

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

CHALLENGING THE POWERS THAT BE

BUILDING THE POWER OF WE

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2021 brought us unprecedented challenges —and opportunities for growth. At Stand Up Nashville, we rose to the occasion. We're proud to present this rundown of some of our greatest achievements this year.”

- ODESSA KELLY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STANDING FOR NASHVILLE'S:

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STANDING FOR NASHVILLE'S WORKERS



THE GET IT RIGHT BILL

Nashville's construction industry is booming, but at what cost? Nashville workers have been subjected to wage theft, exploitation by temp agencies, COVID-19 exposure and jobsite fatalities. We fought for the "Get It Right" Bill, which secured better safety standards and labor protections for construction workers on Metro projects and expanded the Procurement Standards Board to include worker and community voices.

FEATURED IN



'Get It Right' bill proposes more accountability to Nashville construction code

MUSIC CITY CONSTRUCTION CAREERS

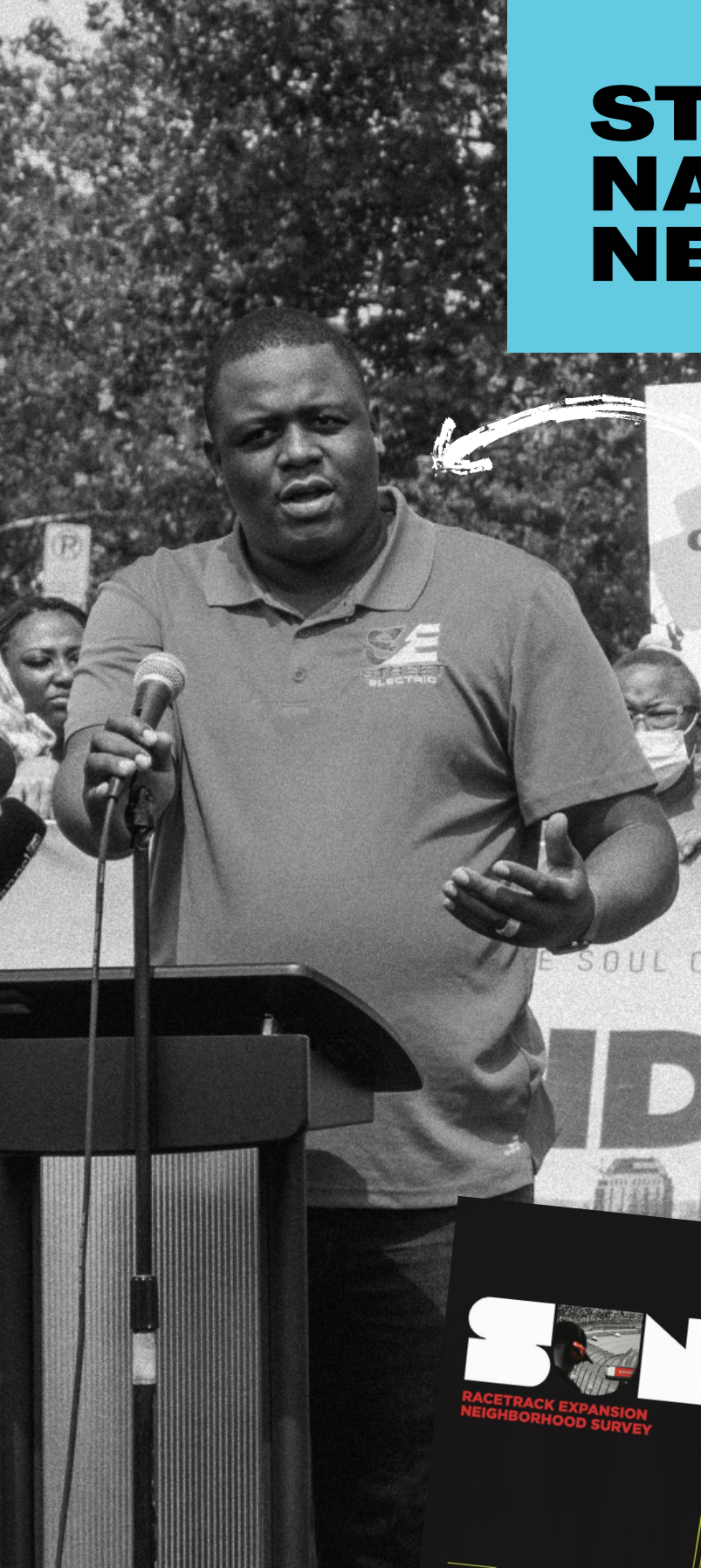
The Music City Construction Careers (MC3) apprenticeship readiness training program creates pathways to middle-class building trades jobs for Nashville residents, with an emphasis on serving women, communities of color, transitioning veterans, and other populations historically underserved by workforce development programs. This year, we graduated three classes of trainees, who were placed into apprenticeships and will go on to earn quality wages in union-backed jobs.

