

"To Become A Part of A **Society** That Is Meaningful":

A Zine History of the Ella Jo Baker Intentional
Community Cooperative



"In order for us as poor and
oppressed people to become a
part of a society that is
meaningful, the system under
which we now exist has to be
radically changed."

--Ella Jo Baker

Written and designed by Jessica A. Rucker
Feedback provided by and with a written contribution from Ajowa Ifateyo
Additional feedback provided by Nicole Clark
Quotes by Linda Leaks and Ajowa Ifateyo

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EJBICC letterhead on back cover designed by Ari Norouzi (brother of former member
Parisa Norouzi)

Copy of *Upfront* newspaper clip and all photographs shared by
Ajowa Ifateyo and photography identification support by Tricia Kinch

"To Become a Part of a Society That Is Meaningful":
A Zine History of the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative

Author's Intention:

The title of this zine is inspired by a line from Ella Josephine Baker's 1969 speech, "The Black Woman in Civil Rights Struggle," at the Institute for the Black World, Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Baker explained that "in order for us as poor and oppressed people to become a part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed." I believe the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative (EJBICC) embodies Ms. Baker's belief. Therefore, the purpose for writing and circulating this zine is threefold: 1) to share what I have learned about how EJBICC was established (particularly with fellow members of EJBICC), 2) to challenge and critique mainstream discourses about Black working-class women and affordable housing, and 3) to assert that cooperative housing and intentional communities are features of a Black feminist politic of social transformation emphasizing that a Black feminist politic of social transformation is how oppressed people "become a part of a society that is meaningful." Please note, I use first-person throughout. This is an intentional stylistic and political choice rooted in my positionality and understanding of Black feminisms' (also intentionally plural) roots in lived experiences and struggles against oppression.

Named After Ella Jo Baker

Collectively inspired by **Ella Jo Baker**, Patricia Kinch, Marquita Sykes, Linda Leaks, Robert Perkins, and Ajowa Ifateyo purposefully named the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative after Ms. Baker and incorporated it to provide housing for us: low-and moderate-income people, who like Ms. Baker, are committed to social transformation.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS



CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that all applicable provisions of the District of Columbia NonProfit Corporation Act have been complied with and accordingly, this **CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION** is hereby issued to:

ELLA JO BAKER INTENTIONAL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this office to be affixed as of the 22nd day of December, 2000.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ella Jo Baker was a legendary radical activist and skilled grassroots organizer. She served as the National Director of the Young Negroes Cooperative League in the 1930s, field secretary and Director of Branches for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the 1940s, Executive Secretary for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in the 1950s, and mentor to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the 1960s.

Pause and reflect: Why did Kinch, Sykes, Leaks, Perkins, and Ifateyo most likely collectively decide to name EJBICC after Ms. Baker?

A Limited Equity Cooperative and Intentional Community



The Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative (EJBICC) is a multi-racial, polyglot, inter-generational, queer-affirming, and participatory-democracy-seeking community. We are a political, social, and cultural homeplace to individuals and families, elders and youth, and folks born and raised in the United States as well as asylum-seeking folks displaced to the United States.

EJBICC is a limited equity cooperative (LEC). As an LEC, we are a special type of housing non-profit corporation that is collectively owned, governed, and enjoyed by ourselves as members. There is no landlord; instead, each of us is on the Board of Directors (the Board) and holds one share in the corporation. Our share entitles us to live in our respective units for as long as we want, as long as we and any non-member residents of our

household abide by the policies and rules we created and agreed to in our governing documents.

Our share also means we each have the responsibility and the benefit of making decisions about various aspects of the day-to-day affairs of our homes. Through facilitated discussions during annual meetings, monthly board meetings, and monthly committee meetings, our Board makes decisions about our corporation while limiting our personal liability. In practice, this helps us work together to create and enforce governance policies and structures that hold us accountable to maintaining all housing units and storage spaces, our community room, our community garden, and our shared parking spaces. Each member helps to keep our housing stable, safe, decent, and affordable.



Limited Equity Cooperative

As a limited equity housing cooperative, EJBICC “limits” or restricts the resale value of each member-owner’s share in the corporation. This means that the amount of personal equity or “profits” we might typically accrue from our unit, if we were a market-rate cooperative, is restricted. Also, instead of selling our units, we “turn over” our units. This process ensures that the cost of each unit and the other collectively owned properties remain affordable, as defined by our association’s Articles of Incorporation, to people with low or moderate incomes.

