

Part VIII of the **Tools to Engage** Webinar Series

#OurNeighborhoods Anti-Displacement Toolkit



Building Movement Project
www.tools2engage.org

Agenda

- Introduction
- What is the Tools to Engage Webinar series?
- Understanding the #OurNeighborhoods Anti-Displacement Toolkit
- Questions and Answers
- Additional Resources



ABOUT THE BUILDING MOVEMENT PROJECT



Leadership

Analyzing how organizations can do their best work by promoting the most effective and inclusive practices

Reports

Race to Lead: Confronting the Nonprofit Racial Leadership Gap

Blog

The Leadership in Leaving

Reports

Vision for Change



Service and Social Change

Developing the capacity of organizations to engage constituents in changing the systems that impact them

Tools

Service and Social Change

Blog

Small Shifts, Big Change

Reports

Crossing Organizational Boundaries to Build New Partnerships



Movement Building

Acknowledging and building on the distinct role of nonprofit organizations in advancing movements for social change

Reports

The Respect ABQ Women Campaign

Blog

Learning How to ACT UP

Blog

Detroiters Reclaiming Voice and Power



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What is the **Tools to Engage** Webinar Series?

- **Tools2engage.org** is our new website, full of research, resources, and tools from across the social sector to help organizations align their principles and practices
- The **webinar series** highlights the innovative ways various groups across the country integrating constituent engagement, policy advocacy, and racial equity into their organization's work, culture, and values



