



United Community  
Housing Coalition



# Annual Membership Dinner

**International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit**

| 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit, MI 48202

**Wednesday, November 9, 2016**

| 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

## Celebrating our 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary!

United Community Housing Coalition  
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(313) 963-3310  
[www.uchcdetroit.org](http://www.uchcdetroit.org)

## About UCHC

The United Community Housing Coalition (UCHC) is a nonprofit comprehensive housing assistance organization, which has provided a variety of housing-related services to Detroit's low-income residents since 1973.

UCHC works with tenants, homesteaders, homeowners and people experiencing homelessness, fighting for everyone's right to have a safe and affordable residence for themselves and their families. Additionally, we advocate alongside housing, religious, civil rights, labor and advocacy organizations to preserve, improve and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income Detroiters.

Because of its long history and significant expertise as a comprehensive housing services provider in Michigan, UCHC is frequently asked to provide advice to other organizations in communities across Southeast Michigan.

All services are provided to income-eligible families and individuals free of charge.

*"Was I always going to be here? No I was not. I was going to be homeless at one time, a taxi driver, truck driver, or any kind of job that would get me a crust of bread. You never know what's going to happen." -- Morgan Freeman*



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## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

- 5:45 p.m. .... Registration Opens & Silent Auction Begins\*
- 6:30 p.m. .... Greeting from Robert Shimkoski Jr., Chair,  
UCHC Board of Directors
- 6:40 p.m. .... Dinner\*\*
- 7:10 p.m. .... Annual Report Ted Phillips, Executive Director, Staff
- 7:30 p.m. .... Break to make final bids on the Silent Auction  
(Closes at 7:40 p.m.)
- 7:40 pm. .... Keynote by Joshua Akers, Assistant Professor  
of Geography and Urban and Regional Studies,  
Department of Social Sciences, University of  
Michigan – Dearborn
- 8:15 p.m. .... Awards, Ted Phillips, Staff
- 8:30 p.m. .... Closing Remarks  
50-50 Raffle Drawing, Collect Board Ballots

**Please pick up your Silent Auction items in the back before you leave!**

\*Thank you to all who made a donation to the Silent Auction and to all staff and volunteers who help organize. A particular thank you to Sharon Lemieux for once again coordinating the Silent Auction.

\*\*We would like to thank Woodward Quality Furniture for their donation of the main courses tonight and Faith Restoration Church, 11941 Harper, Detroit for their donation of the desserts.

Be sure to pick up some helpful literature, purchase a raffle ticket or two, bid on silent auction items, meet new people, and talk with some old friends.

# == 42 and Forward! ==

For several weeks, millions of people have said that they “couldn’t wait until November 9<sup>th</sup>.” We doubted that they were talking about the UCHC 42nd Annual Meeting. But, wouldn’t it have been nice if that had been the reason? As I write, it is not yet November 8<sup>th</sup>. The NY Times has Clinton at about 85% likely to win, but until the votes are in and counted, nothing has been decided. Even beyond the presidency are questions about how the U.S. and Michigan Senate and House will look for next year. If there is a Jim Jones Kool Aid stand here tonight, you will know it did not go well.

While most of us would agree that this is an election year that we are glad to see end, the reality is that the real work is only now beginning. What is needed if the 15%’er pulls off the upset of the century is beyond imagination right now. But, if Clinton wins as expected, there is also no time to relax.

Learning little from the election this year, some have already called for investigations, impeachment, and permanently blocking any appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court. So much for letting the voters decide. Will the next four years be gridlock at the national level or compromise for the sake of “doing something”, that is worse than doing nothing? Those should not be the only options, but far too often they have been. There is a need for progressives to fight the radical right agenda, but there is also a need to push Clinton and others to not cave. The roots of modern day homelessness can be traced to the “Welfare Reform” legislation President Clinton and Speaker Gingrich reached in a compromise in the ‘90s. It has since been something they both proudly tout. Sadly, welfare deform was not the only compromise that left lasting impacts on the poor.

Beyond the national agenda there remain many local issues. Next year we will face 52,000 tax foreclosures. Legislation languishes

in committee in Lansing to extend the interest rate reduction law and to allow for the poverty tax exemption to be retroactive. Both measures could save thousands of homes. A new team in the Wayne County Treasurer's office likewise could take action, or not, to save thousands of homes. Which route will they take? The Detroit Land Bank Authority still owns nearly 25% percent of the entire city. Will it finally take steps to make more of its inventory available to potential homeowners? In UCHC's tax work, we encountered hundreds of persons with water shut-offs or pending shut-offs that could not get service because they lived in tax foreclosed homes. If forced to move, many of these homes would be vandalized and destroyed and of no benefit to anyone. Some with multiple months without water still have no resolution in sight. And, I could go on.

