



December 6, 2021

December is a month filled with celebration.

Whether it's Hanukkah or Christmas or New Year's Eve, this time of year is filled with opportunities to gather with our loved ones, to celebrate the joys we have in our lives, to give generously to others, and to fill up our spiritual cups. How do you and your family celebrate the holiday season? Do you light a Menorah? Decorate a Christmas tree? Make a special dessert? Gather for family dinner? Hang lights outdoors? No matter what your traditions are, I would guess that many of them take place in your home, maybe at a dining room table or around a cozy fireplace or in a crowded kitchen.

But for every one of us that sits comfortably in a warm home this holiday season, there is someone else in our community who is sleeping on the streets, or who is crashing on a friend's couch with nowhere else to go, or who is worried about eviction or foreclosure, or whose rent or HOA fees will be increasing in the new year, or who is fighting mold or roaches or worse, or whose family is crammed into a too-small apartment. We have all heard these stories. We all know that there is an exploding housing crisis in Charleston County.

And we've been pushing Charleston County for YEARS to establish and fund an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, but they continue to refuse. Even now, as they are poised to receive \$80 MILLION in federal Covid-relief funding, they will not agree to dedicate ANY of those funds to affordable housing. **This December, the Charleston County Council has an incredible opportunity**

to be generous, and to live into the true values of what the holiday season is all about. Instead, their behavior is more Grinch-like than anything else. It's time for us to come together to **STOP THE GRINCH**. And we won't be able to do this without all of you. It's time for us to use our people power and show up in mass to encourage the Charleston County Council to use the Covid-relief money they are receiving to give the gift of affordable housing to so many in our community who are struggling to make ends meet! **So please join our Housing Committee on Tuesday, December 7 (that's tomorrow!) at the Lonnie Hamilton Building (4045 Bridge View Drive) to show your support for allocating some of the Covid-relief money to an Affordable Housing Trust Fund!**

- 10:30am - Press Conference - [Click here to RSVP!](#)
- 6:30pm - County Council Meeting - Email trev@thedartcenter.org to RSVP

Upcoming Research Opportunities

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- **12/10 @ 2:00pm on Zoom** - Research Visit with MUSC Sustainability Manager, RSVP to lydia@thedartcenter.org

HEALTHCARE

- **12/16 @ 6:30pm on Zoom** - Full Committee Meeting, RSVP to anna@thedartcenter.org
- **12/20 @ 6:30pm on Zoom** - Healthcare Power Mapping Working Group - [Click here to register](#)

EDUCATION

Email raynique@thedartcenter.org for more information.

HOUSING

- **12/7 @ 10:30am, Lonnie Hamilton Building** - Press Conference - Please wear red and/or green! [Click here to register](#)
- **12/7 @ 6:30pm, Lonnie Hamilton Building** - County Council Meeting, RSVP to

treva@thedartcenter.org

TRANSPORTATION

Email anna@thedartcenter.org for more information.

POLICING

Email treva@thedartcenter.org for more information.

Upcoming CAJM Events

- **January and February** - Network Meetings - Contact your Team Leader to see when your congregation's Network Meeting has been scheduled! More information coming soon to the Manna.
- **3/14 @ 7pm** - Rally
- **4/4 @ 7pm** - 10th Annual Nehemiah Action - Bring three people with you!
- **5/16 @ 6:30pm** - Celebration & Investment Drive Kick-Off

Have you submitted your 2021 investment?

If not, you still have time! Contact your CAJM organizer with any questions or invest now by clicking on the button below!

[CLICK HERE TO INVEST!](#)

Find us on social media!