Today's Presenters

Quinn Rhi

Organizing Network Manager
National CAPACD

Manisha Anna Lance

Director of Programs
Raksha Inc

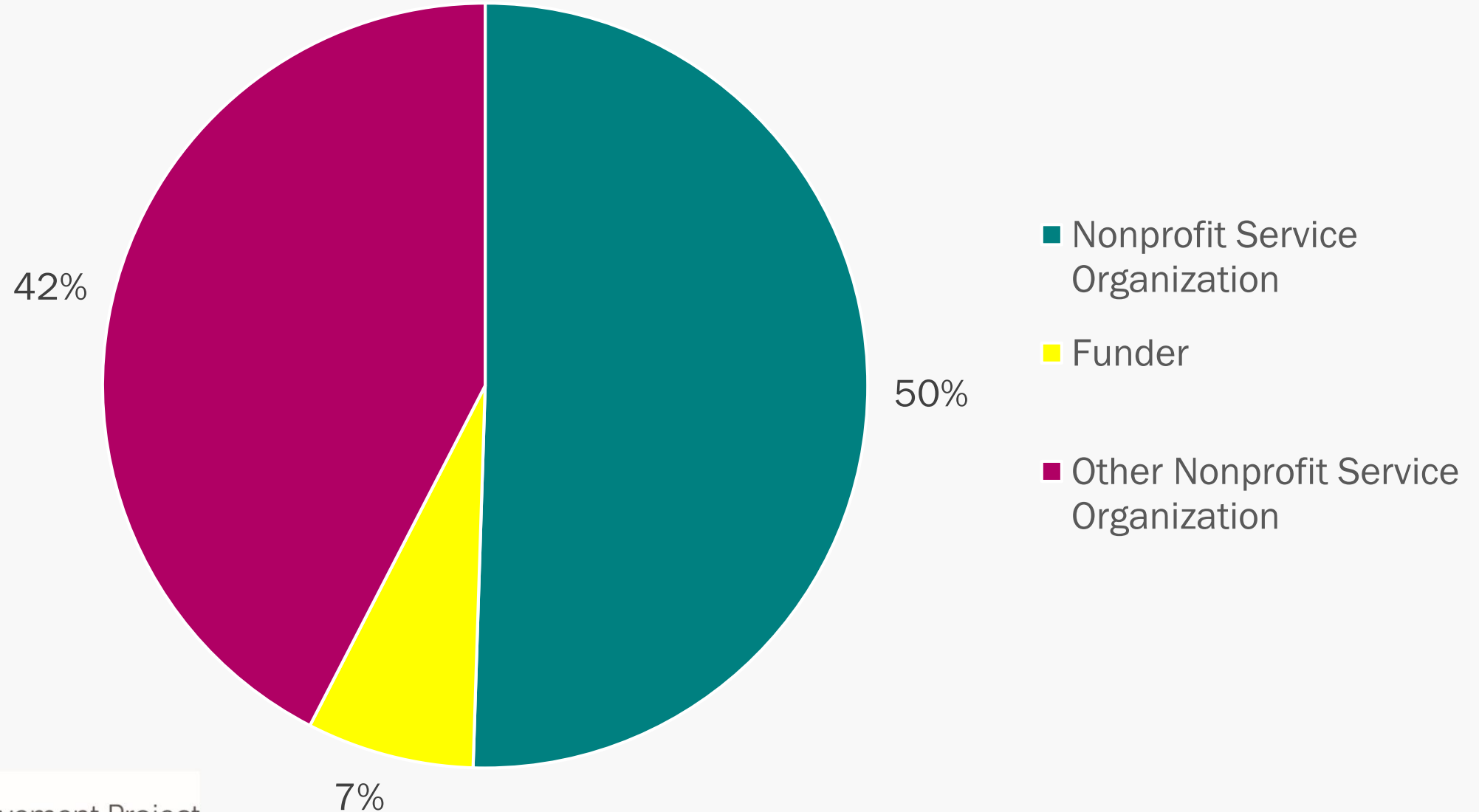
Karimah Dillard, LMSW, RDT/BCT

Community Partnerships
and Development Manager
Raksha Inc



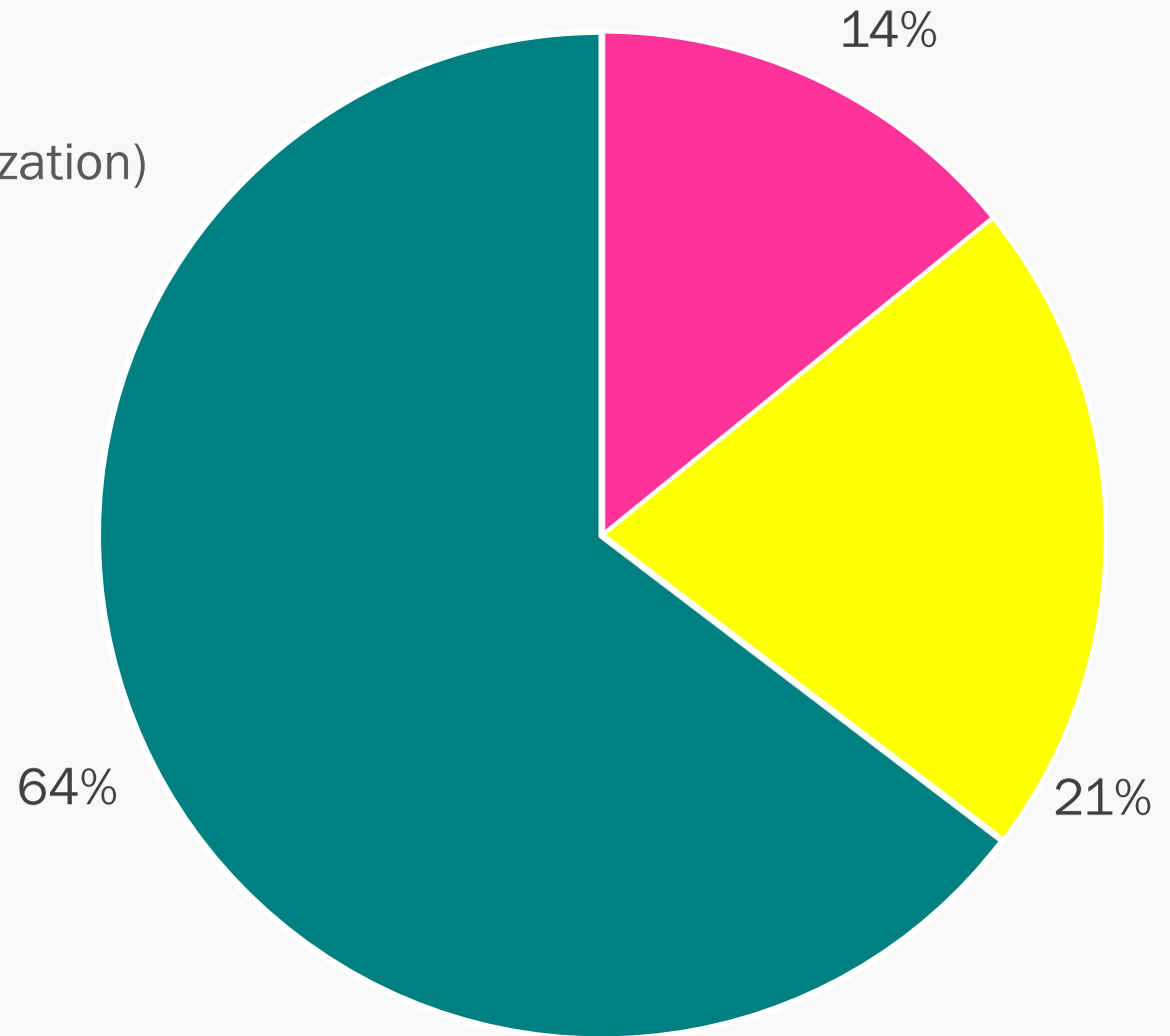
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Poll Question: Please select the type of organization you work for.