The point is that while we collectively fight at a national and state level to improve conditions for our city and our neighborhoods, there is much we need to do right here, right now. As we celebrate our 42<sup>nd</sup> year tonight, we do so knowing that the work we do is not done and is more needed than ever. Thank you for your support to continue the fight.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ted Phillips  
Executive Director

# UHC Accomplishments FY 2016

August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016

## #Households Served

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Landlord-Tenant counseling/eviction prevention (court rep.) .....            | 924           |
| Landlord-Tenant counseling/eviction prevention (non-court).....              | 934           |
| Tenant Organizing assistance provided.....                                   | 992           |
| Housing Placement cases closed ( <b>persons</b> ) .....                      | 1,574         |
| HP counseling/relocation assistance for the homeless .....                   | *940          |
| HP counseling/relocation assistance for the homeless ( <b>persons</b> )..... | 2,305         |
| Case Management ( <b>persons</b> ) .....                                     | 1,971         |
| Budget Counseling/Money Management ( <b>persons</b> ) .....                  | 1,971         |
| Mortgage Foreclosure counseling/foreclosure prevention.....                  | 227           |
| Homes purchased (Mortgage & Tax Foreclosure buybacks and auction)            | 221           |
| Tax Foreclosure prevention assistance .....                                  | *4,124        |
| Tax Foreclosure information distributed.....                                 | 25,208        |
| Tax Foreclosure workshops held .....   | 47            |
| Tax Foreclosure workshop attendance .....                                    | *10,579       |
| Financial Assistance to tenants and homeless.....                            | *550          |
| Financial Assistance to tenants and homeless (funds) .....                   | \$395,321     |
| Amount of funds loaned.....  | \$963,131     |
| <b>Total households served.....</b>  | <b>*8,912</b> |
| <b>Total persons served .....</b>  | <b>20,052</b> |

The above numbers do not include our current fiscal year's work with our tax foreclosure program in which 128 homes were purchased for the occupants to bring the total since October 2010 to over 2,100 homes purchased for homeowners or the occupants of tax foreclosed homes.

\*Some households received more than one service.

## How You Can Help...

A **tax deductible donation** of any amount is always appreciated. Donations can be for operational support or specifically designed for a particular project. For more information on making a donation, or to discuss how your donation could be used, please contact us at [supportus@uchcdetroit.org](mailto:supportus@uchcdetroit.org) or visit [www.uchcdetroit.org](http://www.uchcdetroit.org).

Also, please keep UHC in mind during the upcoming holidays. Our annual **family gift bags and food baskets** will go out to many client families again this year. We need donations to fill those baskets with items like non-perishable foods or grocery store certificates. We will also need volunteers to help wrap presents.



# 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting

## 2016 Board of Directors

Robert Shimkoski Jr., Chairman  
Cassandra Walker, Vice Chair  
Beverly Lemle', Treasurer  
Latanya Harris, Secretary

Michelle Fallena  
Cristina Guzman  
Linda Hatcher  
Theresa Johnson  
Henry Lewis  
Willie Smith

## UCHC Staff

Karen Allison, Target Homes Project Counselor... Denis Booker, Contract Teacher... Beverly Ealy, Deputy Director... William Halbower, Attorney... Jamilia Harnois, ESG Project Coordinator, PSH Project Counselor... Sarah Hoerl, Data Management Supervisor... Tammy Howze, Attorney... Mia Jones, Mortgage and Tax Counselor... Barbara Katzman, Attorney... Wanda Knight-Wilson, Target Homes Project Counselor... Matt Larson, Paralegal... Elisabeth Lawlis, Data Specialist... Sharon Lemieux, Tax Counselor... Gabby Marcum, Jesuit Volunteer, Paralegal... Karen McLeod, PSH Coordinator... Michele Oberholtzer, Tax Foreclosure Prevention Project Coordinator... Ted Phillips, Executive Director, Attorney... Claudia Sanford, Tenant Organizing, VISTA Project Coordinator... Karen Smoot-Grace, Target Homes Project Counselor... Charlene Snow, Attorney... Kim Stroud, Mortgage Foreclosure Project Coordinator... Derreck Tagger, Job Developer, Construction Trade Specialist... Jewell Terrell, Receptionist... Ernest Thompson, Supportive Services Coordinator... Jolayne Thompson, Finance Director... Johnny Washington, PSH Project Counselor... Clarice Werdlow, Housing Placement Supervisor, Target Homes Coordinator

# A Sincere Thank You To Our Funders!

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Kids matter here



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Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
Helping neighbors build communities



THE  
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United Way  
for Southeastern Michigan



HOMELESS ACTION NETWORK OF DETROIT



And heartfelt thanks to our donors for their continued support!



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UCHC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions to UCHC are tax deductible with the exception of the value of any dinners or memberships purchased.