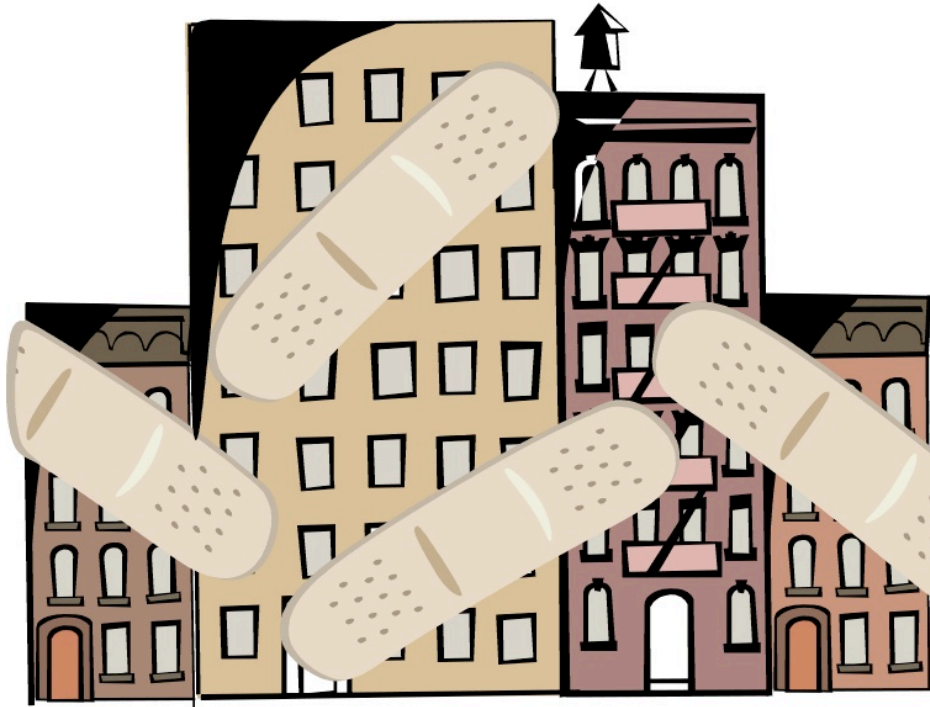


*"Affordable"*

# NO MORE Housing Scams



**The housing crisis will not be solved with band-aids!**

**NO MAHS is a forum for housing activists, tenants, squatters, community organizers and homeless people to discuss how to secure land and how to access and preserve *truly* affordable housing and community space, through:**

- **Direct action**
- **Land trusts and land banking**
- **Community planning**
- **Participatory budgeting**

**Join us in redefining the housing movement!**

**Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30 – 5 @ Hunter College/CUNY  
West Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
68<sup>th</sup> and Lexington**

**To RSVP and for more information, contact:  
212-650-3328**

**[communitylandnyc@gmail.com](mailto:communitylandnyc@gmail.com)**

# **T H E C A L L :**

## **NO MORE “AFFORDABLE” HOUSING SCAMS: TOWARDS COMMUNITY CONTROL OF LAND IN NEW YORK CITY**

**Affordable housing programs were designed to fail. They do not serve low-income people, they are not permanent, and they benefit developers more than communities. They contribute to gentrification and displacement of communities of color. They rob our communities of the power to make decisions about our future. The longstanding affordable housing crisis has gotten worse with the current financial crisis, leaving us with vacant buildings, massive foreclosures, and even more homelessness.**

**This is a call for those who are tired of being told that their dream for truly sustainable housing, free from market pressures, is unreasonable, impractical, or naïve. This conference aims to create a space where we can radically re-imagine what is possible in our struggles over land, learn about some of the concrete skills to implement new strategies for community control over our resources, and build and strengthen ties within the housing, community and social justice movements.**

**There are other paradigms for community-based control of land and resources that can help move our communities forward! Community Land Trusts, Land Banking, Participatory Budgeting, Land Takeovers, Squatting, and Community-Based planning are just a few of these. We need to familiarize ourselves with these and other approaches, and reformulate our strategies to build community power.**

**The conference will be organized in two general sections. First, we will explore why land is fundamental, the history of its privatization and commodification, including NYC’s specific history with land use and community based movements for control over land. This will set the stage for understanding the way affordable housing policies and programs have become scams. We will have time for discussion, then break, and return to discuss tactics and strategies including but not limited to those mentioned above. We will have time for break-out groups and a closing conversation among all people who come.**

**We need your support and input. What would you like to see included in this conference? What results would you like to see come out of it? Do you or your organization have any special needs we should be aware of?**

**Conference organizers: Peter Aleksa, Tom Angotti, Sam Imperatrice, Francesca Manning, Mario Mazzone, Frank Morales, Felix Gottdiener, Avi Rosenthalis, Mary Tek**