



Westside
Future Fund

Transform Westside Summit

Convene | Communicate | Collaborate

Westside Future Fund
Friday, September 4, 2020

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Westside
Future Fund

VISION

A community Dr. King would be proud to call home.

MISSION

To advance a compassionate approach to neighborhood revitalization that creates a diverse, mixed-income community, improves the quality of life for current and future residents and elevates the Historic Westside's unique history and culture.

VALUES

Do with the Community, not to the Community

We know that residents are the real experts on the challenges in their community. Therefore, we learn from residents and involve them in all we do.

Be Compassionate

We meet residents where they are in a spirit of empathy and respect.

Have Integrity in Everything

We stand behind all we say and do. We are open, honest, and courageous.

Be Creative

We bring high energy and fresh ideas to tackling the long-standing challenges on the Westside. We're dedicated to trying different approaches to get different results.

Deliver Results

We're committed to driving transformation in the long term, with a focus on measurable outcomes today.

2020
Board
of
Directors



Beverly Tatum
*Board Chair,
President Emerita,
Spelman College*



Peter Muniz
*Board Vice-Chair
Vice President and Deputy
General Counsel,
The Home Depot*



**Reverend Kenneth
Alexander**
*Pastor,
Antioch Baptist Church North*



Michael Bond
*Atlanta City Council
Post 1 At-Large*



Rodney Bullard
*Vice President of
Community Affairs and
Executive Director,
The Chick-fil-A
Foundation*



Mark Chancy
*Retired Corporate
Executive Vice
President
of Wholesale Banking,
SunTrust, Inc.*



Kathleen S. Farrell
*Executive Vice President
Commercial Real Estate
Line of Business
Truist, Inc.*



John Gamble
*Chief Financial
Officer,
Equifax*



Jim Grien
*President & CEO,
TM Capital*



Dan Halpern
*Chairman & CEO,
Jackmont Hospitality,
Inc.*



**Shawntel
Hebert**
*Partner,
Taylor English*



Virginia Hepner
*Retired,
CEO Woodruff Arts
Center/Wachovia Bank*



Tommy Holder
*Chairman & CEO,
Holder Construction
Company*



Derrick Jordan
*Senior Project Leader,
National Church
Residences*



Wonya Lucas
*President and CEO,
Public Broadcasting
Atlanta*



Penny McPhee
*President,
The Arthur M. Blank
Family Foundation*



Helen Smith Price
*President,
The Coca-Cola Foundation
and Vice President of Global
Community Affairs for The
Coca-Cola Company*



**Valerie
Montgomery Rice**
*President and Dean,
Morehouse School of
Medicine*



AJ Robinson
*President,
Central Atlanta
Progress*



Sylvia Russell
*Retired President,
AT&T Georgia*



Dave Stockert
*Retired CEO,
Post Properties*



Beverly Thomas
*Vice President of
Communications and
Public Affairs,
Kaiser Permanente*



Nicole Yesbik
*Principal
PricewaterhouseCoopers*

EX-OFFICIO
MEMBERS



Shan Cooper
*Executive Director,
Atlanta Committee
for Progress*



**Eugene
Jones, Jr.**
*President & CEO,
Atlanta Housing*



**Dr. Eloisa
Klementich**
*President & CEO,
Invest Atlanta*



Terri M. Lee
*Chief Housing Officer,
City of Atlanta*

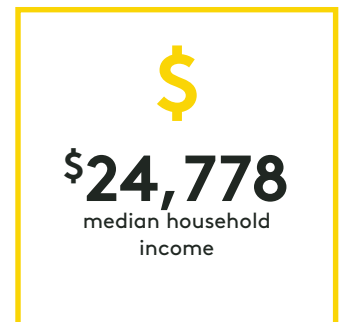
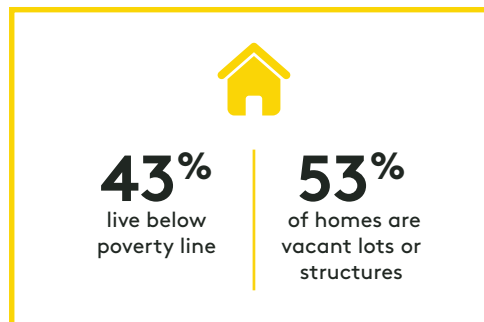
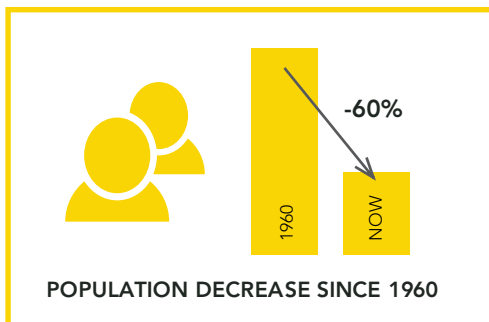


Westside Future Fund

CREATING A NEW WESTSIDE FUTURE

Westside Future Fund (WFF) is a nonprofit formed by Atlanta's public, private and philanthropic partners who believe in the future of Atlanta's Westside and are committed to helping Historic Westside neighborhoods revitalize and develop into a community Dr. King would be proud to call home

English Avenue • Vine City • Ashview Heights* • Atlanta University Center



Role of the Westside Future Fund

With an emphasis on community retention and a compassionate approach to revitalization, Westside Future Fund is focused on creating a diverse mixed-income community, improving quality of life, and elevating and celebrating the Historic Westside's unique history and culture.