Intentional Community

EJBICC is an intentional community; we were collectively founded by activists and organizers for activists and organizers. For example, co-founder Linda Leaks believed that “justice advocates” and activists who “didn’t have jobs that would pay us a lot of money because we are fighting for change,” needed to have an affordable place to live as we fought against social ills like gentrification, forced relocation, and displacement. Linda also believed that once housing was secured, we should “hold on to it and stay there to live together.” EJBICC members continue to live together and collectively make decisions about the shared destiny of our association. Additionally, many us actively work to create a nation’s capital in which all communities have access to housing that is safe, decent, affordable, and that is free from private property, landlords, renting, and the precarities that result from treating housing like a commodity and not a communal good. This work has deep roots in the ideas and actions of our co-founders (two of whom are current members).



Pause and reflect: Why did the co-founders most likely incorporate as a limited equity housing association (versus a market-rate cooperative or condo)? What does it mean that EJBICC is a limited equity cooperative and intentional community?

Co-founded by Current

Members

EJBICC’s initial registered agent, or official point of contact, was Linda Leaks. She was familiar with Ms. Baker’s work of establishing cooperatives and encouraging buying clubs, groups that came together to purchase items in bulk at a less expensive rate, in the 1930s. Linda studied Community Economic Development at Southern New Hampshire University and was moved by Ms. Baker’s unwavering commitment to bottom-up, group-centered, and community-based leadership. As such, Linda not only wholeheartedly committed to Baker’s belief that ordinary people need to look to themselves to generate solutions to society’s most pressing problems, but she also wanted to honor Ms. Baker’s legacy and thus suggested naming the association after her.



Before helping to write EJBICC’s Articles of Incorporation, Linda was a tenant organizer and cooperative educator with the Washington Innercity Self-Help (WISH). WISH was a 501(c)3 non-profit, founded in 1978 by 40 District of Columbia Churches, to organize low and moderate-income District residents around tenant rights, disability access for public housing residents, protecting federally subsidized housing (Section 8), and introducing them to homeownership through a limited equity cooperative model.



Ajowa Ifateyo, a national journalist, feminist, and co-founder of *Upfront* newspaper, moved to Washington, DC in 1982. After she arrived, she was inspired to see the number of Black people in positions of power.



When Ajowa arrived in DC, she and Linda were already friends; they had been involved in political work together in Florida with the African People’s Socialist Party. Linda co-founded the party and Ajowa was editor of *The Burning Spear*, the party’s newspaper. While in St. Petersburg, they also lived in a collective house. In DC, they were two of the four co-founders of the T Street Collective, a social housing collective and center of activity for Black feminist organizing in the District in the early 1980s through the 1990s. Ajowa recalls the total rent for the four-bedroom T Street Northwest home being \$600 per month and that the four co-founders each paid \$150. From Ajowa’s point of view, the collective house and inexpensive rent “gave Black feminists the freedom to pursue their identities and escape the lives their mothers were forced to live with no financial freedom and being dependent on men.”

Like WISH, the T Street Collective is an institution that directly influenced Linda and Ajowa’s vision, ideas, and strategies around cooperative homeownership. Their vision and ideas inspired them to work together with Robert Perkins (who they knew from their political organizing in Florida) and Marquita Sykes and Patricia Kinch (who were involved with WISH in DC) to identify available housing units to transform into a limited equity housing cooperative and intentional community.



Pause and reflect: In what ways did Linda and Ajowa connect with others and turn their individual needs and interests into a collective social-political space?

Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative: Fact Sheet

What is the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative?

The Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative is a multicultural association of individuals of modest means, with similar concerns, needs and history of community activism and fighting for social justice. We have deliberately chosen to live together and work cooperatively to create a lifestyle that reflects the values of the Nguzo Saba, better known as the Kwanzaa Principles.

What are the Nguzo Saba?

Umoja	Unity	Nia	Purpose
Kujichagulia	Self-determination	Kuumba	Creativity
Ujima	Collective Work and Responsibility	Imani	Faith
Ujamaa	Cooperative Economics		

Our Vision

Our vision is for a strong sustainable community in which neighbors know each other, are interdependent upon each other, share knowledge and resources, support each other and the community, respect and protect the environment, and collectively make decisions for the betterment of their neighborhood.

Our Mission

The mission of the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative is to build a solid foundation of cooperation and community participation through cooperative home ownership (Ujamaa) that can serve as a model for community-building and neighborhood improvement and for breathing life into the Kwanzaa Principles. We get our inspiration from civil rights activist Ella Jo Baker, who committed her life to the building of cooperation and participatory democracy for the purpose of bringing about social justice.

Our Goals

- Develop a safe, decent and permanently affordable housing community;
- Promote and sustain active community involvement
- Build a strong model of cooperation in Ujamaa;
- Recognize, respect and celebrate human diversity;
- Value children as responsible and productive members of our community;
- Provide a space for creative expression for both adults and youth;
- Promote and support community values such as honesty and respect for each other;
- Re-create and celebrate the extended family.

This is an application for placement on the Waiting List

1. **PLEASE NOTE:** Membership in the Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative is open to low and moderate income residents who are active members of the community, committed to active participation in EJBICC meetings and events, and prepared to pay the initial Subscription Fee of **\$3000.00**, monthly membership dues and carrying charges (housing payments) on time every month. These monthly carrying charges are **subject to change at any time. These fees are not due with the initial application; once accepted and space is available you will be required to submit the fees.** Please apply only if you can live up to these responsibilities to the community.
2. **Waiting list membership does not guarantee EJBICC membership:** If your initial application is accepted, upon the opening of a space at EJBICC for you, you will be required to submit additional materials, including proof of income, identification, rental history, and your social security number.

Before and After Shots



- Before
← 2548
before move-in
circa 2003
#10



← After
2548
#11

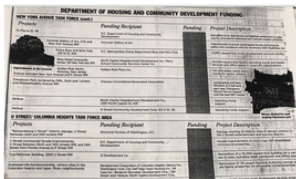


Pause and reflect: What changes do you notice between the two photos?

Built in Columbia Heights in the Late 1990s and Early 2000s

Our 15-unit limited equity cooperative and intentional community was established in 2000 in Columbia Heights, the now popular Northwest neighborhood, located near Malcolm X Park (Meridian Hill Park). Nestled between the 14th and 16th Street corridors, Columbia Heights is also one of the fastest gentrifying and most desirable neighborhoods in the United States. But it wasn't always.

In 1998, the District of Columbia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) managed sites in the Columbia Heights and Shaw neighborhoods via the U Street/Columbia Heights Task Force. Aptly worded by historian Barbara Ransby, the sites were located in what could be described as "post-economic areas" that were rife with "dilapidated and abandoned housing and dramatically dwindling services."



As a result, city officials were seeking developers to participate in the "renovation of 78 vacant Housing Authority-owned single-family properties for affordable homeownership." Linda seized the U Street/Columbia Heights Task Force opportunity. She gathered resources and organized the very people that the city, private developers, and others who operated from what Ransby also describes as "a crude capitalist standpoint" demonstrated they did not care about.

This is significant because, unlike a large percentage of the limited equity cooperatives in DC, EJBICC was not created through the Tenant

Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA), a DC law that gives tenants the first right to purchase their building if their landlord wants to sell it.

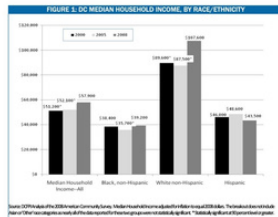
There were no tenants, and the buildings that are now our homes were properties that had been left vacant by the city for years. Instead, the co-founders worked with Manna Inc., a non-profit affordable housing organization established in 1982, and developed "scatter site" properties on six DHCD-owned parcels of land and reconfigured them into multi-unit buildings (some properties were previously single-family rowhouses). From there, the co-founders developed a recruitment strategy; they identified potential members, encouraged them to apply, interviewed them, and welcomed folks who met the coop's requirements. Today, those six parcels are homes for our fifteen households.



In 2000, when EJBICC was incorporated, Anthony Williams was mayor and the median cost of renting a one-bedroom apartment in the city was \$735 per month. Only ten years later, the median rent for a one-bedroom rose by fifty percent to \$1,100, and by 2020 median rent for a one-bedroom was \$2,700, which is a nearly three-hundred percent increase from the early 2000s. These astronomical prices were largely the result of the city adopting gentrification as its foremost redevelopment strategy - an approach that produces uneven housing development and, conversely, inequitable access to newly developed housing for low and moderate income people.