Poll Question: Please select the title that best fits your current role.

- Organizational Leader
- Capacity Builder (Internal to Organization)
- Organizational Consultant
- Organizational Staff



#OurNeighborhoods Anti-Displacement Toolkit



Building Movement tool2engage - Feb 13, 2020



Introduction



National CAPACD is a coalition of more than 100 community-based organizations spanning 19 states and the Pacific Islands. Our vision of social and economic justice in the US emerges when low income Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have the information, resources, and power necessary to engage, thrive, and have a voice in shaping their neighborhoods and communities.

Agenda

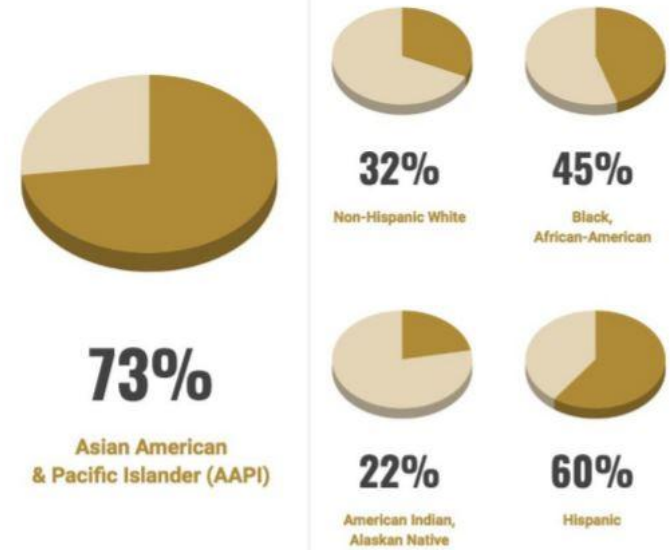
- Gentrification and displacement
- Overview of toolkit website
- Why this toolkit?
- Presentation by Raksha
- Q&A



AAPIs and Displacement

- Gentrification and displacement as an AAPI issue
- Despite the “model minority” myth, AAPIs are the fastest growing poverty population
- Three-quarters of poor AAPIs live in the most expensive housing markets.
- Close to two-thirds of poor AAPIs live in the most expensive neighborhoods, a rate that is nearly double that of the national poverty population

Percentage of People in Poverty, by Race, Living in High Housing Cost MSAs



Toolkit Overview

- [Building Tenant Power](#)
- [Building Neighborhood Power](#)
- [#OurStories](#)
- [Data Resources](#)

Both the tenant and neighborhood organizing guides and select stories are translated into 5 languages (Bangla, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese)



Website Walk through

Check out the website at
www.aapineighborhoods.org!



Relevancy of the toolkit

- Planting the seed for systems change and organizing
- Allowing community members to engage with
 - Sample tenant agenda
- Engaging other coalition members
 - Policies that protect tenants
- Using data page to “case make” with local legislators
- Using stories from other groups to also “case make” and inspire others to see what kinds of actions or change is possible





Introduction

Manisha Anna Lance is the Director of Programs at Raksha, Inc in Atlanta, Georgia. Manisha has been advocating for South Asian and immigrant survivors exposed to violence for over ten years. Manisha currently serves on the boards of the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Karibu Community Legacy. Manisha was a National CAPACD, Community in the Capitol Fellow in 2019. She is actively involved with various human rights, environmental and justice based organizations in Atlanta GA.



Manisha Lance, Director of Programs,
Raksha, Inc



Introduction

Karimah Dillard, LMSW, RDT/BCT is the Community Partnerships and Development Manager for Raksha Inc. where she is responsible for developing strategic partnerships to address emerging needs of south Asian survivors of domestic violence. Karimah engages other immigrant/refugee organizations as well as ally organizations that work with under-resourced populations to collectively address the intersectional issues that impact survivors. Karimah also serves as a Board member with Housing Justice League of Atlanta.



