



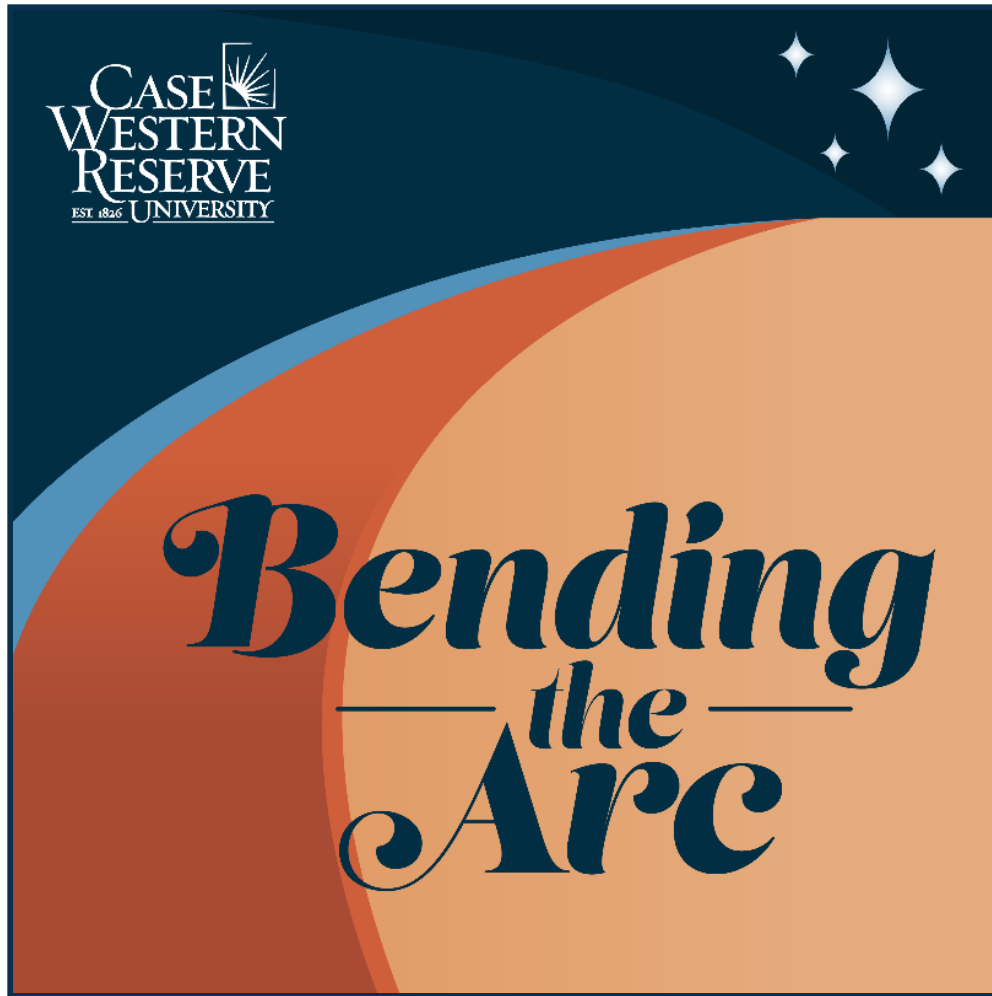
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New Bending the Arc Podcast Release

Black feminist lens on mixed-income community development

“Bending the Arc” explores the everyday work of creating inclusive, equitable and racially just communities.

This podcast spotlights bold thinking and action by creative, passionate, experienced thinkers and actors from cities and communities around the US and Canada.

[NEW Episode 7!](#): In this episode we talk with [Dr. Akira Drake Rodriguez](#), Assistant Professor at the Weitzman School of Design at the University of

Pennsylvania and [Research Affiliate](#) with the National Initiative of Mixed-Income Communities. Dr. Drake Rodriguez co-authored an [essay for the What Works Volume](#) with Majeedah Rashid that applies a Black feminist lens to the issue of mixed-income community development. In our conversation we examine the tension between community development and community organizing and Dr. Drake Rodriguez introduces us to the notion of Black feminist-centered organizing as an approach to navigating this tension. She describes the specific case of Nicetown CDC on the north side of Philadelphia as a case of Black feminist-centered community organizing in action. Her new book, called "[Diverging Space for Deviants: The Politics of Atlanta's Public Housing](#)," will be released May 15, 2021. Preorder it [here](#).

Read the essay from Dr. Drake Rodriguez and Majeedah Rashid here: "[Black Feminist-Centered Community Organizing as a Framework for Developing Inclusive Mixed-Income Communities: Nicetown CDC's Village Network and Outreach Initiatives in Philadelphia](#)."

Previously Featured on *Bending the Arc*:

[All 7 Episodes available here](#).

[Episode 6: Frankie Blackburn and Bill Traynor](#)

In our last episode we talked with Frankie Blackburn and Bill Traynor of [Trusted Space Partners](#), a consulting firm they created in 2011 to promote what they call *community network building*, a highly effective way to strengthen relationships and build social support across lines of difference. They work with resident leaders, real estate executives, property managers, service providers and others to design and advance creative approaches to shift the operating culture in organizations and neighborhoods.

In this conversation, they talk about the community building philosophy and techniques that they have been deploying in mixed-income development efforts around the country. They provide specific examples from their work with the Trek Development real estate company in Pittsburgh.

You can read more about their work with Trek in their essay, "[A Call for Property Management Transformation To Meet the Challenges of Mixed-Income Communities](#)."

Learn more: [Sign up](#) for updates about the podcast and our other work!

Follow us on Twitter at [@MixedIncome](#) and like [our page on Facebook](#) to stay in the loop about the latest research and information about mixed-income communities.

Help us spread the word! If any of the ideas or implications for actions

presented resonate with you, please share your thoughts with us and others in your network.



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