises – which may include anything from direct action to making sure we stay accountable to the too-often-forgotten DC.

Like any alchemist DJ, we can remix the present, transmute injustice into equity.

This is our anthem.

This is our redemption song.

We invite your voice.

Yours in the struggle,

**Shared Leadership Team**

*\*American Heritage Dictionary*



## The Jazz of Organizing

The vibrating and vital core of jazz is improvisation.

The art of organizing is the art of improvisation:

supple, even playful.

Like jazz,

organizing revels in the possible

and celebrates

the alchemical power of the collective:  
call

and response.

We organizers respond

to injustice with the clash of cymbals

and the authority of the drum!

*"a Jazz practice is whatever our literal art practice may be...and is simultaneously our expansive response to any limitation in life."*

~ Daniel Alexander Jones



## Ballads of Displacement



"I've been a resident at Lincoln Westmoreland II since 2006. Every year since 2009 the owners have been sending notices to residents informing us that they may or may not renew the HUD subsidy. Each year we wait nervously with a sigh of relief until finally in November 2012 it was confirmed that they will NOT renew.

With all the new developments in the neighborhood that are not catered to low income working families it became evident that they want to cash in on the changing face of Shaw. We're offered an enhanced voucher (Section 8). It's been very un-nerving because not everyone is guaranteed to receive the voucher with the stringent stipulations (eg: if you have a criminal background or owe Housing Authority any past due monies etc.). The question is where

will we go in that case?"

--Andrea Christie



"My mother was displaced. My mother was raised in Foggy Bottom, Georgetown...and she was displaced from there. And she was also displaced from Southeast...

When Tenacity took over they took her apartment and... promised she would be able to come back, but that wasn't the case. And the apartments were called Suitland East Apartments, 3111 Naylor Road.

That's why I joined ONE DC – because I want to protect people like my mom."

- Dewayne Brown





## How We Win: Liner Notes

♪ **We also win** by transformation – inspiring culture-shift and tapping deeper and deeper leadership in ourselves.

♪ **We win** by being committed to our goals for the long haul: we change things by the fierce light of our persistent resistance. We are tenacious!

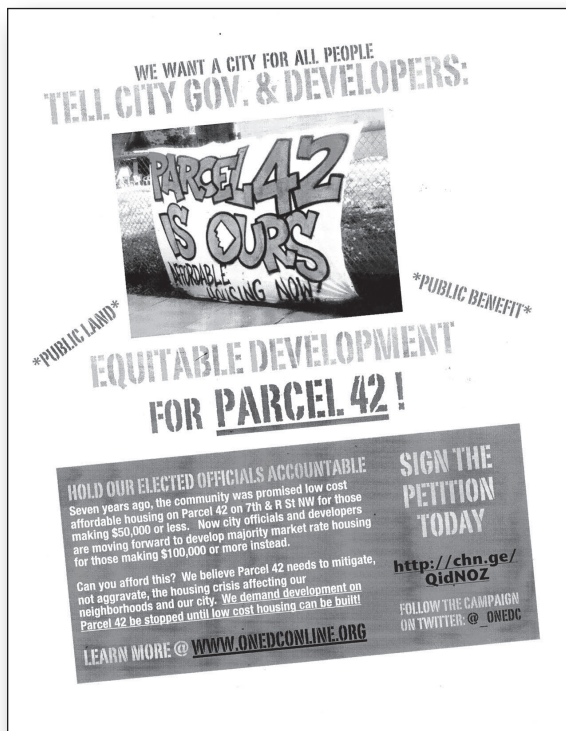
♪ **We win** by being people-centered and learning-focused. We are dedicated to growth, experimentation, and relationships.

♪ **We win** by the numbers. Some of ONE DC's accomplishments are tangible and quantifiable.



## 2012: Greatest Hits

**Some of ONE DC's highlights and high notes this year...**



**Parcel 42:** Seven years of sustained rabble-rousing for accountability. 850 signatures and resident-led organizing!

**Kelsey Gardens:** Organizing tenants led to successful court battle ensuring 54 Shaw families can return home! The first round of families will return in early 2014; 50 years of affordable housing secured!



**UDC Community College:** Taught ONE DC community organizing model to UDC students.

**Premier CDC:** Shared anti-displacement strategies with this Ward 5 community-led organization.

**Servant Leadership School:** Taught shared leadership model to attendees.

**DC Coop Day:** Co-sponsored an event at UDC that brought together over 125 people to explore how to build and strengthen co-operatives and other economic alternatives in the District. We explored current and future urban agriculture coops, housing coops, food coops, solar coops, worker-owned coops, time banking, and more.

