



# ***Putting Community Back in Community Development***

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

*Fellowship Chapel, Detroit*

**Financial Institutions Community  
Development Conference**



# About This Conference

The 2015 FICON conference will address the theme Putting Community Back in Community Development.

Detroit is moving forward and this conference will look at the importance of putting community first when development is being done. That means not only “engaging” community, but actually building structures that respect community knowledge and power. Putting community back in development means creating processes that prioritize the interests, visions, skills, and concerns of Detroit’s existing residents, and ensuring that those residents have power at the tables where discussions about Detroit’s future takes place.

The event will feature panel discussions from expert practitioners in community development, interactive discussions related to development concerns, updates from city and county government and a keynote presentation that will illustrate best practices in putting community in development.

The conference is attended by over 200 representatives from Metro Detroit’s community development, financial, government, nonprofit and business sectors.



## The FICON Mission

The Financial Institutions Community Development Conference (FICON) is the premier annual community development conference in Detroit, Michigan. FICON seeks to bring together financial, governmental, nonprofit and private sector entities involved in neighborhood revitalization efforts in order to problem solve, build relationships, educate and in general advance the cause of neighborhood community development in Detroit and the surrounding region. FICON has had an annual or biannual conference since 1993.

FICON is a partnership between the financial institutions who sponsor the event and Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD).



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### **Dawn Phillips** **Program Co-Director** **Causa Justa: Just Cause**

Dawn Phillips has been an organizer engaged in a range of social, economic and environmental justice organizations and fights in the Bay Area and nationally for over 20 years. He is currently the Co-Director of Programs at Causa Justa :: Just Cause, a Bay Area membership organization focused on community development, housing and immigrant justice issues. CJC builds grassroots power and community leadership through rights-based services, policy campaigns, civic engagement, direct action and movement building. CJC strives to improve conditions both in the neighborhoods we organize in and regionally, as well as to contribute to building the larger multi-racial, multi-generational movement needed for fundamental change. Dawn leads the local, regional and national policy campaign work for the organization and was lead author on CJC's report "Development Without Displacement: Resisting Gentrification in the Bay Area". This was a study on the impacts of gentrification and displacement on working class communities of color, which included policy recommendations for addressing these issues. Dawn serves as Chair of the Steering Committee of the Right to the City Alliance, a formation of almost 40 community organizations based in 13 cities around the country. The alliance is dedicated to building a strong housing and urban justice movement nationally and internationally through an urban human rights framework and agenda.





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Financial Institutions  
Community Development



## 2015 FICON Conference Agenda

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| <b>8:00 - 8:30 am</b>   | <b>REGISTRATION</b>   |
| <b>8:30 - 8:40 am</b>   | <b>WELCOME:</b> Sarida Scott-Montgomery, Executive Director,<br><i>Community Development Advocates of Detroit</i><br>Mistress of Ceremony: Maggie DeSantis, President/CEO,<br><i>Eastside Community Network</i>   |
| <b>8:40 - 8:55 am</b>   | <b>CITY OF DETROIT UPDATE</b><br>Victoria Kovari , General Manager,<br><i>Department of Neighborhoods at Mayor's Office</i>   |
| <b>9:00 - 10:10 am</b>  | <b>PANEL 1: COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—<br/>           ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION, SMALL BUSINESS<br/>           FINANCING AND START-UP CAPITAL FOR MINORITIES</b><br>Moderator: Kathy Wendler, President, <i>The Southwest Detroit Business Association</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrepreneur from ProsperUS Eric Peeples, owner of “Detroit Party Coach”</li> <li>• Hector Hernandez, Executive Director, <i>Southwest Economic Solutions</i></li> <li>• Ivy Simmons, Executive Vice-President &amp; Chief of Staff,<br/> <i>Michigan Black Chamber</i></li> <li>• Ebrahim Varachia, Co-founder, <i>Patronicity</i></li> </ul> |
| <b>10:10 - 10:24 am</b> | <b>WAYNE COUNTY UPDATE</b><br>Jelani Karamoko, Executive Director, <i>Wayne County Land Bank</i>  |
| <b>10:24 - 10:30 am</b> | <b>BREAK</b>  |
| <b>10:30 - 11:40 am</b> | <b>PANEL 2: UPDATES FROM DLBA, MSHDA AND DFC</b><br>Moderator: Jill Ferrari, President, <i>MCR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Olivier, Deputy Director, <i>Neighborhoods Detroit Future City</i></li> <li>• Rod Liggons, Director, <i>Community Outreach Detroit Land Bank Authority</i></li> <li>• Van Adams, Project Development Specialist, Rental Development, <i>MSHDA</i></li> <li>• Pauline Jacques-Millichamp, Project Development Specialist,<br/>           Rental Development, <i>MSHDA</i></li> </ul>  |





## 2015 FICON Conference Agenda continued...

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| <b>11:40 - 11:55 am</b> | <b>LUNCH BUFFET</b> Guests will get lunch and return to their seats for the keynote presentation   |
| <b>11:55 - 12:50 pm</b> | <b>KEYNOTE LUNCH SPEAKER PRESENTATION</b><br>Dawn Phillips, Program Co-Director, <i>Causa Justa: Just Cause</i>  |
| <b>12:50 - 1:00 pm</b>  | <b>BREAK</b>   |
| <b>1:00 - 1:30 pm</b>   | <b>SPECIAL PRESENTATION</b><br>Peter Hammer, Director, <i>Damon Keith Civil Rights Center</i><br>Community Benefits Ordinances—Putting People at the Center of Development   |
| <b>1:35 - 1:55 pm</b>   | <b>VIDEO: STREETS OF DREAMS—DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT DISPLACEMENT IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR</b>   |
| <b>1:55 - 2:55 pm</b>   | <b>PANEL 3: HOT TOPICS—COMMUNITY LAND TRUST UPDATE AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT</b><br>Moderator: Aaron Handelsman, <i>Detroit People's Platform</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reverend Joan Ross, President, <i>North End Woodward Community Coalition</i></li><li>• Mildred Robbins-Hunt, President, <i>West Grand Blvd. Collaborative/Equitable Detroit</i></li><li>• Aaron Handelsman, Founding Member, <i>Detroit People's Platform</i></li></ul> |



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