

[View this email in a web page](#)

National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities

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.

[Listen to all podcast episodes.](#)

Episode 7: Dr. Akira Drake Rodriguez



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](#). In our conversation we examine the tension between community development and community organizing.

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.

Previously Featured on "Bending the Arc":

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 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.](#)"

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

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.

© 2023 Case Western Reserve University
10900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7164
216.368.2290 | mandelschoolnews@case.edu