**Parcel 33:** Created a model with Parcel 33 that we are working to replicate across DC:

### Jobs created at Parcel 33

Total employees on site (typical):	200
Total new jobs created:	56
Total new jobs to DC residents:	29
Total DCHA* residents hired to date:	18
Apprentice positions to date:	5
Affordable housing units at Parcel 33:	51

**20 units** at 31%-50% AMI\*\*

**31 units** at 51%-80% AMI

In addition, two community retail spaces have been rented and the **Progression Place Community Fund** has launched! This Fund focuses on supporting non-profits located in and/or serving the residents of Shaw and Ledroit Park. The first round of grants have been awarded (eight grants of \$7,500 each).

## DC CO-OP DAY

Building Community and Economic Alternatives

**FREE!  
EVENT**

University of the  
District of Columbia  
4200 Connecticut Avenue NW  
Building A-03  
METRO: Van Ness-UDC

**SATURDAY  
OCT 27  
9AM - 4PM**

Space is limited - Please register at <http://dccoopday.eventbrite.com>

Co-operatives are businesses owned and run by and for their members. They are based on the values of **SELF-HELP, SELF-RESPONSIBILITY, DEMOCRACY, EQUITY** and **SOLIDARITY.**



**NEVER HEARD OF  
A CO-OP?**

Come learn the basics at sessions like Co-op 101 and the History of DC Co-ops.

**INTERESTED IN  
STARTING A CO-OP?**

Receive technical assistance from experts and existing local co-ops.



**ARE YOU A  
CO-OP GURU?**

Build a local co-op movement by making connections with others in the co-op scene in DC.

**COOP DC**  
[www.coopdc.org](http://www.coopdc.org)



Learn more at [WWW.COOPDC.ORG](http://WWW.COOPDC.ORG)  
or email [info@coopdc.org](mailto:info@coopdc.org)



\*DC Housing Authority

\*\*Area Median Income



## The Redemption Chorus

Let's redeem the land that belongs to us  
Let's redeem the land that belongs to us  
Let's redeem the land that belongs to us

I could be used as a vessel to help  
I could be used as a vessel to help  
I could be used as a vessel to help

We will resist  
and in our resistance  
find our humanity

### Librettists:

Andrea Christie  
Ka Flewellen  
Dewayne Brown





## Looking Ahead, Going Higher...

We've been organizing Lincoln Westmoreland II tenants since 2007 to resist displacement. But we're not done yet, but their Section 8 rental subsidy expired. In 2013 a two-bedroom apartment will jump to \$1600 a month. Our newest campaign will focus on gaining control of the property through tenants rights education and direct action.



Residents create a new tenants' association at Lincoln Westmoreland II to resist displacement.



Members planning organizing strategy for future Parcel 42 Community Benefits Agreement.

The resident manager of Wardman Courts contacted us for technical assistance regarding tenant rights and how to build community in a housing development. We will focus on resident control of public housing resources and land in this new campaign.

ONE DC holds two seats on the Headquarters Hotel Committee, which drafted the RFP to create a workforce intermediary to deliver life skills and job

skills training for Marriott's living wage jobs. In 2013 we will support the workforce intermediary in reaching out to 3,000 residents for job training at Marriott. Perhaps worker-controlled training or community-owned job preparation center are in our future?



ONE DC provides community learning through the Freedom School, Emancipation Day, and teaching shared leadership practices at locations throughout the city, including the Servant Leadership School.

## Thanks to Our Supporters!



**The Freedom Singers raised their voices** to raise funds for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the 1960s, and to amplify the grassroots organizing campaigns springing up all over the South.

Our dear supporters are ONE DC's Freedom Singers. Thank you for making our radical, redemptive work possible!

### Individual Donor-Singers

Tania Abdulahad ~ Daniel Anson - Mia Ballard - Allison Basile - Medea Benjamin - Yaya Bey ~ Robert Bies - Buwa Binitie - Dewayne Brown - Susan Burton - Naomi Carthens - Shana Conway ~ Martha Davis - Nina Dutton ~ Daniel Ehrenberg - Maryann Moulden Ferguson - N'ya Finley - Ka Flewellen - Ronald Harris ~ Doug Hertzler - Tom & Carolyn Hubers - Tony Keith ~ Naomi Kingsborough - Tim Kumfer ~ Easten Law ~ Linda Leaks - Dawn Longenecker ~ Dominic T. Moulden - Rosemary Ndubuizu ~ Jessica Gordon Nembhard - Pat Penny ~ Robert Pohlman - Karyn Pomerantz ~ Gloria Robinson - Ayize Sabater ~ Gregory Squires ~ Burke Stanbury - Jennifer Taylor ~ Charles Turner

