2017 KEY VICTORIES

About Metro IAF | Metro Industrial Areas Foundation (Metro IAF) is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the first and largest network of multi-faith, broad-based citizen organizations, which has seven decades of experience winning tough battles on housing, health care, education, living wages, immigration rights, and other issues in the US and abroad. Metro IAF’s 22 affiliates are in the East, Midwest, and Southeast United States (CT, DC, IL, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, VA, WI).

**GUN SAFETY**

Won commitment from NYPD Commissioner O’Neill to hold gun manufacturer “Glock” accountable in its dealings with gun dealers that supply weapons to murderers. To date, 123 cities, counties and states have signed on to the Do Not Stand Idly By (DNSIB) campaign to pressure gun manufacturers to develop safer, smarter guns. In Hamden, CT, won fight to revoke liquor license of local pizza bar known for shootings and sexual assaults. Pushed Chicago Police Department to create an approved gun dealer list.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

Moved forward criminal justice reforms and held police accountable in Baltimore, Cleveland, Jersey City, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Virginia. In Massachusetts, State Senate President Rosenberg fulfilled his commitment to push through GBIO’s full platform on criminal justice reform, which led to the bill being signed into law in 2018. Won commitments by the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor to create the Civil Rights Division to investigate allegations of violations of civil rights and to designate an independent prosecutor in cases of use of deadly force by law enforcement, the first in Ohio. Both initiatives are fully operational. In Jersey City, Hudson County, NJ Prosecutor committed to holding a joint two-day on-site warrant reconciliation event.

**PUBLIC HOUSING & AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS**

Demanded and won action from New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to fix deplorable NYCHA units and initiated campaign to build 15,000 senior housing units in NYC. 6,000 Metro IAF NY leaders packed the sidewalks at City Hall to demand decent, affordable housing. Leaders challenged Mayor de Blasio to support their plan of prioritizing city rent subsidies for low-income residents and to hold landlords accountable. Leaders also demanded that 15,000 senior housing units be built on vacant NYCHA land that would free up existing NYCHA units for younger families. Metro IAF NY has proposed a dedication of $17 billion to fix the public housing developments from top to bottom.

**IMMIGRATION**

Won Commitments from Police Chiefs and Schools that they would not act as agents of ICE in DC, MD, NC, NY and VA. In Norwalk, CT, won commitments from Mayoral Candidates, police and schools to train teachers in anti-bias cultural awareness and to make immigration enforcement protocols available in multiple languages. In NC, won a deferral program for unlicensed, yet safe, Latino drivers, preventing tens of thousands of dollars a year in court fines. In VA, won fight to honor Muslim and Jewish holidays, winning new school regulations.

GBIO leaders celebrate the expanded Massachusetts Senate Bill including all of GBIO’s criminal justice reform priorities.

Metro IAF Leader Rev. David K. Brawley with NYPD Commissioner O’Neill.

Metro IAF NY Leader Rev. David K. Brawley speaks to 6,000 leaders at City Hall in New York City. | Photo Credit: Mark Clennon

Orange County Justice United Leaders applauding commitment to deferral program to support immigrant drivers in North Carolina.
JOBS
Secured living wage jobs for unemployed individuals and returning citizens in Baltimore, DC and Howard Co, MD, working with Johns Hopkins University and Health System, the DC Council, Howard County Council and Board of Education. To date, the Turnaround Tuesday jobs movement in Baltimore has secured jobs for 463 individuals. In DC, fought to raise wages for 225 workers of the privatized DC Streetcar and DC Circulator and won commitments to improve worker healthcare. In Howard Co, MD, secured over $2 million in funding from the County Council to restore 87 paraprofessional positions that were cut over the last 3 years.

OPIOID CRISIS
Packed 1,300 people into an action launching an opioid campaign in Long Island, NY where 403 lives had been claimed by opioid overdoses in 2016. Organized a first-of-its-kind Educator’s Conference on Substance Abuse in the Age of Opioids to share effective practices in preventing and responding to opioid use among students. Met with 200 students to talk with them about the reality of opioid abuse among their peers. Presented a proposal to top leaders of the largest three hospital chains on Long Island on opioid treatment alternatives.

MENTAL HEALTH
Received commitments to establish Crisis Intervention Centers and Increased Access to Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) in the Chicago metropolitan area and Cleveland to divert those with mental illness from jail. Resulted in 30% increase in officers trained in CIT training in DuPage, Kane and Lake Counties, IL. Won commitments to create Crisis Stabilization Centers in Cleveland and Kane and Lake Counties in IL. In Durham, NC, demanded and won, from Durham Police, investment and participation in mental health training, with over 90% of police force now trained.

AFORDABLE HOUSING
Built and repaired hundreds of new affordable homes and apartments and won commitments to build more affordable units, including over $407 million in dedicated funding in NYC, NJ, MA, MD, DC, IL, OH, NC & VA. Won $6 million from Boston developer for creation of citywide homeownership fund and historic preservation. Won commitment from Jersey City mayoral candidates to use 200 acres of land for affordable housing. In Silver Spring, MD, forced landlord to remediate and prevent mold by replacing 1,950 windows in rental complex where most of the residents are undocumented.

TRANSPORT
Organized $1 billion in dedicated funding annually to rebuild WMATA transit system in Washington, DC metropolitan area. Detailed a plan to stop bus cuts and privatization, defend jobs for 10,000 African American middle-class workers and build affordable housing on WMATA land. Organized consistently and persistently across DC, MD and VA, engaging with WMATA Board and General Manager, and key political & corporate power players to win the best deal for riders, workers, & the regional economy. In Spring 2018, won $500 million annually from VA, MD and DC.

GET OUT THE VOTE
Held the largest assembly of the election season with 1,565 leaders with both Virginia Gubernatorial Candidates and organized one of the largest GOTV campaigns in VA, engaging thousands of voters in low-voting precincts in Prince William and Fairfax Counties, VA to increase voter turnout on a non-partisan basis. Won commitments from both gubernatorial candidates to work together on top issues following election: transit, schools, criminal justice reform, immigration and affordable housing. Increased voter turnout percentage between 24% and 39% in six low-voting precincts.

EDUCATION
Won major education victories around school funding, improving education data systems, expanding educational programs, services for special needs students, and access to after-school programs in Cleveland, NY, Baltimore, Chicago metro area, Howard Co, MD and Montgomery Co, MD. Leaders in Baltimore secured $10 million for City Schools to close the funding gap and a $10 million commitment from the Mayor to fully fund after-school programs. In Montgomery Co, Dream Academy after-school initiative expanded to four new schools.

BUILD organizer Terrell Williams leading a discussion with unemployed, under employed and returning citizens during a Turnaround Tuesday meeting in Baltimore.

Launch of opioid campaign with 1,300 leaders in Long Island, NY.

Vista Medical Center in Waukegan, IL will be transformed into a 146-bed psychiatric hospital.

Northwest Park tenants fighting against deplorable living conditions in their apartments in Maryland.

WIN leaders praying at privately-owned DC Streetcar during demands to speak with the General Manager about poverty wages and benefits for drivers.

VOICE leaders Get Out The Vote in northern Virginia suburbs.

Children holding signs as BUILD fights to close $130 million funding gap of Baltimore City Schools.