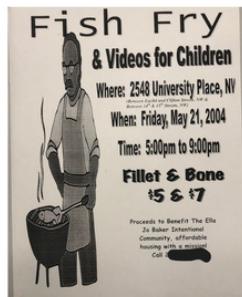
By contrast, one of our members recalls paying \$565 in 2003 and \$621 in 2010 for a one-bedroom unit. Still more impressive, in 2020, our one-bedroom units were only \$885, which is almost a \$2,000 per month difference from the city median.

According to the DC Fiscal Policy Institute, the median income for Black DC residents in 2000 was only \$38,400 (compared to \$89,600 for white residents).



Nearly three decades ago, there was not only a \$50,000 per year median income difference between Black and white people in our home city, but as of this publication, some DC residents (many of whom are our friends and family) work every day and still don't earn \$50,000 annually. This means cooperatively owned affordable housing in the city we call home is still as needed today as it was in the early 2000s.

Plus, there were five years between writing the Articles of Incorporation and when EJBICC's first member-owners moved in in 2003. The process for establishing the coop was neither short nor easy, but the co-founders and first members did so no matter what. Ajowa recalls that the first member-owners "raised money for washing machines and dryers for each unit, bars on all first-floor windows, through fish fries and yard sales."



Pause and reflect: Based on what you've read about EJBICC so far, what are the benefits and challenges of limited equity housing cooperatives? How does EJBICC's vision of housing connect to your own vision of housing?

Ella Jo Baker Intentional Cooperative Association, Inc.

TO: The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Washington, DC

We, the undersigned natural persons of the age of twenty-one or more, acting as incorporators of a cooperative association, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation pursuant of D.C. Code, Title 29, Chapter 11, or its successors:

FIRST: The name of the cooperative association is Ella Jo Baker Intentional Cooperative Association, Inc.;

SECOND: The purposes of the cooperative association are:

1. To provide housing for low and moderate-income persons on a not-for-profit, mutual benefit basis;
2. To acquire land, buildings, improvements, and associated personal properties for the mutual benefit of low and moderate income persons;
3. To build, renovate, and improve identified premises;
4. To own, operate and manage premises for the mutual benefit of its member shareowners and non-member tenants of premises, on a not-for-profit basis;
5. To enter into agreements with its members which entitle the members to occupy specified dwelling units on premises, or to lease such dwelling units, as provided in the bylaws;
6. To borrow money and issue evidence of indebtedness, and to secure the same by mortgage, pledge or other lien, in furtherance of its business;
7. To enter into any kind of activity or relationship, and to perform contracts of any kind, necessary or incidental to the overall purposes of the cooperative association;
8. To enter into a regulatory contract, recognition agreement or other similar agreement with any public or private lender or public or private mortgage guarantor or any governmental agency, for the purpose of securing loans, mortgage insurance, or other financial assistance for itself and/or its members; and
9. To do all things within its powers under the laws of the District of Columbia or incidentals to accomplishing its purposes.

By Ajowa Ifateyo, Co-Founder and Member

As a cooperative community, we haven't yet reflected on what our existence and our work as an activist community means to the smaller intentional community, the larger limited equity housing community and the even larger DC community of some 100+ housing co-ops. Certainly, lower housing costs made it easier for each of us to survive. In 2025, we're a community that has a history: Linda Leaks was recently inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame in 2023 for her work helping to start at least 19 housing cooperatives in the District and seven in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Parisa Norouzi and Linda, in 2003, formed Empower DC to continue housing justice work after WISH was disbanded around 2002. Empower DC's work has been vital to the housing community in this city. Tricia Kinch, whose passion is electoral politics, ran for DC Mayor in 2002 and, through the years supported various council races to continue work to preserve, maintain and increase affordable housing in the District. A former Jesse Jackson campaigner in 1984 and 1988, she recently was able to continue her passion by working on both of Barack Obama's presidential campaigns in 2008 and in 2012 as well as Bernie Sanders' runs for president in 2016 and in 2020. Prior to that, she was active in working around the Housing Production Trust Fund, which at that time allocated one million dollars so the city could develop affordable housing.

Other members and I, did other work, like working to form a city-wide housing cooperative federation as well as a larger DC co-op federation (both efforts did not lead to an organization but organizers are still hopeful). I was a major player in the formation of the U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives and was inducted into the NASCO Hall of Fame in 2023. As a founding board member, I served on the board for over 10 years.

