

JOIN THE SURVIVORS VILLAGE NEW ORLEANS



TENT CITY PROTEST AND RIGHT TO RETURN VIGIL FRIDAY AUGUST 28th - SUNDAY AUGUST 30TH

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This August will make 10 years since the economic and political elite of New Orleans used a natural disaster as a cover for destroying many of the Black neighborhoods in the city. I was marooned in Natchez, Mississippi when I read the Times Picayune News paper headlines that stated: **THE "NEW" NEW ORLEANS...SMALLER, WHITER, AND MORE AFFLUENT!** The powers that be have spent the last 10 years implementing that plan. One of the greatest weapons they have at their disposal is housing. If residents don't have anywhere to live they cannot not come home. In a callous and cruel action all of the public housing communities were fenced in and shuttered denying the residents the right to return to their homes, including the right to recover their property. The Lower 9th ward was slated for destruction and designated as green space, as was much of upper 9th ward and New Orleans east. Other mostly Black neighborhoods were put on the back burner for restoration and a "ROAD HOME" program was created that devalued the homes of working class people to insure that they would not be able to rebuild or renovate their property.

Though other factors have played a part in the plan to recreate New Orleans in the image of the 50's and 60's, such as laying off the teachers, not opening and then privatizing the school system, reducing access to bus service, not

reopening Charity hospital, and making sure any service that was needed daily by the Black/poor was either discontinued and or eliminated; SURVIVORS VILLAGE has focused its efforts on the HUMAN RIGHT to housing. As we prepare for the national media to return to our city and for the Mayor and other elite, and/or privileged individuals to create and promote the false narrative of progress and achievement in the last 10 years we must fight to put the

spotlight on the over **100,000** **BLACK MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN THAT HAVE BEEN DISAPPEARED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ECONOMIC ELITE** to implement their transformation plan Therefore we are

**CREATING A TENT CITY IN PROTEST OF THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR Communities AND TO DEMAND THE RIGHT TO RETURN FOR THE MISSING NEW ORLEANS RESIDENTS THAT HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THEIR HOMES**

Starting on Thursday, August 27, 2015, we will build a symbolic tent city to represent the many residents that would like to come home but are excluded by the social, political, and economic realities that exist in New Orleans since Katrina. This **PROTEST** city will cover all the available space that exists on the neutral grounds and other public lands between Milton and Foy Streets adjacent to and surrounding the New Day community FIGHTBACK center. We will construct a tent for every public housing complex and other vital properties that have been destroyed since Katrina.

This will be a constant and ongoing protest action that will also be a base for DIRECT ACTION events at selected targets around the city chosen in daily meetings. A list of demands will be developed by residents and supporters in our daily meetings. These demands will be carried over and fought for after the occupation ends. We are therefore using this action as a catalyst for reestablishing an on going movement for the HUMAN RIGHT TO HOUSING in New Orleans!!

We cannot allow the city to peacefully sell its lies in regards to what is going on in our communities post Katrina. WE MUST TELL OUR STORY AND CONTINUE OUR FIGHT...UNTIL WE WIN!!

**MORE INFORMATION @communitierising@gmail.com/Endesha@504-239-2907**

