



Dear Julia,

Happy new year from all of us here at the West Side Community Organization!

This year marks our 50th Anniversary, and we look forward to sharing upcoming opportunities to reflect on and celebrate the incredible work we've accomplished together as a neighborhood.

Our work began as a movement of successful grassroots activism in the 70's on the West Side to ward off the placement of a metal shredder in our neighborhood along the Mississippi River, and to save the only public high school on the West Side, Humboldt, from permanently closing its doors.

Today, we remain committed to our activist roots, with community organizing and racial equity at the heart of our work.

Thank you to all of you who have been a part of this journey, and welcome to all of you who are interested in getting involved!

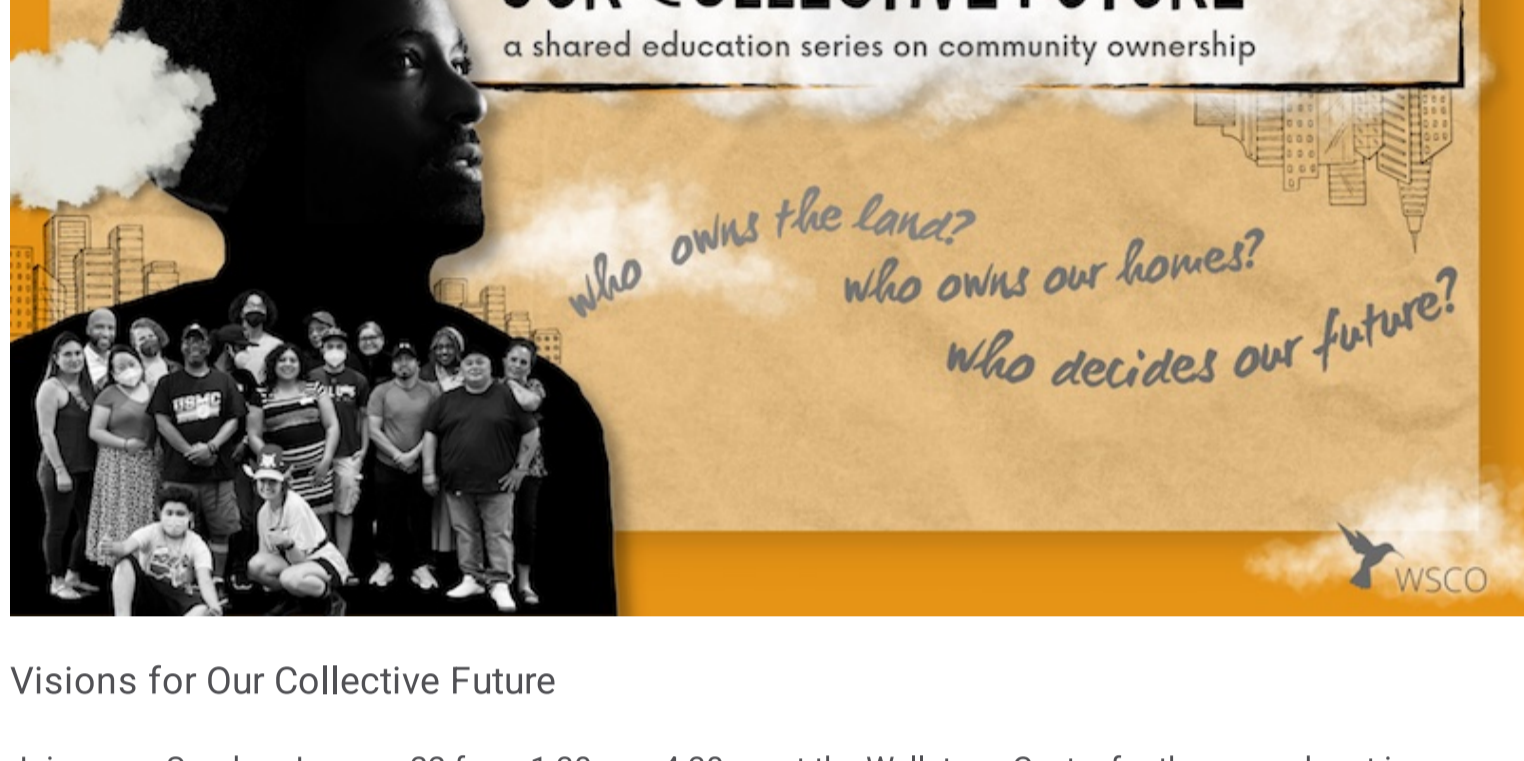


The West Side Community 10 Year Plan

It's time for a fresh plan! In 2023, you're invited to join us in crafting a vision for the West Side for the next 10 years. Affordable housing, investment in local businesses, access to public transportation and green spaces-- let's make sure these and other important elements are included, and reflect the needs of our neighbors!

Be a part of this powerful opportunity to take a creative and transformative approach to urban planning and land use in our neighborhood.

Get involved: contact our Equitable Development Director, Kai Andersen, at kai@wsc.org for more information.