THE CBA STARTS HIRING

The Community Benefits Agreement we achieved in 2018 continues to benefit Nashville, as the first jobs for the new MLS soccer stadium have begun hiring. In 2021, SUN hired Nate Carter, our first-ever Director of Workforce and Employment, who will work to find qualified candidates and help place them in the jobs on the site. Future workers will have guaranteed wage and safety benefits.

The fruits of our CBA-related labor don't end there. 160 affordable housing units are becoming a reality, and thanks to the incredible leadership of the Community Advisory Committee, corners aren't being cut and the community's voice is being heard.

STANDING FOR NASHVILLE'S NEIGHBORS



#PIPELINESNOTPIPEDREAMS ON THE EAST BANK

The East Bank of the Cumberland River represents Nashville's most valuable piece of undeveloped land, and so it was concerning to us that Metro's East Bank Planning Study seemed to overlook key community interests. We took action, calling on the Planning Department to slow down the study to provide for community feedback, and continue to work with Metro to advocate for affordable housing, worker protections and diverse small business opportunities on the East Bank.

FEATURED IN

Tennessean. Stand Up Nashville, community groups call for slowdown of East Bank Planning Study

GETTING A BETTER DEAL FOR RIVERCHASE

Big Tech is exacerbating Nashville's housing crisis. Black, Brown and working-class neighborhoods are experiencing intense displacement pressures. Stand Up Nashville is working with RiverChase residents to ensure their rights are protected, including a clear process for returning, as the property is redeveloped. We are also working with the developer to increase the number of affordable units from 150 to 220 with a focus on 0-60% AMI.

SPEAKING UP FOR SPEEDWAY NEIGHBORS

In anticipation of Metro's agreement with Bristol Motor Speedway to renovate the Fairgrounds racetrack facilities, Stand Up Nashville did what no one else would - we canvassed the surrounding neighborhoods to find out what residents, not the corporate entities, wanted to see come out of the project. After surveying more than 500 residents, we found that 74% of neighbors had concerns about the proposed racetrack expansion as currently planned.

We created a report of our findings and presented it to the Metro Nashville Fair Board in July, holding public officials and Bristol Motor Speedway accountable to community input.



READ THE REPORT

standupnashville.org/proposed-racetrack-community-survey-is-complete/

STANDING FOR COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

We know that decision-making in Nashville isn't left exclusively to our elected officials—often that falls to appointed members of Metro's various Boards and Commissions, and those appointees have overwhelmingly been white, wealthy and well-connected. This year we graduated the first-ever class of the BCLI, which trained 14 future leaders from Black, Brown, and working-class backgrounds with the knowledge and skills they need to govern for the common good. Several graduates are already serving, with more to come soon.

WE DECIDE TN

Any advocate knows that taking the fight for working families to Metro isn't enough—the state government often overrides any good choices that our city government makes. That's why we formed the WeDecide TN Coalition—a collaboration between groups from across the state to fight against state interference. This coalition fought for paid sick leave and inclusionary zoning bills, and formed a broader defensive network to combat state laws that preempt local control.



MEET THE 2021 FELLOWS

[standupnashville.org/
category/bcli-fellows/](https://standupnashville.org/category/bcli-fellows/)



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2022

GROWING OUR TEAM

Between 2020 and 2021, our staff tripled in size to accommodate the ever-growing needs of our city. We are only getting bigger and better from here. We're excited to introduce you to our new team members - stay tuned for a big announcement in 2022!

TAKING ON GOLIATH

With mega-rich tech corporations like Amazon, Facebook and Oracle setting up shop in Nashville, we know big changes are on the horizon, and corporate entities know how to pull the strings of government to get what they want. Nashville's neighborhoods need an organization fighting for our needs, so we're gearing up for a fight against these global titans in our own backyard.

MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK FOR US

Continuing the work we've done with BCLI, in 2022 we're launching the Sunshine Squad, a team of volunteers who will be trained to track Nashville's most important Boards and Commissions and hold them accountable to the people they serve. We're also pushing the Planning Commission to adopt a Racial Equity Lens to transform the building blocks of our city.

INFO@STANDUPNASHVILLE.ORG

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If it sounds like we did a lot this year, it's because we did! The race for growth and development in Nashville has gone into hyperdrive, and so we had to gear up to meet the moment – our neighbors have never needed a voice more than now.

We couldn't have done it without the support of volunteers, donors, interns, organizers and partner organizations. Thank you all so much. We're looking forward to continuing the fight with you in 2022."

- ODESSA KELLY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR