



CHAPA's 2024 Fair Housing Symposium: Advancing Responsible Fair Housing

APRIL 25, 2024, 1:00–4:00 P.M. | VIRTUAL ZOOM CONFERENCE
A PROGRAM OF CHAPA'S MUNICIPAL ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Welcoming Remarks 1:00–1:15 P.M.

- Whitney Demetrius, *Director of Fair Housing and Municipal Engagement*, CHAPA
- Daniel Weaver, *Regional Director at the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity*, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Presentation 1:15–1:30 P.M.

- Dr. Michael Akinwumi, *Chief Responsible AI Officer*, National Fair Housing Alliance

Panel Discussion and Q&A 1:45–2:15 P.M.

- Dr. Michael Akinwumi, *Chief Responsible AI Officer*, National Fair Housing Alliance
- Jean Michael Fana, *former Education and Advocacy Manager* for Harborlight Homes
- Jamie Williamson, *District Director*, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Presentation 2:15–2:35 P.M.

- Dr. James Jennings, *Lead Researcher, Professor Emeritus*, Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University

Panel Discussion and Q&A 2:45–3:15 P.M.

- Dr. James Jennings, *Lead Researcher, Professor Emeritus*, Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University
- Kadineyse Paz, *Assistant Researcher, Neighborhood Fellow*, Tufts University
- Cashauna Hill, *Executive Director*, The Redress Movement

Break 3:15–3:30 P.M.

Awards Presentation 3:30–3:55 P.M.

- Dr. Tiffany Manuel, *Founder and CEO*, TheCaseMade
- Deb Crossley, *Community Activist, former City Councilor* for City of Newton
- Moddie Turay, *President and CEO*, Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC)
- Affordable Inclusive Milton, residents committed to advocating for increasing the supply of affordable housing in Milton and diversifying the Town's population

Closing Remarks 3:55–4:00 P.M.

- Rachel Heller, *Chief Executive Officer*, CHAPA

2024 AWARD WINNERS



DR. TIFFANY MANUEL

Tiffany Manuel, (DrT) (she/her) is Founder and CEO of TheCaseMade. In her role at TheCaseMade, DrT has worked with thousands of passionate social changemakers, innovators and adaptive leaders around the United States who are building better, stronger communities that are diverse, equitable, and inclusive. Trained as a social scientist in quantitative and qualitative methods, she is a self-professed “data, policy, and messaging wonk!” She holds doctorate and master’s degrees in public policy from the University of Massachusetts Boston, a master’s degree in political science from Purdue University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Chicago. DrT has served on numerous nonprofit and social-impact boards (such as Shelterforce Magazine, KaBoom!, Rebuilding Together, and the Redress Movement).



DEB CROSSLEY

Deb Crossley has lived in Newton MA since 1985. As an architect, Deb’s work ranged from home renovations to public housing projects, including mixed-income and special needs housing. As a community activist, Deb served on numerous city Boards, Commissions, and citizens’ organizations. Deb was elected to the City Council in 2009, serving 14 years on the Public Facilities, Land Use, and Zoning & Planning Committees. As a city Councilor, she led on strategic plans to rehabilitate city infrastructure, require energy-efficient building standards for public and private buildings, create a by-right accessory dwelling unit ordinance, and lodging house licensing. Deb chaired the Zoning & Planning Committee for her last four years, which resulted in new zoning to enable more housing opportunities in Newton, necessary to enable the city’s many villages to grow and evolve in large part, by providing desperately needed housing.



MODDIE TURAY

Moddie Turay is President and CEO of the Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC), a private non-profit founded in 1990 with over \$1.4 billion of assets under management, whose mission is to be an innovative financier of affordable housing and community development. Mr. Turay is responsible for overseeing the mission, vision, strategic direction, and day-to-day operations of the organization. He guides MHIC on all financial, fundraising, credit, leadership, and policy matters, ensuring the long-term financial health and sustainability of MHIC. Prior to MHIC, Moddie served in roles in both the private and public sectors including founder and CEO of City Growth Partners, development roles with Western Development Corporation in Washington DC, and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) in the Public Buildings Service. Turay was also a 2022 Loeb Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Saint Augustine’s University in Raleigh, NC.



AFFORDABLE INCLUSIVE MILTON (AIM)

Affordable Inclusive Milton (AIM) began in 2021 as Milton citizens concerned with the historical stance of the Town, which made the building affordable housing difficult. In April 2022, they went public with a website and solicitation of residents to join in advocating for more affordable housing and inclusivity in Milton. They held the first public forum on the MBTA Communities Act in December 2022 and followed with continued publicity about the Act and the need for more housing in Town. They were instrumental in the vote to overwhelmingly pass zoning articles in compliance with the MBTA Communities Act in December 2023. Despite the Town voting to subsequently rescind Town Meeting approval of the MBTA zoning in February 2024, AIM will continue to advocate for affordable housing. They will monitor the legal ramifications of the Attorney General’s lawsuit against the Town and will also continue to identify where they can be successful in increasing housing affordability and making Milton a welcoming community.

