



Leaven Community Land and Housing Research Action Team

*Organized by a growing Coalition of Faith and Neighborhood-Based Institutions around Housing**

The Leaven Community Land and Housing Research Action Team is building a diverse and growing coalition of faith and neighborhood-based Institutions around housing.

Our Goal

For churches to contribute to equitable, relational, and vital neighborhoods by addressing, in concrete ways, the common pressures of displacement and unaffordable housing in this city. Explicitly, we see this happening through

- relationships with people of color congregations
- the re-development of church property where available
- other creative development means that will spring out of relationship

We will exhibit ways of being that are modeled in and teach about the cycle of contemplative community organizing.

Core Purposes

Relationship Building. Building relationships with local churches who have the drive and/or the property on which to build affordable housing, and discovering the constituents and leaders within those neighborhoods and institutions most affected by the crisis (schools, long time and low income residents being pushed out of those neighborhoods, etc).

Learning About Development. We are sponges soaking up as much as we can about the world of financing, city and state housing policy, the myriad of church governing structures, resources, both human and material, who/that can/could support our work.

Discovering our Collective Power.

We are cutting our teeth on immediate actions, always beginning with: "Who is holding the power?" As we walk with others in their celebrations and pitfalls, we learn the power of making this journey out from isolation and in to community. Having collected power with diverse and equitable representation, then we can act on broad-scale measures.