### Institutional and Corporate Choir

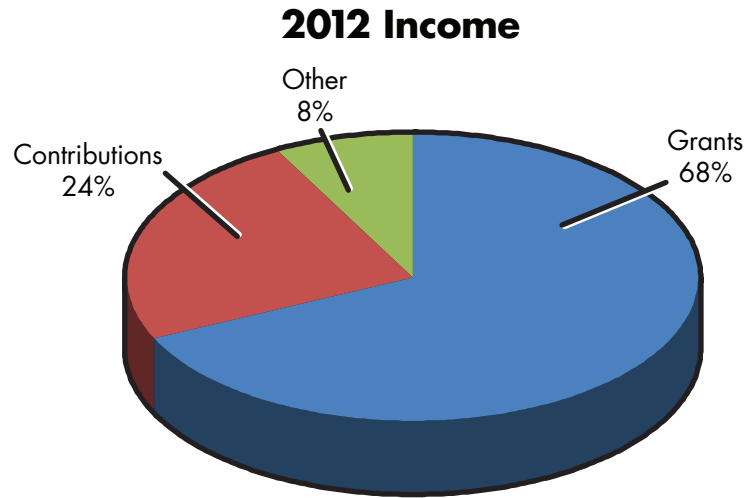
Benjamin Fund - Broadcast Center Partners - City First Bank of DC - Discount Foundation - Eastern Mennonite University - Eighth Day Faith Community - The Festival Center - Georgetown University's Center for Social Justice - Gitt Foundation - Goodsearch - Hill Snowden Foundation - Horning Family Fund - Jovid Fund - Moriah Fund - New Community Church - New York Avenue Presbyterian Church - Roseben Fund - Unite Here Local 25 - The United Methodist Church - Westmoreland Community

~Please forgive any misspellings or omissions~

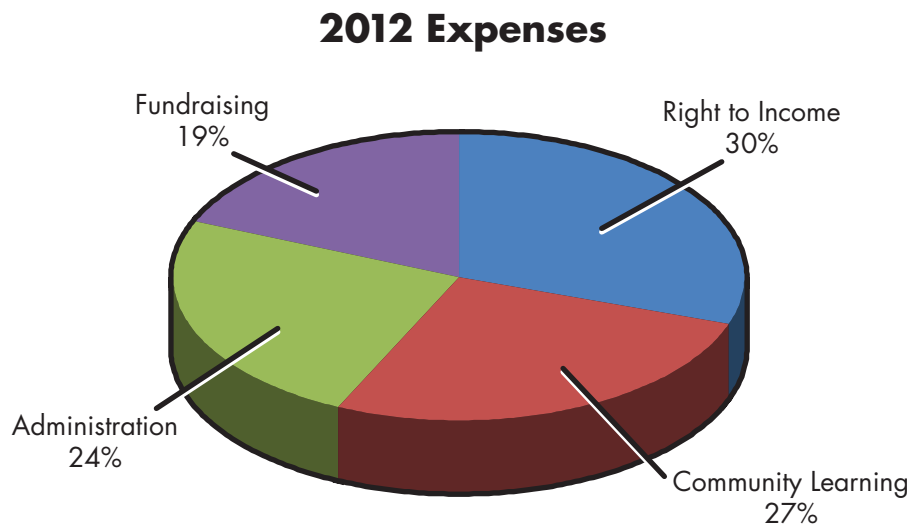


# Financials

As indicated on the charts, over the last four years, developer fee income, which accounted for 27% of the 2009 income and 28% of the 2010 income, decreased to \$0 for the years 2011 and 2012. Grant income also decreased from its 2009 amount of \$235,627 to its 2012 amount of \$129,250.



To offset this decrease in income, management reduced expenses from \$566,499 in 2009 to \$220,282 in 2012 or a 61% reduction over the four years. This change has brought about a decrease in the deficit over the last four years from a high of (\$179,731) in 2009 to a 2012 deficit of (\$31,087).



# Lift every voice and sing



**"Carrying the water"** describes ONE DC's practice of shared and cooperative work. Consider carrying the water with ONE DC by volunteering alongside staff, members, volunteers, interns, and allies. How can you help carry out ONE DC's mission?

1. Join the right-to-housing and -land and/or the right to income-organizing campaigns.
2. Work with our shared leadership team on ONE DC committees, including administration, organizing, membership and community learning, and fundraising.
3. Help maintain, manage, and renew the ONE DC website.
4. Work on and plan the 2013 Freedom School.
5. Help organize and plan the 2013 Annual Membership Meeting.
6. Help organize and create a wellness and healing space in ONE DC's office.
7. Plan FUN events for ONE DC members and allies.

ONE DC has a place for you and the unique skills you'll bring to the table. Please contact Dominic at [dmoulden@onedconline.org](mailto:dmoulden@onedconline.org).



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