Karimah Dillard, LMSW, RDT/BCT
Community Partnerships & Development
Manager



Background on Raksha's work

- **Mission**
- **South Asian and other immigrant survivors**
- **Atlanta, Georgia area**
- **Confidential Support Services**

The Intersections between Safety & Accessibility

Broad overview of how housing, affordability, and safety show up with survivors

- **Affordability is often outside the financial means of survivors**
- **Affordability often means displacement from community**
- **Loss of religious community, school network, friends and community members, etc**
- **Documentation status is often a barrier for survivors being able to access permanent housing**
- **Not having a work permit/Lack of income**
- **Working under the table and not being able to verify employment status**
- **Lack of credit history**

Toolkit as a tool for?

- **Raksha does not fit into framework of tenant or neighborhood organizing BUT**
- **Believe that people are not just survivors, but individuals with other intersecting identities**
- **Toolkit as a way to educate community**
 - **Multi-lingual: use with other immigrant and refugee groups and eventually be part of Housing Justice League together**

Challenges and Opportunities

HB 834-Georgia's Leasing Law

- **Opportunity:** A survivor can break her lease if she is a victim of DV
- **Challenge:** Lease bifurcation has been a mixed bag when there is a lack of affordability

HB 346 - Landlord retaliation Law

- **Opportunity:** Protects tenants from retaliation from their landlords if the tenant calls code enforcement
- **Challenge:** When a landlord knows a tenant is undocumented, they use their documentation status as a means of intimidation

Stop Gap Measures

Stop gap measures to help survivors around affordability

Rental Assistance: Financial assistance to help with rent

- **Challenge: Conditioned on grant funding**
- **Opportunity: It's great when we have it!**

Pad Split: shared housing within community

- **Challenge: the residents are not considered tenants and do not have tenant protections**
- **Opportunity: Offers affordable, transitional housing for individuals**
- **Challenge: Not good for families**



Stop Gap Measures cont.

Open Doors Atlanta: Agency that works with landlords to relieve some of the rental requirements

- **Opportunity: helps with affordability and accessibility across counties**
- **Challenge: Often survivors have an aversion to these neighborhoods based on internalized perceptions of people from other races, cultures, neighborhoods**

Working with Housing Justice League on Systems Change

- Informally affiliated with Housing Justice League (part of Right to the City)
- This year, HJL is releasing a policy platform to preserve affordable housing in Atlanta
- Two policies Raksha can potentially organize survivors around are:
 - Redefining affordability at 0-30% of AMI
 - Rent control

Leadership development & the National CAPACD Toolkit

- In the spirit of those Survivors who rose up and advocated for change during the Battered Women's Movement of the 60's/70's, we have discussed developing leadership with our clients as well as within our partner organizations and providing them tools to advocate for systemic change at the local level. One of the tools we could use would be the National CAPACD toolkit for building tenant power.
- Through know your rights workshops, learning how to talk to their landlords, learning how to organize their neighbors and how to educate legislators on the issues impacting their survival, we can provide survivors with real tools to help them improve the conditions of their daily lives.