Impact Areas

Westside Future Fund's holistic, partner-driven model is proving successful. Through our roles as participator, amplifier, convener, strategist and accelerator, WFF is delivering results in our four impact strategies.



SAFETY
& SECURITY



COMMUNITY HEALTH
& WELLNESS



MIXED-INCOME
COMMUNITIES



CRADLE-TO-CAREER
EDUCATION

* Includes Just Us and Historic Booker T. Washington



HOME ON THE WESTSIDE

Investing in a New Westside Future

- Westside Future Fund is deeply committed to community retention
- We created Home on the Westside as a signature initiative in partnership with Mayor Bottoms to drive equitable and inclusive redevelopment in the Historic westside neighborhoods
- WFF's community retention guidelines prioritize individuals and families with ties to WFF's historic neighborhoods to be first in line for housing opportunities and do not discriminate based on income

Using these guidelines, Home on the Westside prioritizes Westside legacy residents by providing high quality, permanently affordable housing opportunities

- Providing renters housing they can afford as area rents continue to rise
 - Renters should not have to pay more than 30% of their gross income on rent
- Enabling homeownership with financial coaching and counseling
- Constructing and renovating new single-family homes, available for purchase and for lease-to-purchase, supported by down payment assistance
- Covering increases in property taxes for qualified legacy homeowners

If you are interested in housing opportunities through Home on the Westside, start by completing an interest form.

REGISTER NOW



Westside
Future Fund

P.O. Box 92273, Atlanta, GA 30314
(404) 793-2670
WestsideFutureFund.org



@westsidefuturefund



@WFFAtlanta

A Dedicated Team



John Ahmann
President and CEO



Jaren Abedania
VP of Real Estate



Rachel Carey
VP of Project
Financing



Brenda Dalton
Chief Operating
Officer



Sonia Dawson
Special Assistant to
the President & CEO



Lee Harrop
VP of Real Estate
Development



Amy Hoilman
Manager of
Accounting



Raquel Hudson
Director of Westside
Volunteer Corps



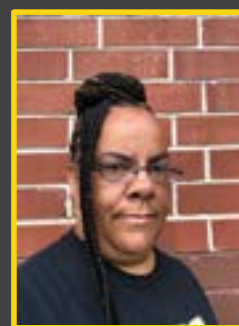
Deidre Strickland
Development
Manager



Joan Vernon
Director of Neighborhood
Engagement



Christal Walker
Staff Accountant



Robyn Washington
Development
Coordinator



Elizabeth Wilkes
Program
Coordinator



Cristel Williams
Chief Development
Officer



Agenda

7:15AM – 7:30AM

Welcome

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

7:30AM – 7:45AM

Opening Devotion

Taylor Meredith
Founder & CEO
TMPAV
Assistant Pastor
Tabernacle Baptist Church

7:45AM – 8:30AM

**LIVE PANEL:
Perspectives on
Remote Learning**

Dr. Diamond Ford
Principal
Michael R. Hollis Innovation Academy

*Hosted at the
Russell Center for
Entrepreneurship and
Innovation (RCIE)*

Wykeisha Howe
Vice President
Hollis Innovation Academy PTA

Sherry Bellille
Co-Founder
Parent Avengers

*Also featuring
The At-Promise Center*

Jordan Smith
Student
Booker T. Washington High School

Benjamin Earley
Storyteller and Senior Consultant
Redclay-Hill

8:30AM – 8:45AM

Q&A

*All viewers can submit questions via
social media channels.*

*Questions will be welcomed for the
duration of the program.*

8:45AM – 8:55AM

UPDATES featuring

Westside Future Fund's
Home on the Westside

Lashaune Rogers
Case Manager
@Promise Center

8:55AM

Closing Remarks

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

9:00AM

Summit Adjourns



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@WFFAtlanta



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Our Featured Participants

John Ahmann

President & CEO, Westside Future Fund

For more than 25 years, John Ahmann has been driven by the determination to improve the way communities and institutions function in Atlanta. From his early days working in Washington, D.C. to his positions with private, governmental, and organizational entities in the Atlanta area — including his eight years as an elected school board official in Decatur — he has focused his energy on solving the big problems whose resolutions can ultimately change Atlanta's trajectory. He has worked primarily behind the scenes, bringing together diverse stakeholders and managing initiatives through to fruition, and has had a hand in some of the region's most important public policy initiatives and cross-sector collaborations. Along the way, John has built a vast network of individuals who are impacting Atlanta and its future.

John is a native son. He was born at Grady Hospital in Atlanta in 1965, was one of Paideia School's first graduates in 1983, and earned his BA in Political Science from Emory University in 1987. After having moved to Washington, D.C. and worked for Representative Pat Williams of Montana and then Congressman Ben Jones of Georgia, he entered Yale School of Public Private Management in 1991 and graduated with seven letters of recognition in 1993.

Within months after returning to Atlanta, John was hired by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games as the Program Coordinator of Government Relations. He was soon promoted to Manager of Federal and State Government Relations where he worked with officials from four federal government offices, including the White House. Following the 1996 Olympic Games, John worked at Edington & Wade, a public affairs firm, and then Georgia's Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism (GDITT, now the Department of Economic Development), where he led and managed strategic planning teams. From there he moved into GDITT's newly created position of Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Research.

In 2000, John was hired by the Metro Atlanta Chamber to serve as its Senior Vice President of Community Development. There he oversaw the Chamber's initiatives regarding transportation, education, arts and culture, the environment, and legislative affairs. In 2003, John bought the majority interest in a local public affairs firm, and in 2006 he established Ahmann, Inc. While in private practice in 2004, John began his engagement as the outsourced Executive Director of the Atlanta Committee for Progress (ACP), a group of top CEOs and university presidents that advises and supports the mayor on priorities critical to Atlanta's economic vitality. While with ACP, he was heavily involved in launching the Atlanta Beltline, the acquisition of the Martin Luther King Jr. Personal Collection, the 2015 Renew Atlanta Bond Program, and ACP's Westside Redevelopment Task Force that lead to the launch of the Westside Future Fund. John is currently the President & CEO of the Westside Future Fund.

John has also been an elected public servant. He won his race for the City Schools of Decatur Board of Education in 2003, was re-elected in 2007 without opposition, and served until 2011. John was the first Paideia School alumni invited to join the Paideia School's Board of Trustees where he served for four years.

John's unwavering commitment to Atlanta and deep knowledge of specific areas such as education, economic development, infrastructure and local fiscal policy make him a unique presence in Atlanta's change landscape. He is honored to serve the board of Westside Future Fund as its President & CEO.

Our Featured Participants

Taylor Meredith

Assistant Pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church and Founder, TMPAV

Taylor Meredith is the Assistant Pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church under the leadership of his father Bishop Dennis A. Meredith. He was born in Alabama and lived in Oakland, California until the age of thirteen before moving to Georgia. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Georgia State University in Music Technology with a Minor in Religion. He studied an additional year of Religious Studies at Georgia State. After Georgia State, Taylor attended Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC). After one year, he left to pursue his dream of creating his own AV company. Taylor created Taylor Made Productions Audio Visual (TMPAV) which is an all-inclusive, full service multimedia production agency and has been operating it for over 17 years.

He is married (wife-Janelle) and is a father of three sons (Joshua Micah, Joseph Eli, and Noah Taylor).



Dr. Diamond Ford

Principal, Michael R. Hollis Innovation Academy

Dr. Diamond Ford is going on five years as Principal of Michael R. Hollis Innovation Academy. A native of Atlanta and proud product of the Atlanta Public Schools System, Dr. Ford is a passionate and dedicated educator committed to growing and transforming schools that are designed to close the achievement and opportunity gap. She has served in the field of education for 18 years as a teacher, instructional coach, and principal. Dr. Ford has successfully created an environment for students that nurtures their creativity, supports their social-emotional development, encourages engagement and meaningful connections with their families, and fills academic gaps. Among numerous honors, Dr. Ford was named as one of Atlanta Business League's 100 Black Women of Influence in 2017, awarded "2016-2017 Stellar Principal of the Year" by Atlanta Public School Leadership and was a finalist for EL Education's prestigious 2019-2020 Silverberg Leadership Award. Dr. Ford has participated as a panelist/speaker on multiple education platforms, including UNCF Educational Panel, NAACP Educational Panel, Author David Osborne's Book Preview, EL Education National Conference and Georgia Coalition for Public Education.

Our Featured Participants

Wykeisha Howe

Parent Advocate; Vice President, Hollis Innovation Academy PTA; Member, Hollis GO Team

Wykeisha Howe is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. She was born and raised on the Westside of Atlanta, where she was raised by her aunts and grandmother right along with 14 of her other siblings. They all attended Atlanta Public Schools. Wykeisha attended Booker T. Washington High School.

While continuing her education, Wykeisha started her family at an early age. As a young mother, she faced a multitude of issues and challenges. However, Howe persevered and obtained her high school diploma. She continued her education at Purdue University, where she completed a bachelor's degree in Human Services and a small business.

Wykeisha began advocating for education when her third son was born and later diagnosed with autism. She started by educating herself about autism, which led to further investigation of special education within the public school system. As she learned more and more about special education, she thought to herself, what about all the other children and their education as well? She started taking the necessary steps and actions to become more involved in the entire school. Wykeisha's mind was on a level of education that the educational system was not ready for.

She started her journey by joining the PTA at her children's school. As time went on, she became PTA president and led the PTA for two years. One day, Wykeisha thought to herself, education is for all children and sought to broaden her volunteer service. Soon, she became Vice President of the Hollis Innovation Academy PTA team & joined the District 10 PTA team. Wykeisha has also served on the GO Team at her children's school for over 3 years. While maneuvering her way through the school system, she learned that the school score was in the 40s. Howe says that the score was unacceptable. As a result of her pushing to ensure that all children had the best education possible, the school score increased to 72.7.