We made our community room available as a resource to the broader Columbia Heights community, such that any political group could use our space for meetings. We also showed films on the back wall in the yard of 2548 for the benefit of our immediate neighbors and the progressive DC community. We attempted to ground ourselves with our immediate neighbors who occupied a public housing building very close to our homes by trying to show support when they were harassed by police.

One of our first legislative efforts was to bring together other limited equity cooperatives (LEC) in the city to push for a 5-year tax abatement because this was a time of rising property taxes. I was working as a temporary legal secretary and I learned that people need lawyers when they went to closing. We needed help. Because of that, at that time, we began a university-community partnership with American University's Community Economic and Equity Clinic (AU CEED). They have helped us go through closing, helped us with language and organizing, and we successfully got that passed, and other LECs benefited as well.

For 22 years, AU CEED has been an invaluable resource.

Another project EJIBCC was instrumental in was saving the #10 Boys and Girls Club at the corner of 14th Street and Clifton, NW. Developers wanted to decimate the boys and girls club. We organized in the neighborhood and were able to make sure the club got to stay. Right now affordable housing known as “transitional” housing stands on the land where the Boys and Girls Club’s parking lot once was. We, like most neighbors, learned about the project when construction was beginning but, had we known, we might have been able to help in some way. It would have been nice to share our experiences with cooperative housing and to present that as an option, but those were big dreams for a co-op with our collective hands full. Some of us also intended to develop an investment group to learn how to invest in the stock market, but because it took more than we thought to run the cooperative, we had little time for that.

One of the things we have discussed and agreed upon was for each member to take the extra money we save because our housing is affordable, to do something to develop ourselves.

Today, we have four writers as part of our community, two of which are well-known authors. We have a teacher, a photographer, a professor who is also an activist organizing around Palestine and a WPFW radio host (two former members also host shows), two progressive lawyers (one working as a lawyer). We also have several health professionals: a nurse, a yoga instructor, a birth doula, and I am a nutritionist. While a member, I have earned three graduate degrees, two at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU), and the last at Maryland University of Integrative Health. One former member started her own transportation company during the pandemic, and members supported her business. I was able to attend SNHU, bought a car, and did yoga training.

We adopted the Kwanzaa principles as well as the International Cooperative Alliance to align ourselves with collective values and the international cooperative movement. One of the first benefits was that we were able to continue to do work for the creation and maintenance of affordable housing in the District.

We also became members of the Potomac Association of Cooperative Housing, a LEC organization that had members of HUD cooperatives in both Baltimore and Washington, DC. We also aligned ourselves with the North American Students of Cooperation, which developed mostly student housing cooperatives on college campuses, but some community cooperatives as well. And we became a member of the Federation of Intentional Communities to firmly ensconce ourselves with others in the movement to create specific types of communities, in particular, and the co-op movement generally, to learn from and participate in.

We purchased a housing co-op maintenance book from and attended conferences of the National Association of Housing Cooperatives based in D.C. We understood the necessity for education and training based on understanding the work of Ella Baker and our previous history as feminist, nationalist, and internationalist organizers. We celebrated Baker’s birthday on December 13, affirming our commitment to cooperative principles and participatory governance. One of our dreams, building on Ella’s work, was to organize people in our immediate neighborhood - on our streets, Clifton and University - to start a buying club for food items that we all could benefit from, such as rice, flour, seasoning, oil, and laundry detergent.



We understood the necessity for education and training based on understanding the work of Ella Baker and our previous history as feminist, nationalist, and internationalist organizers. We celebrated Baker's birthday on December 13, affirming our commitment to cooperative principles and participatory governance.



Those did not materialize because we got overwhelmed with running the co-operative itself. In 2023-24, some of our members took great pleasure in acting as resources to help the people of Baldwin House Community Collective form their cooperative, and our collaboration discussions continue.

We are also collaborating closely with experts on affordable housing in DC, real estate, contract law, housing grants, property management, and more. We are grateful for their support in moving this project forward.

Our collaborators:

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)	Lender
North American Students of Cooperation	Fiscal sponsor
Beloved Community Incubator	Legal advisors
Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community	Mentors and inspirers
Howard Fair Housing Clinic	Legal advisors
Mi Casa	Development consultants
Page Southerland Page	Architect consultants
UDC Community Development Law Clinic	Legal advisors
Embolden Real Estate	Development consultant
Studio Lyew & EMOTIVE Architecture	Project design team

A screenshot from the Baldwin House Collective acknowledging support from EJBICC.