2024 SYMPOSIUM PANELISTS & PRESENTERS



DANIEL WEAVER

Daniel Weaver has served as the Region I Director of HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity since September 2021. As Regional Director, he is responsible for all of HUD's civil rights work in the six New England states. Prior to his appointment to Regional Director, Daniel served as the Region I Enforcement Branch Chief for ten years. Daniel joined HUD in September 2006, after earning a J.D. from Quinnipiac University School of Law. He is a member of the Massachusetts and Connecticut Bars and a 2003 graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In June 2021, he completed the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Executive Education Senior Executive Fellows Program.



DR. MICHAEL AKINWUMI

Dr. Michael Akinwumi is the Chief Responsible AI Officer at the National Fair Housing Alliance, leading the development, deployment and maintenance of AI models and policies that ensure security, safety and trustworthiness of AI solutions in housing and lending. His work involves strategic oversight, stakeholder engagement, and advocacy for ethical AI practices. Previously, he specialized in governance engineering and machine learning in fintech, banking, and insurance. He is committed to living a life dedicated to serving others.



JEAN MICHAEL FANA

Jean Michael Fana formerly served as the Education & Advocacy Manager for Harborlight Homes, a North Shore Community Development Corporation. In this role, Jean advances affordable housing policy changes both in municipalities across the North Shore and in the State Legislature, while also educating new advocates on effective strategies for change. Jean comes from a background of political organizing in Lynn, Massachusetts. With a focus on local government, Jean has worked on an array of political campaigns for municipal and state office through a focus on data-driven campaign strategies.



JAMIE WILLIAMSON

Appointed by the first African American Governor, Deval Patrick, Jamie R. Williamson served as Commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination in 2010, later assuming the role of Chairwoman in 2014. As the former Executive Director at the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center, she co-founded the Northeast Fair Housing & Civil Rights Conference. She was appointed to the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission by Chief Justice Margaret Mitchell, the state's first female Chief Justice. A graduate of Smith College, Ms. Williamson shattered barriers by becoming the first woman of color elected to her hometown's City Council. She is a certified mediator, trainer, and executive coach. She has also shared her expertise as an adjunct professor at UMASS Amherst and as a guest lecturer at Western New England College School of Law and Smith College.



DR. JAMES JENNINGS

James Jennings, PhD is Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University, where he teaches graduate courses on community development and social policy. Before joining Tufts University, he served as Dean of the College of Public and Community Services, then Director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Some of Dr. Jennings' research publications include "Fair Housing and Zoning as Anti-Gentrification: The Case of Boston, Massachusetts"; "Foreclosure Crisis and the Role of Community Organizing in a U.S. Latino Community"; "Great Migration to Global Immigration: A Profile of Black Boston" (co-author); and more. Dr. Jennings also assisted with the research and writing of Boston's "Assessment of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing" adopted by the city in 2022.



KADINEYSE PAZ

Kadineyse Paz is a policy professional with experience in housing, education, and environmental justice. Kadineyse is pursuing her Master's in Public Policy from Tufts University as a Neighborhood Fellow and is currently a Housing and Equity Community Planner at JM Goldson, a women-owned local planning consulting firm committed to promoting just policies so that all people have open and equitable access to live in healthy, vibrant, and safe communities. Kadineyse has experience working on several successful political campaigns in environmental justice policy for Clean Water Action, and housing policy with the Boston Tenant Coalition. Her community advocacy and organizing work earned her the CHAPA Fair Housing Open Door Champions Award in 2021.



CASHAUNA HILL

Cashauna Hill was recently named Executive Director of the Redress Movement, which works to support local communities in promoting and securing remedies for the intentionally discriminatory policies that segregated, and continue to segregate, neighborhoods across the country. Prior to joining The Redress Movement, Cashauna served as Executive Director the Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center (formerly known as the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center). Her work as Executive Director included leading the community engagement process for the City of New Orleans' 2016 Assessment of Fair Housing plan - the first in the nation submitted under a 2015 rule requiring state and local governments to identify and address barriers to fair housing choice. She has written extensively about housing segregation and civil rights, has been interviewed by outlets including CNN and NPR, and has testified before the United States Congress as a fair housing expert. Cashauna is a graduate of Spelman College and Tulane Law School.