# MKE UNITED Anti-Displacement Fund March 2020 Update



# **City of Milwaukee Anti-Displacement Plan**

#### A Place in the Neighborhood

An Anti-Displacement Plan for Neighborhoods Surrounding Downtown Milwaukee



City of Milwaukee Department of City Development

February 2018



# **Recommendation:**

# Assist existing homeowners retain their homes

"Identify resources to assist low and moderate income homeowners in neighborhoods where rapidly rising values may create a property tax hardship."

## **Anti-Displacement Fund Timeline**

- **December 2018:** Common Council directs DCD to develop a proposed local framework for an Anti-Displacement Tax Fund modeled on the Atlanta Westside Future Fund.
- May 2019: DCD presents a potential framework for Anti-Displacement Tax Fund to Common Council. Proposal notes the need to identify a local sponsor, program administrator, and raise private (non-governmental) funds.

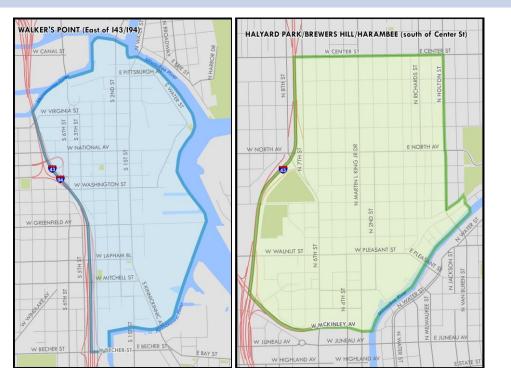
# **Anti-Displacement Fund Timeline**

- June 2019: MKE United agrees to explore sponsoring the creation of the Anti-Displacement Fund.
- October 2019: MKE United secures sufficient fundraising commitments to launch MKE Anti-Displacement Fund during 2019 tax season. Fund contributions were provided by generous philanthropic and private donors, since no public funds can be utilized for tax assistance payments.

# **Anti-Displacement Fund Timeline**

- November 18, 2019: MKE United Anti-Displacement Fund launches, begins accepting applications.
- November 2019 January 2020: Neighborhood outreach and applications.
- January 10, 2020: Application period ends.
- January 22, 2020: Anti-Displacement Fund tax assistance payments transmitted to City Treasurer's Office.

# **Anti-Displacement Fund Neighborhoods**



- Average assessed value of homes increased more than 10% above city average increase between 2014-2019
- Identified by Anti-Displacement Plan as exhibiting indicators associated with risk of displacement due to rising property values

# **Partnerships**



(Fund Sponsor)



Milwaukee
 Urban League



(Technical Assistance)



WAIIKFF

# **Partnerships**



(Fund Administrator)

WEST CARE



(3<sup>rd</sup> Party Eligibility Certification)



(Outreach and Engagement Partners)

# Outreach | November 2019 – January 2020

- 2 mailings to 1,100 homeowners
- 7 informational sessions at Urban League, Arts @ Large, UCC
- 16 application open houses at Urban League, The Vibe, Mitchell St. BID, Mitchell Library, UCC
- Door-to-door outreach by WestCare, SOC
- Shared information at neighborhood meetings



- 156 applications received
- 111 applicants certified as eligible for assistance through Fund\*
- 86 participants received property tax assistance with 2020 tax bill 25 additional participants did not experience a tax increase in 2019 but are eligible for assistance in future program years
- Fund provided \$38,356 in tax assistance payments (\$446 average)

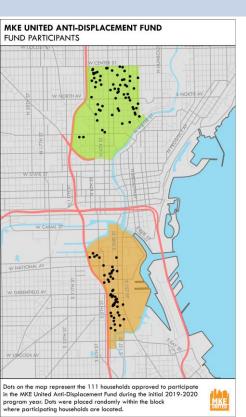
\*Represents 43% of 260 estimated eligible households in Fund areas.