Working with Manna, Inc. we set up the property so that it would remain affordable for 99 years. We think one of our greatest contributions to the future is to show in living color an example that we can take care of our own needs for housing. We feel this is important modeling and we intend to share our experiences and learning over 22 years to show others the way, or as Ella would say “give light and others will find their way.”

Additionally, one member worked with then Councilwoman Anita Bonds to educate the DC Council about cooperatives and helped with the CNHD study on housing cooperatives in the District. Mayor Marion Barry had a dream to make DC a national cooperative model city. This is an important point to know. Check it out: <https://geo.coop/story/marion-barry-dcs-co-op-mayor>

That member also helped to create a video to document the history of cooperative housing. We see a need to do more education about ways that people can create their own housing cooperatives so they can continue to live in the city, and we want to share our experiences to do that. Another member was a part of the international music scene. I traveled to Cuba, Mexico, and Spain to learn about cooperatives there, Mexico to learn about cooperative organizing and ecotourism, and Spain to study with the Mondragon Cooperative Corporation.

We understand with humility that had it not been for EJBICC we would not be able to stay in this neighborhood as we have become surrounded by buildings where units are valued in the millions and one-bedroom apartments cost upwards of \$3,350 to rent. We would be among the thousands forced to relocate to other parts of the city or Maryland.

We have modeled how groups of people can live and work together: when we started, we had one Jewish woman, one Lebanese man, two white women, an Iranian American woman, one Colombian woman, and five African American women. We were also unique in that we had people who identified as lesbian, bi-sexual and heterosexual who modeled living together in a built community where each was respected as an individual. Some believe in religions, others do not. Some were spiritual; others were not. We had young people and elders living in communion with each other.

We had people who did simple ways of improving the world by volunteering to visit AIDS patients as well as those doing national and international work. Today, our members include one member from Togo and an Afro-Honduran woman, nine African American women, two Jewish women, and one Lebanese man. As Jessica points out, we built safe spaces for women, we helped each other navigate political changes, and helped each other survive - all lessons we are eager to share with others who can benefit from our experience to help us all navigate changes to come.

Hopefully, building on the wisdom of Ella Baker, other leaders and our own life and living organizing experiences, we can help other generations of people, from all walks of life, build on our experiences and expand this form of organizing to be a larger and more powerful process of meeting housing needs. The need to be supported and nurtured by the community is given a high priority.

We are learning every day how to manage conflict, have more efficient meetings using sociocracy, learning better engagement with each other, and to be better Earth citizens by living sustainably to respect our Earth Mother in our practices. We have a community garden, and we have a community of several children, and, in fact, we have grown up at least six children who came of age in this cooperative intentional community. We hope they will spread the word of what's possible and how we can collaborate to meet our needs and build on that.

As cooperators, we learn how to be better citizens and leaders. This is what we offer as our ongoing and continuing legacy: how to be a meaningful and nurturing homeplace that is community-centered, keeps us connected and growing, and able to respond to the conditions of the world around us as we build on each other's strengths, love, and sense of justice.

Images:

4. EJBICC Articles of Incorporation: Certificate (Source: The People's Archive WISH Collection)
5. Co-Founders and Early Members: Linda, Ajowa, Marquita (seated in shorts), Parisa Norouzi, Beverly Cannon (holding binder), Robin Williams Ashton (seated with red binder) (Source: Linda Leaks's personal collection)
7. Co-Founders and Current Members: Single picture of Linda and Ajowa's newspaper interview (Source: Linda Leaks and Ajowa Ifateyo's respective personal collections); WISH staff picture (Source: Linda Leaks's personal collection)
8. Fact Sheet/Waitlist Application circa 2011 (Source: Jessica A. Rucker's personal collection)
9. Before and After Renovation circa 2003 (Source: Linda Leaks's personal collection)
10. Washington Post article (Source: The People's Archive WISH Collection) and Groundbreaking circa 2002 (Source: Linda Leaks's personal collection)
11. DC median household income graph (Source: DC Fiscal Policy Institute); Fundraising flyer (Source: The People's Archive WISH Collection)
12. EJBICC Articles of Incorporation: Purposes (Source: The People's Archive WISH Collection)
16. Baldwin House acknowledgement (Source: Ajowa Ifateyo's personal collection)

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