Wykeisha participates in the "Safe Routes to School" program. She now regularly attends meetings at Atlanta City Hall to stay informed about street safety for school age children. She also engages in parent advocacy to teach parents that "your voice is your children's voice." Wykeisha continues to help the community by being a voice for our children. She states, "They are our future leaders and we have to lead them to the right path. If we as a community don't stand behind them and support them, then who will?"

Sherry Bellille

Co-Founder, Parent Avengers

Sherry Bellille is co-founder of the homegrown startup parent group, Parent Avengers, a community-based program founded in Vine City for the Washington Cluster Schools that breaks the cycle of poverty by connecting parents to resources. Parent Avengers believe in triaging the whole parent so they can be successful to sustain themselves in the Westside community. They help parents overcome barriers such as lack of stable housing (affordable housing, homelessness, uninhabitable housing); food insecurity; employment barriers including unemployment and under-employment; lack of education; lack of quality health-care and lack of childcare.

Parent Avengers believe in making the Powerless Parent Powerful so they can become

Our Featured Participants

game changers for their Westside communities. As a parent's situation improves, they are encouraged to reach back and help solve issues in their community. Parent Avengers currently works with parents at Hollis Innovation Academy and Booker T Washington High School. We Say Avenge!!

Ms. Bellille is a survivor of Hurricane Hugo, an experience that affected her deeply. It instilled her a deep passion for helping her community, along with respect, compassion and love for differences in people. Her experience from Hurricane Hugo also taught her that these qualities along with hard work and breaking bread with neighbors can help rebuild, reinvent and unite a community.

Ms. Bellille is a culturally involved parent with a strong commitment to community service. In 2019, she was recognized with the Mercedes-Benz Greatness Lives Here Volunteer Award. Her numerous community leadership roles include: organizer for the Atlanta Caribbean Folk Festival, Inc, also known as Peach Carnival, one of the biggest Festival in Atlanta; Caribbean American Arts Cultural Liaison; Hurricane Irma/Maria Atlanta Disaster Relief and Preparedness Food Distribution/Evacuee Support; Caribbean Captains of the Industry hand mask designer; Hollis Innovation Academy GO Teams 2017-2018, Vice-Chair 2019-2020; Hollis Food Pantry Volunteer; National Mentoring Cares Mentoring Movement-Parent University Graduate; PTA President/Secretary Bethune Elementary; Community Mediator People Relations; and Co-Chair of the Westside Education Collaborative Family and Community Engagement.

A 25-year resident of Vine City, Ms. Bellille is a mother of four children, one daughter (London) and three sons (Tokyo, Jordan, Thailand). She is an island girl and global sister from the U.S. Virgin Islands, St. Thomas (Where No Passport is Needed!). Over the past decade, she has worked as a waitress at the Waffle House store 1726.



Benjamin Earley

Storyteller and Senior Consultant, Redclay-Hill.

Benjamin Earley is a web developer, creative writer, and musician born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, where he continues to call the Westside home. He holds two certificates from Berklee College of Music for Music Business and General Music Studies.

In addition to pursuing his passion for songwriting and music production, Benjamin also builds websites and web-based solutions for clients as an independent contractor with Redclay-Hill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCES

MEALS FOR APS STUDENTS

- Starting August 24 – the first day of school – APS meals will only be distributed to APS students. All APS families must pre-order meals for each week through the [MySchool-Bucks online pre-order system](#). Those orders must be placed no later than one week before distribution. For example, for the five-day meal bag on Monday, September 7, your order must be placed no later than Monday, August 31. Once in the pre-order system, you can select whether you will pick up the meals at one of the 12 school distribution sites listed above or if your meals should be delivered via one of the middle school bus routes identified. [All Washington Cluster schools](#) are participating in a School Lunch and Breakfast program that provides ALL students in those schools with free breakfast and lunch.

COMPUTERS AND WIFI FOR STUDENTS

- Atlanta Public Schools (APS) has partnered with Comcast to launch the Get Our Kids Connected campaign to support thousands of students attending APS who do not have an internet connection and/or appropriate equipment in their home. This creates a significant disadvantage to academic progress for our children.
- Eligible students will receive 12 months of free high-speed internet and/or a free laptop that they can keep forever. If you know an APS student who needs internet service or a laptop, please complete an intake form at <https://tinyurl.com/GOKCform>. Eligible families will be contacted directly with next steps. To learn more, please email getourkidsconnected@apsk12.org or call 404 802 KIDS (5437).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Atlanta Public Schools has partnered with The Empty Stocking Fund to provide backpacks containing essential school supplies. If you are in need of school supplies to get the school year started, please visit <https://www.emptystockingfund.org/aps-backpack-request-2020/>



Do you know, own, or love a business on the Westside?

