



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NAACP DC OFFERS FREE VIRTUAL TRAININGS ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING, EVICTIONS AND HOMELESSNESS AT HOUSING SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The NAACP DC Branch will offer free virtual trainings and innovative solutions at the *Housing Solutions Summit* on May 12 and May 13, 2021, to expand affordable housing, reduce evictions, address homelessness and create thriving neighborhoods. The Housing Solutions Summit will include a series of virtual educational talks, pre-summit activities and post-summit support offering strategies to address the crisis of affordable housing, evictions and homelessness. Participants will learn how a system-focused approach can overcome obstacles to help address housing insecurity, racial home-ownership gaps and problems caused by global investors buying homes across the country. The NAACP DC Branch is offering a Free Individual All Access Pass to NAACP members, Housing Chairs, community leaders and activists committed to addressing the issues of homelessness and affordable housing. Partnering organizations include United Way, the National Urban League and Root Cause. REGISTER HERE: <https://housing-solution-summit-2021.heysummit.com/tickets/?coupon=NAAC>

The NAACP DC Branch advocates for homeownership, foreclosure prevention, housing reform and resources for the African-American community. Historically, home ownership is one of the primary means for people to build equity and wealth. The segregation which has plagued our nation for centuries continues today through mortgage lending practices steering many African-Americans towards unsustainable loans and foreclosure. Foreclosure was an epidemic in the African American community after the housing crash of 2008. The ongoing housing crisis in America has effectively barred most minorities, especially African-American families, from building wealth through homeownership. Largely due to the housing bubble, between 2005 and 2009, African-Americans lost over 50% of their wealth and now have only 5% of the wealth of white Americans. African-Americans continue to have the lowest homeownership rate at 46.2% compared to whites at a rate of 74.4%.

Akosua Ali, NAACP DC Branch President, stated, “We are in a crisis. Access to real affordable housing and low-income housing is a problem in the District. DC residents are being pressured by daily calls, texts, emails and postcards from predatory housing developers offering to purchase our homes at costs obscenely below market value. Information is power! And when we know better, we do better. The NAACP is fighting to ensure our most vulnerable communities and anyone committed to fighting for our communities have access to the information to protect our right to building and retaining wealth within the black community.”

Floyd May, NAACP Housing Chair, “Like many cities and communities in the United States the lack of affordable housing options in Washington, DC increases homelessness and family instability.”

For more information, visit <https://housing-solution-summit-2021.heysummit.com/tickets/?coupon=NAAC>.

ABOUT NAACP:

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation’s oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. The mission of NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic quality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

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