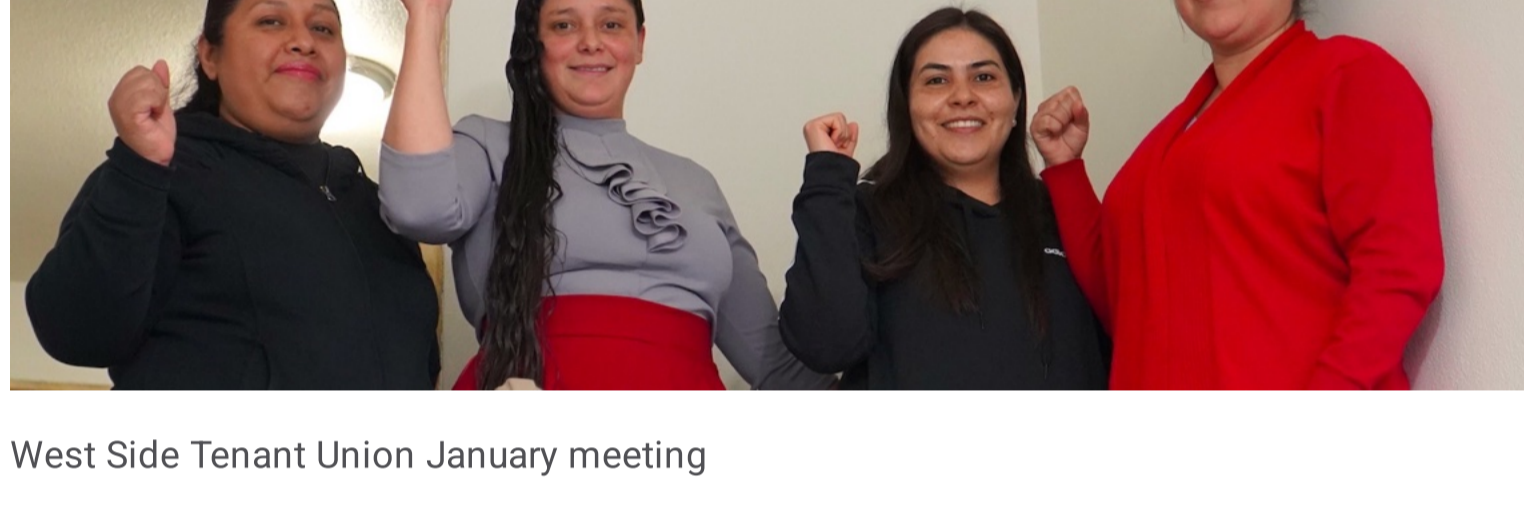


Visions for Our Collective Future

Join us on Sunday, January 22 from 1:30pm - 4:30pm at the Wellstone Center for the second part in our shared education series, Visions for Our Collective Future!

We'll be taking a deeper dive into Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) cooperatives, community ownership, and community land trusts! Special guests include Mikeya Griffin from the Rondo Community Land Trust, and Roberto de la Riva from InquilinXs UnidXs Por la Justicia (Renters United for Justice).

RSVP



West Side Tenant Union January meeting

"My hope is that our rent doesn't go up, that repairs continue, that we can live happily in our building, and that our group continues to meet to support other who are facing the same problems we have" - Alejandra Flores, pictured above, second from right, with neighbors in her apartment who are organizing together with the West Side Tenant Union.

Are you a renter on the West Side? Do you want to connect with other renters, learn more about your rights, and take action to improve living conditions in our neighborhood?

Join us at the next West Side Tenant Union meeting!

January 18th, 6:00pm - 7:30pm at our offices at 209 Page St. West.

RSVP



Incinerator tour

Did you know a new sewage incinerator is being planned near the West Side? Our Health & Environmental Justice Action Circle is working to ensure that West Siders are informed about this process and any potential impacts it may have on our neighborhood.

Join us for a free tour of the Met Council sewage incinerator on Friday, January 27th from 1:30pm- 3:30pm in Saint Paul.

Space is limited: RSVPs are required by Tuesday, January 17th.

RSVP



West Side Voices

Interested in getting involved in the community? Don't know where to start? Join us at the West Side Voices forum!

Be a part of building and carrying out solutions to benefit our neighborhood. Everyone's input is requested and welcome for discussions!

Our next West Side Voices Forum will be held on Tuesday, February 21st, from 6:00pm-8:00pm here at the West Side Community Organization office, 209 Page St. W. in Saint Paul.

RSVP



Community Announcements

Our Sacred Light: an event for grief survivors to come together in the name of art and healing. Friday, January 27th, 6:00pm at the Baker Center on the West Side. Organized by Bella Mendoza. [Learn more here.](#)

Join the Environmental Justice Advisory Group: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is seeking community members who want to inform the agency's work in communities disproportionately impacted by pollution. [Learn more here.](#)

Housing survey: Share your perspective on the housing challenges facing Saint Paul residents. Take this survey from the City of Saint Paul before January 13th for a chance to win \$100. [Click here for English](#), and [here for more languages.](#)

Winter & Spring activities at El Rio Vista Rec Center: registration is now open! Check out all the great offerings from Parks and Rec in our neighborhood, from jazz to volleyball, tot time to movie night. [Learn more and sign up here.](#)

Holiday recycling: Did you know holiday trees, lights and electrical cords can be recycled? Visit Ramsey County's year-round household hazardous waste collection site at 5 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. [Learn more here.](#)

Winter Warming Spaces: In preparation for the coldest winter months, Ramsey County has opened three warming spaces in Saint Paul for residents living without permanent housing. [Learn more here.](#)

#WestSideStrong

WSCO organizes people of West Side to build collective power to advance justice and racial equity in the community for all people. We envision a just, united, self-reliant West Side where all of our people are connected, safe, healthy and successful. We are West Side proud. We are West Side strong.

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