Support Westside Business Awareness

To join the Westside Business Directory or participate in an upcoming community market:

email Joan@westsidefuturefund.org with the subject line **ATTN: Westside Business**



presents the fourth edition of the Atlanta Startup Ecosystem Guide

The Guide features influential organizations, spaces, schools, funding, and more. You will also find an extensive list of notable names that contribute greatly to the success of the startup community in Atlanta and get a more extensive look at local innovation centers in the region, including those on the Westside.

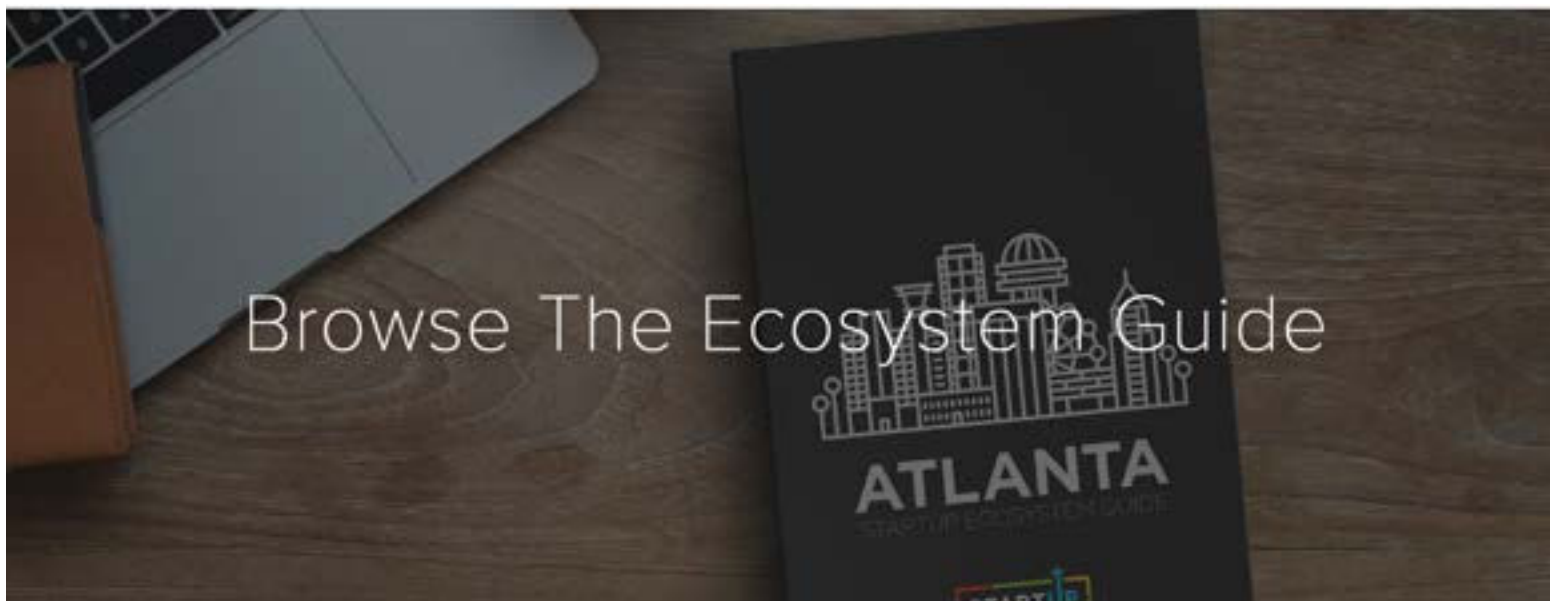
Entrepreneurial and innovation programs at educational institutions such as those in the Atlanta University Center and Atlanta Technical College and South Metro Atlanta's UGA Griffin campus appear in the Guide. The Russell Center for Innovation and Entrepre-

neurship, Hatch: Chick-Fil-A's Innovation and Learning Center, Fayette County's Startup Fayette, and the Bronner Business Institute in Austell are among the many startup and innovation resources listed in the Guide.

As a community non-profit focused on connecting, curating and promoting the region's startup ecosystem, Startup Atlanta recognizes the current challenges for business due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. Our hope is that this year's guide will prove useful to the entrepreneurs, innovators and investors pivoting during these unprecedented times.

Download/View the Guide Here:

<http://www.startupatlanta.com/2020-ecosystem-guide>



FREE COVID-19 TESTING

**Tuesday, Sept. 1 & Thursday, Sept. 3,
10am-4pm**

Antioch Baptist Ministries

540 Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard,
Atlanta, GA 30318

*(parking lot adjacent to Antioch
Baptist Church North)*



**Monday, Aug. 31 & Friday, Sept. 4,
8am-2pm**

Mount Moriah Baptist Church

200 Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard,
Atlanta, GA 30314

No Appointment Needed

No ID Required

Confidential

Get more testing information at:

[https://www.fultoncountygga.gov/
covid-19/covid-testing-sites](https://www.fultoncountygga.gov/covid-19/covid-testing-sites)



Good Samaritan Health Center and CVSHealth are offering free rapid COVID-19 testing with results in 20 minutes by appointment only.

Call **404-523-6571** to schedule.

