Rev. Ulysses Wingo Joins CAO of WNY's Senior Executive Team

The Community Action Organization of Western New York is pleased to announce the appointment of Reverend Ulysses Wingo as a senior executive. With his extensive background as a professor, pastor, and community leader, Reverend Wingo brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the organization.

Reverend Wingo's prior experience as a community pastor and member of the Buffalo City Council has provided him with invaluable experience in community outreach and advocacy. His unique perspective and understanding of the needs of the community will be a valuable asset to the CAO of WNY as it continues to improve its internal operations and better serve its constituents.

In his new role, Reverend Wingo will oversee the agency's operations, outreach, and development. The CAO of WNY is thrilled to welcome him to the team and is grateful for his commitment to serving our community in this new capacity. This appointment represents the organization's continued commitment to providing effective and dedicated leadership to the communities it serves.

An Intentional Future for the East Side: Re-Building A Stronger, More Inclusive Buffalo After Racial Injustice

by Thomas Beauford, Jr. and Dr. LaVonne Ansari

At the time we look back on all that the East Side community and Buffalo have gone through in the past year and consider what might be done to help, we are first and foremost grateful to all the community members who have shared their unique and individual experiences of being affected by 5/14. To serve as co-chairs of the Buffalo Together Community Response Fund (BTCFRP) and be part of building an intentional way forward for the East Side is an honor and privilege that we don’t take lightly. We, along with the BTCFRP steering committee, made up of leaders with deep and personal connections to the East Side, are committed to listening and centering your voices as we continue our work.

If 5/14 did anything, it gave us a sense of urgency, but also showed us we need to be deliberate in our actions - because the forces pushing against us are deliberate and intentional, and they have a long history of structural institutional advantage on their side. The work ahead is not simple, and the BTCFRP is focused on a long-term solution.

But it is clear that we can’t just spend our way out of this situation. We cannot keep throwing money at the same infrastructure with the same roadblocks and the same mindset and expect a different outcome for the East Side.

With that in mind, we sought additional funding outside the BTCFRP to hire Rainbow Research, a Black-led national organization with ties to Buffalo, to lead a process that is rooted in listening and learning first. The Rainbow Research team has been on the ground, walking the East Side, meeting with residents and leaders over the past few months. At the end of 2023, they will deliver to us a community investment strategy that will not only shape the BTCFRP funds may be used, but will build on current community assets and lay out best practices to take our community from surviving to thriving.

Eye On History: "Honor and Respect to Frank Merriweather, III"

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Cedric Holloway Pledges to Serve a Full Term If Elected

by Cedric Holloway

Cedric Holloway, who is currently campaigning for the Ellicott District council seat, today pledged to serve a full term if elected, and he called on his opponents to join him in committing not to seek other offices if they are successful in the race.

"I am campaigning to represent the residents of the Ellicott District and have no plans to run for another position if I am successful in my campaign," Holloway said. "I am committed to serving this community for the full term of office."