



# Drive to Justice: Lunch and Learn

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
12:30pm

# Introductions



# Agenda

- What is Drive to Justice?
- Who and What is our Focus?
- Storytelling and Community Outreach
- Public Education-Legal Aid
- Q&A
- Next Steps



# What is Drive To Justice?

- **Debt-Related Driver's License Suspension** is a practice that hurts impoverished communities far more than wealthy ones. Debt-based suspension perpetuates the cycle of poverty, inhibits wealth building, and worsens the health and wellbeing of the community as a whole.
- **Neighborhood Connections** started a **"Drive to Justice"** initiative to help raise awareness about this issue. Eventually, we envision launching a campaign to ultimately end the law on a statewide level. We are beginning this movement in Northeast Ohio.
- We are actively engaging with drivers and community partners around Cleveland and East Cleveland who have been affected by the state's debt-related suspension policies.



# Who and What is our Focus?

## **Audience**

- People who have experience debt-based drivers license suspension
- Youth ages 18-24 who have been impacted the most
- Underserved Communities
- Policy Makers
- Leaders and influencers in the community

## **What is our Focus?**

- Develop alternative options in place of fees and fines for Debt based driver's licenses suspension
- Repeal Policies
- Learn from other local and national organizations who are doing this work



# Storytelling and Community Outreach

## Spreading Awareness and Documenting Stories

**Drive to Justice: Dinner and Dialogue**- community coming together to share a meal, discuss Debt-Related Driver's License Suspension, and address the problem, which is a perfect representation of systemic inequity.

**Storytelling Series**-creating space to record stories and hopefully share them with others impacted by this issue. Individuals share the obstacles of losing their driver's licenses and the barriers they face throughout their reinstatement journeys.

**Attending Existing Community Meetings and Hosting events**-Neighbor Up Nights, Ward Meetings, etc. Incorporating the arts. Poetry, musicians, muralist that captures this issue in a captivating manner.



# What we've heard

“ I can't help myself if I have no license because I can't tag my car or drive to any doctors, grocery or do basic necessary things. I want to stand up to help others like me who can't even help their self. “

“My husband before we were married had his license suspended for child support issues. And it was not even his fault! They had messed up their record-keeping and not posted things timely. From that time on we made it a point to go into the Administration Building and hand deliver the payments to get a time stamped receipt. Fortunately for us, we knew someone at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles who could help us get the suspension released without going through too many hoops. But I remember thinking then, how can someone pay child support when you take away their ability to drive to work? This happened close to 20 years ago. It is sad to hear that this craziness is still going on.”

“My license are suspended, and I owe the courts \$890 and the DMV \$465 and I'm just trying to pay them back. I don't have the money right now to pay them back. I've been waiting on my taxes and I still haven't got it”





***Storytelling Series:  
Cassandra Gordon, Central-Kinsman***



# Public Education

[Legal Aid Presentation](#)



# DRIVE TO JUSTICE: STORYTELLING SERIES 2.0

Monday, December 5th  
5:30-7:30 pm

MidTown Tech Hive  
6815 Euclid Avenue, Rm 111



Share your story.  
JOIN THE DRIVE.



# How would you like to stay involved?



A coalition to **end** driver's license suspensions and the far-reaching impacts that come with it.

**JOIN THE DRIVE.**

1. Join internal committee
2. Spread the word of any upcoming events or activities
3. Attend an info workshop and/or volunteer
4. Help with connecting us to key players
5. Stay in the loop (email chain)