Good Sam is located at 1015 Donald Lee Hollowell Pkwy, Atlanta, GA.

Visit <https://goodsamatlanta.org/COVID-19> for more info.

On behalf of the Westside Collective Effort,
Westside Future Fund is maintaining an information
and resources webpage with relevant
resources to benefit the neighborhoods we serve.
<https://www.westsidefuturefund.org/covid-19-info/>

City of Atlanta launches program to provide rental assistance during pandemic

REPORTED BY WSBTV.COM NEWS STAFF

ATLANTA — Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced Thursday that the city has allocated \$22 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to help keep renters in their homes.

Administered by the United Way of Greater Atlanta, the program will provide rental, utility or security deposit assistance to more than 6,700 City of Atlanta residents.

Renters who have experienced a loss of income because of the pandemic will be able to get help paying past due rent, utilities or security deposits for a maximum of \$3,000 per household.

"Access to safe, affordable and livable housing is one of our Administration's top priorities," said Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms. "Beyond the pressing challenges of COVID-19, we aim to ensure that every resident who wants to live in Atlanta is able to do so with dignity. Thank you to United Way of Greater Atlanta for being a partner in providing housing stability to residents as we navigate this now normal."

As many as 16,000 households in the City of Atlanta make under \$50,000 and are employed in jobs that are at high risk for layoffs from COVID-19, according to officials from United Way.

Renters can apply by visiting www.unitedway.org, texting C19-ERA to 898-211 or calling 211.



United Way of
Greater Atlanta



Call the Westside COVID-19 Helpline at:

404-430-8180

If you or someone you know tests positive for COVID-19, give us a call for any of the following:

- Help with getting food
- Assistance with seeking employment, counseling or housing
- Understanding your COVID-19 test results
- Tips to protect you and your family
- Ways to prevent the spread
- Monitoring your symptoms
- When to seek medical attention
- Help with getting medications
- Assistance with connecting to other helpful resources.

**Do you need a doctor or have other health related questions?
Text Westside to 51555 to connect
to a provider by phone for free.**

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Call 404- 430- 8180

Westside Connect Help Line



One number to get the help
you need: Food, Housing,
Counseling, Employment,
Education, Health Care,
COVID-19 Testing

Feeling lonely, lost, stressed,
anxious or down?

Need help managing your
health condition?

Call 404- 430- 8180 today!

**Need a
Doctor?**

**Text: Westside
to 51555**

CHRIS180 

Changing Directions.
Changing Lives.

CHRIS180.ORG



Shape the future for your family.

Every 10 years, the census counts everyone living in the United States. It is important to count every person living in your home to make sure your community and others across the nation are accurately funded and represented for the next decade.

Count everyone, from grandpa to the new baby.

No matter who lives in your home, be sure to count them all in the 2020 Census. This includes grandparents, young children, foster children, and nonrelatives who are living with you. Information collected in the census will inform the allocation of more than \$675 billion in federal funding each year. That includes money for things like:

- > First responders
- > School meals
- > Medicare and Medicaid
- > Adoption assistance
- > Food assistance programs
- > Libraries and community centers

Your response is safe.

Your personal information is kept confidential by law. Your responses can be used only for statistical purposes. They cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits.

Your family can help you respond.

The online census form is available in English and 12 additional languages. If you do not speak one of those languages, someone else in your home can complete the form for everyone in your home. If the adults in your home do not speak one of these languages, someone can translate for you. This includes a child in your home or a friend.

For more information, visit:

2020CENSUS.GOV

D-OP-GP-EN-420

**Shape
your future
START HERE >**

**United States[®]
Census
2020**

BE COUNTED!

HONOR THEIR LEGACIES

FILL OUT THE CENSUS



VOTER ONE STOP



**FIND AN EARLY
VOTING SITE**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



SAMPLE BALLOTS

[LEARN MORE >](#)



**GEORGIA MY VOTER
PAGE**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



**REQUEST AN
ABSENTEE BALLOT**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



**FIND ABSENTEE
BALLOT DROP
BOXES**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



**VOTER
REGISTRATION**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



**FIND MY ELECTION
DAY POLLING SITE**

[LEARN MORE >](#)



