



MHAction leaders and allies protesting 'Mobile Home University' in Austin.

MHAction Winter Newsletter

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Taking Action in Texas!

On December 1st, 2017, 50 manufactured homeowners and allies from across the country gathered in Austin, Texas to directly take on corporate investors who have been hosting an 'investor boot camp', called Mobile Home University. [Mobile Home University](#) has been spreading a harmful, predatory business model which devastates the economic and retirement security of our nation's manufactured homeowners.

This 'investor boot camp' is organized by Frank Rolfe and Dave Reynolds. Mr. Rolfe and Mr. Reynolds are co-owners of RV Horizons/MHP Funds, the nation's fifth largest corporate community owner. RV Horizons/MHP Funds bills itself as a premier corporate owner of manufactured home communities. Mr. Rolfe and Mr. Reynolds have been taking their 'Mobile Home University' to cities across the country to 'educate' interested corporate investors who are interested in purchasing and running manufactured home communities.

MHAction community leaders from across the country have expressed deep concerns about RV Horizons/MHP Funds' business model. Their business philosophy can be best summed up by an infamous quote by Frank Rolfe who once compared the benefits of

owning manufactured home communities to 'owning a Waffle House where the customers are chained to the booths.' In our experience, when RV Horizons/MHP Funds takes over communities, homeowners are faced with rapidly increasing rents and decreasing community maintenance.

MHAction community leaders from 11 states, alongside representatives of cherished ally organizations from [New York Communities for Change](#), [New Jersey Organizing Project](#), [BASTA](#), [City Life/Vita Urbana](#), [9 to 5 Colorado](#) and [Tenants Together](#), joined arm in arm to say profit hungry real estate investors aren't welcome in our cities.

The action was held in conjunction with MHAction's national leadership gathering. This gathering featured training workshops on community organizing techniques, campaign planning, and coalition building. The gathering was simultaneously translated to ensure full participation by both English and Spanish-speaking community leaders.

MHAction would like to express our sincerest thanks to [BASTA](#) for hosting the gathering. MHAction would also like to thank the [Center for Popular Democracy](#) and [Right to the City/Homes for All](#) for training support.



It's All About Leadership Development!

MHAction's largest programmatic investment in 2017 continues to be our Leadership Cross Training (LCT) program. Read inside to find out more.

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MHAction's Expansion!

MHAction is now a fiscally sponsored 501c4 project of The Advocacy Fund. Read the article to find out how that helps community leaders build power!

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MHAction Leadership Cross Training Program!

MHAction's Leadership Cross Training (LCT) Program was originally conceived by MHAction leaders in Williston, North Dakota in 2015. We've sure come a long way since then!

LCTs are designed to develop strong neighborhood based, leadership teams that can advocate for their communities and lift up local issue campaigns that have impact on the state and national level. Most importantly, LCTs provide an opportunity for homeowners to build life-long friendships. Strong relationships are the key ingredient in creating powerful, game-changing campaigns.

In 2017, MHAction held LCTs in Delaware, Illinois, Utah, Florida and California. Topics ranged from engaging community leaders in national issue campaigns on retirement security and healthcare access issues to building local campaigns that keep corporate community owners in check to discussions involving homeowners who were affected by



climate disasters. MHAction held 10 LCTs in 2017 which engaged 268 local community leaders.

The most important aspect of these trainings is providing support and encouragement for local, purpose driven leadership teams to carry out the work of the MHAction. Dedicated community leaders are the fuel that drives MHAction's movement for housing justice. Many thanks to MHAction community leaders for making this key aspect of our work a priority!

KEEPING UP TO SPEED WITH MHACTION!

Join with over 16,000 homeowners across the county by 'liking' MHAction on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MHAction/> and by following us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MHAction>

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?
Email MHAction at info@mhaction.org or by calling 202-360-8876.



MHAction Expands!

MHAction is very excited to inform our members, supporters and allies that we are expanding as an organization.

On December 1st, 2017, MHAction became a 501c4 which better allows us to hold elected officials accountable as we continue to build power across the country. December 1st marked our first official day as a fiscally sponsored project housed at the Tides Foundation/Advocacy Fund. MHAction will operate alongside MH Education Fund, our 501c3 arm. MHAction is both excited and honored to be a part of the Tides Foundation/Advocacy Fund family.

"With the continued proliferation of large multi-state corporate-owned manufactured home communities, MHAction's model of

developing grassroots homeowner leaders to protect against many of these bad actors is needed now more than ever," said Ben Malley, Political Program Manager at The Advocacy Fund. "We are excited to partner with MHAction to support their work.

This organizational shift provides MHAction's leadership with the ability to strengthen our voter education and outreach programs...a key ingredient to holding our elected officials accountable.

Speaking of tools, make sure to check out MHAction's website at www.mhaction.org to access useful toolkits that cover a range of topics from MHAction's Safety Net Defense campaign to local housing campaigns.