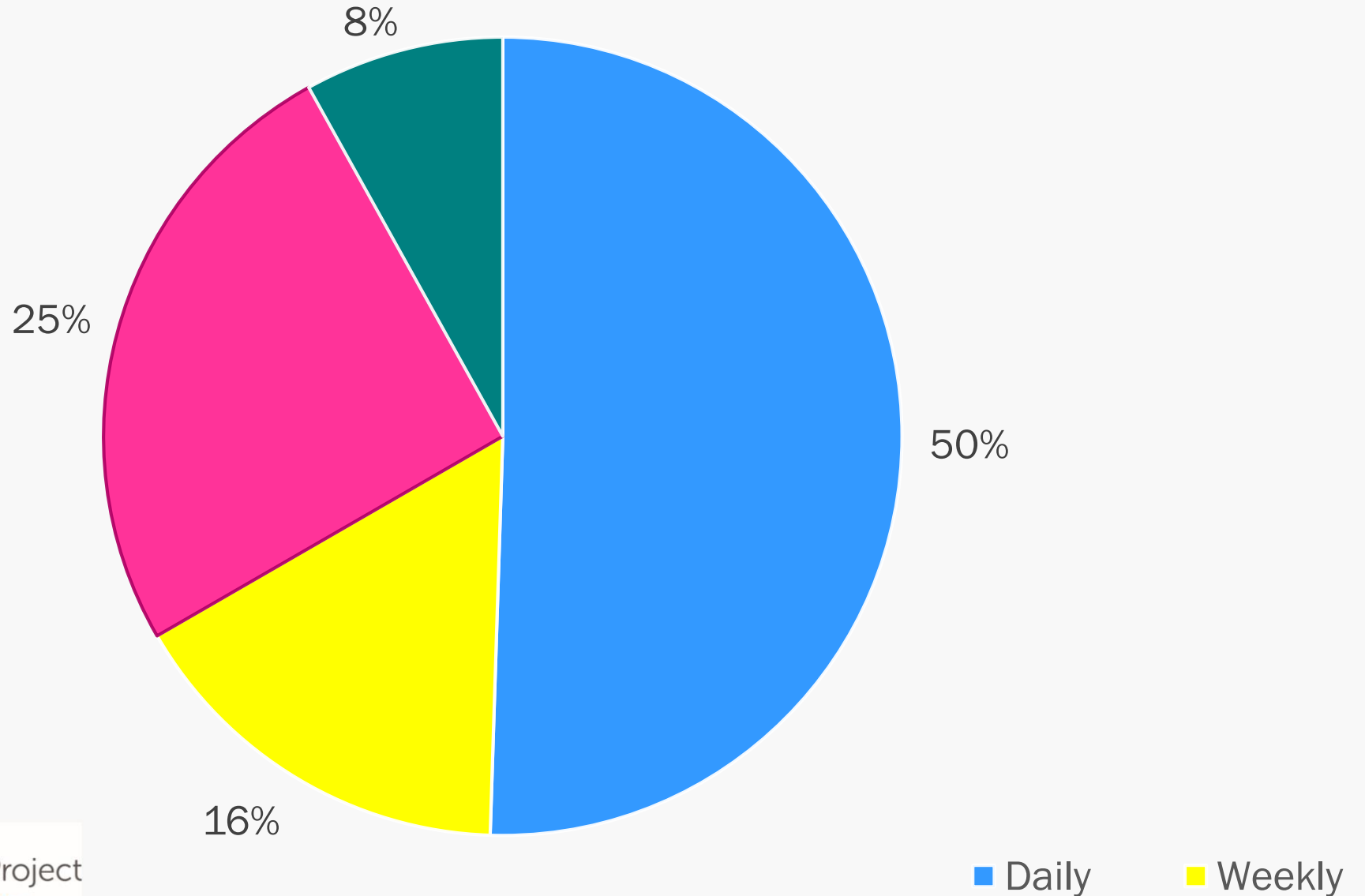
Questions?



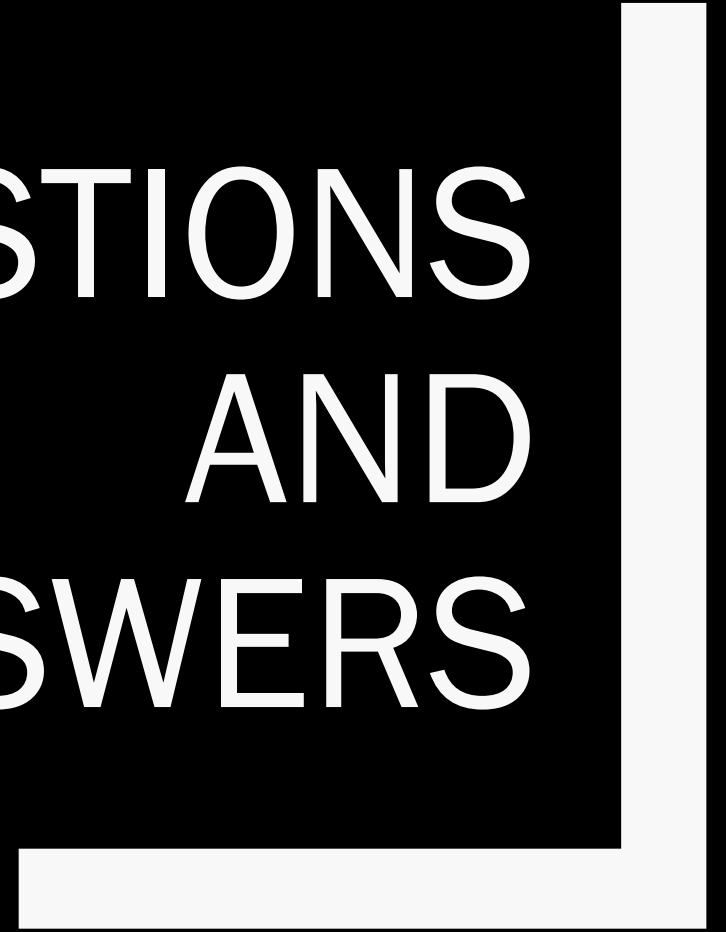
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Poll Question: How often do you hear about displacement and gentrification in your work?



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Additional Resources from BMP



Thank you!

Visit tools2engage.org today

Questions? Comments? Want to learn more?

Contact info@buildingmovement.org



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