JOHN LEWIS: GOOD TROUBLE

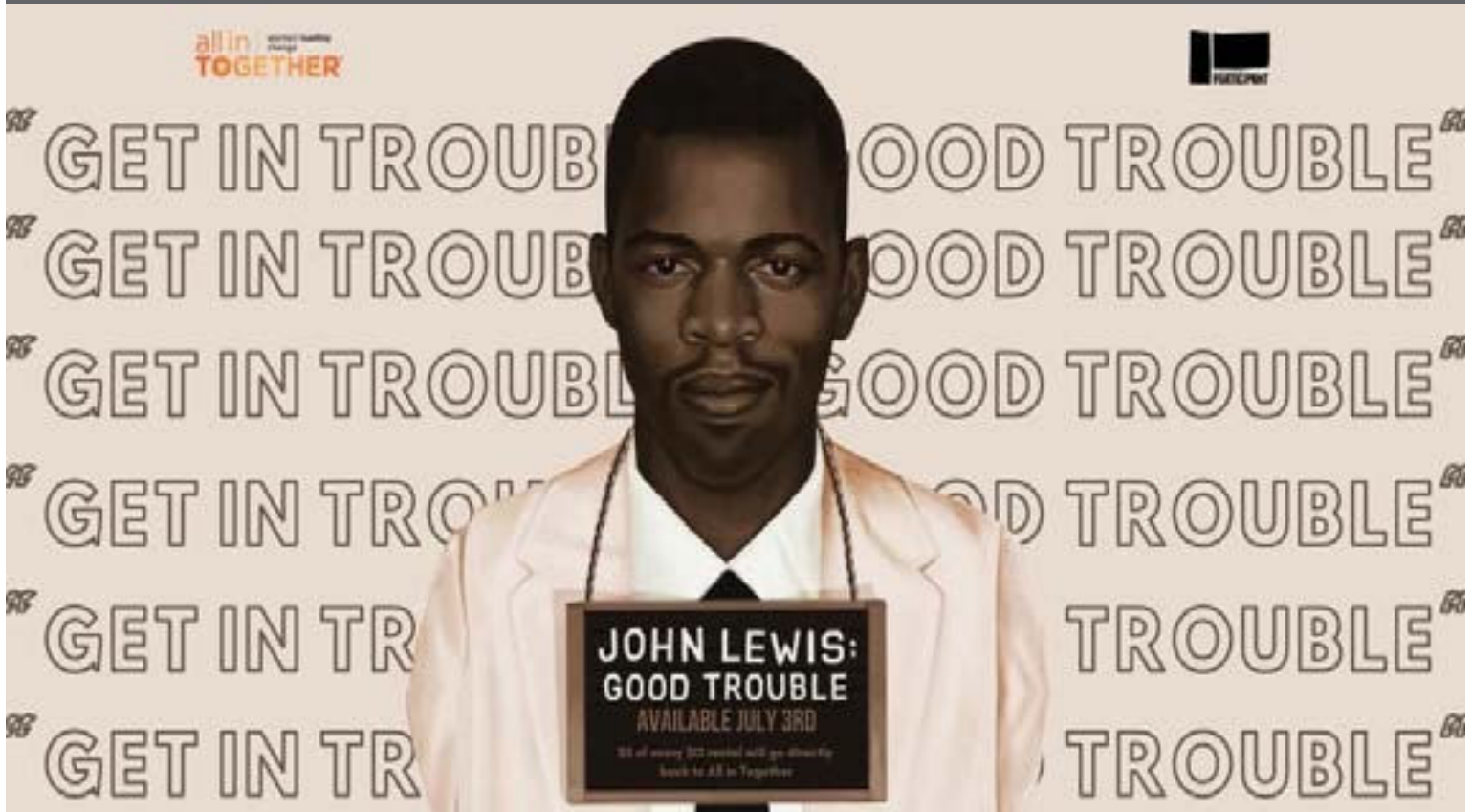
V I R T U A L C I N E M A

View this riveting documentary by
purchasing access [via this link >>](https://watch.eventive.org/johnlewisplay/5f22fa74dc6001007d416bb6/5ec4280bf7a59e003e81f28a)

<https://watch.eventive.org/johnlewisplay/5f22fa74dc6001007d416bb6/5ec4280bf7a59e003e81f28a>

PROCEEDS WILL BOTH

- ✓ **benefit** Westside Future Fund **AND**
- ✓ grant access to a **special Q&A** with producers
Dawn Porter and Erika Alexander



RUN TIME: 1 HR 36 MIN
RATED PG



DIRECTOR | Dawn Porter
PRODUCERS | Laura Michalchyshyn,
Dawn Porter, Erika Alexander and Ben Arnon



PRODUCER BIOS

EXCLUSIVE PRODUCER INTERVIEWS

INCLUDED WITH VIEW ACCESS

E R I K A A L E X A N D E R

Erika Alexander is beloved for the iconic acting roles of Maxine Shaw (*Living Single*), Detective Latoya (*Get Out*), Perenna (*Black Lightning*), and Linda Diggs (*Wutang: An American Saga*). Erika wears many hats, including actress, trailblazing activist, entrepreneur, creator, producer, and director -- an all-around boss. As Co-Founder of Color Farm Media and Board Member of VoteRunLead and One Fair Wage, Erika is on a mission to bring greater equity, inclusion, and diverse representation to both media, technology, and electoral politics.

Erika's company, Color Farm Media, develops and produces scripted and non-scripted content for film, television, streaming, and podcast platforms. Color Farm's latest film release is *John Lewis: Good Trouble*, a documentary about the legendary Congressman and civil rights icon, distributed by Magnolia Pictures, Participant, and CNN Films. Color Farm is also currently producing two podcasts with Spotify and has several scripted film and television projects in development. The company previously set up an untitled horror/thriller film, written by Erika, at Lionsgate Entertainment. Additionally, Erika is co-writer of the *Buffy* spin-off, *Giles*, a graphic novel collaboration with Joss Whedon and Dark Horse. Erika also collaborated on Dark Horse's award-winning, ground-breaking sci-fi series, *Concrete Park*. She is currently co-directing a documentary film about reparations and racial equity with filmmaker Whitney Dow.

D A W N P O R T E R

Dawn Porter is an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose work has appeared on HBO, PBS, Discovery, and Netflix among others. She is currently directing and executive producing an Apple TV multi-part documentary series with Oprah Winfrey and Prince Harry, which focuses on both mental illness and mental well-being.

Other current projects include the documentary *Vernon Jordan: Make It Plain* which explores Vernon Jordan's rise from the segregated South to become one of the most influential African American thought leaders in America; *John Lewis: Good Trouble* for CNN Films, which explores late Congressman John Lewis' pivotal role in the Civil Rights movement and decades of political and social activism on important issues including voting rights, immigration laws, and much more; and an untitled documentary project about Photojournalist Pete Souza, who served as Chief Official White House photographer for President Barack Obama and previously as an Official White House photographer for President Ronald Reagan.

Dawn also directed and produced the acclaimed four-hour Netflix original series *Bobby Kennedy for President*, which was released in 2018 and premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival.

A two-time Sundance festival Director, her film *Trapped* which explored laws regulating abortion clinics in the South won the special jury social-impact prize at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival, in addition to a Peabody and numerous other awards.

Dawn has been commissioned to create films for the Center for Investigative Reporting, Time and Essence Magazines, The New York Times Op Docs, and Amazon. Her work has received generous support from the MacArthur Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, Tribeca Film Institute, Sundance Film Institute, Chicken & Egg Pictures and other esteemed organizations. She is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Television Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Directors Guild of America.

VIEWPOINT: Fulfilling our vision of the beloved community

By D. Makeda Johnson | First published in the Atlanta Business Chronicle May 5, 2017

Gentrification of urban American cities is a complex phenomenon with social, political and economic implications.

It represents a double-edged sword with both opportunities and challenges. The infusion of higher-income individuals into urban centers generates increased renewal investments in formerly neglected and abandoned blighted communities. It provides needed revenue to local municipalities to meet the expense of much-needed infrastructure and service delivery improvements. Unfortunately, gentrification and displacement are manifesting as symptoms nationally as the urban center across our nation thrives to attract upper-middle-income families while displacing current residents with increasing housing costs that exclude the working poor and altering the cultural and historical fabric of urban America cities.

Gentrification can be managed and provide an opportunity for Atlanta, Georgia, to honor its most noted son and drum major for social justice: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Atlanta can once again shine as an urban American city "Too Busy to Hate." We can redefine the G word. We are in a moment of opportunity for the creation of the "Beloved Community," a community of racial and economic diversity.

But it will not just happen, it must be intentionally developed. It is simple, but requires authentic partnership between community, political and private stakeholders committed to the possibility of the "Beloved Community." It will require a resident retention plan that prevents forced displacement, inclusionary affordable housing policy that supports mixed income and racial diversity by acknowledging the area median income, and a tax abatement program to protect vulnerable home and business owners.

The Historic Westside Community is poised with the opportunity to manifest not forced displacement, but demonstrate how to align urban transformation with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of "The Beloved Community." A community where justice and equality is the order of the day; an authentic mixed community where all can live, change and grow without the destruction of the Historic Westside Community's cultural integrity.

To accomplish the building of the Beloved Community, trust must be established requiring a shift

from traditional transactional approaches to community redevelopment. We had declared that our approach will be transformative and centered on the development of human capital. This innovative transformative approach to community development is no easy task. It requires that both residents, stakeholders and service providers rethink and reset traditional mindsets associated with poverty that fails to see and value the many assets within communities and design programs that empower residents with the skills and resources to be a part of the solution with equality and equity.

This writer loves living and working within the Historic Westside Community. Having chosen to call it home for nearly three decades, I proudly celebrate the beauty of community. We are a very resilient community that has, in spite of many challenges, continued to make contributions to society, especially as it relates to striving for social justice and an equitable society.

Unfortunately, too often those who seek to serve often overlook the value of relational capacity that exists within community, wealth of knowledge and ability to be a vital asset to achieving transformative sustainable communities.

Envision what could happen as residents and dedicated stakeholders shift their mindsets and reinvent how to renew communities without displacement, where there is the pollination of skills and the capacity to stay in communication even when they are difficult, seeking to establish trust and new ways of engagement that produce the greater good for humanity while creating economically healthy, thriving businesses, well-kept homes, quality affordable housing that is reflective of the earning of the communities' workforce, accessible and affordable healthcare, high-performing educational institutions. In this moment of opportunity, we can be the change that the world is looking for and create the environment that produces productive citizens with economic and social mobility by design. As residents and stakeholders, we will either fulfill or betray the vision of the beloved community based on our actions or inaction. There is a critical need for advocacy on behalf of the often-marginalized long-term residents in gentrifying communities; we have the opportunity to shift that. Where do you stand? I shall continue to strive to be a drum major for justice, equality and inclusion for the establishment of the "Beloved Community."

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