# **Eligibility Criteria**

- Owner occupied homes in program
  area
- Must have owned property since January 1, 2015 (or inherited from family member)
- Current on real estate taxes and not subject to mortgage foreclosure
- Income at or below City averages

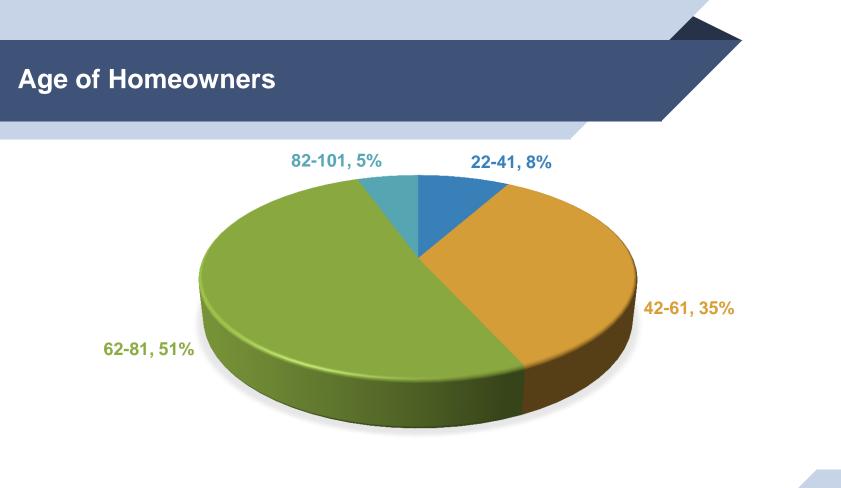
Family Size	Maximum Income Limit*
1	\$36,575
2	\$41,180
3	\$47,025
4	\$52,250
5	\$56,430
6	\$60,610

# Who is Benefiting from the Fund?



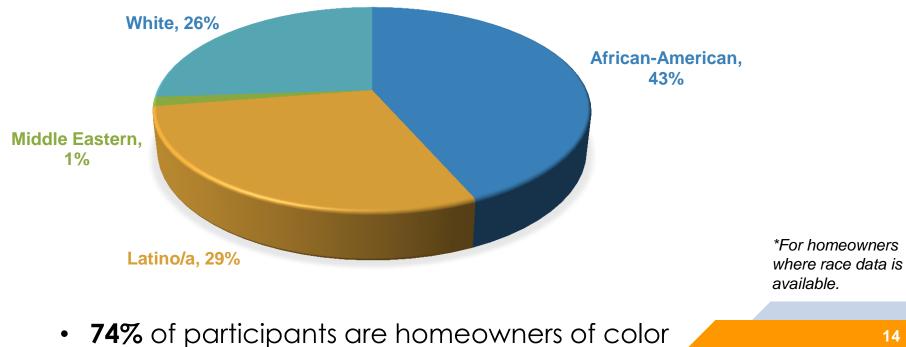
• **66** Harambee, Brewer's Hill, Halyard Park homeowners

• 45 Walker's Point homeowners



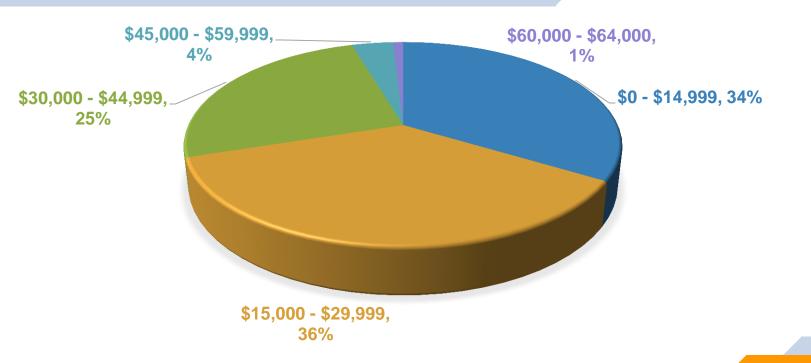
• 56% of participants are 62 or older

# **Race/Ethnicity of Homeowners\***



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# **Participant Household Income**



Median household income: \$21,916

## Who is Benefiting from the Fund?

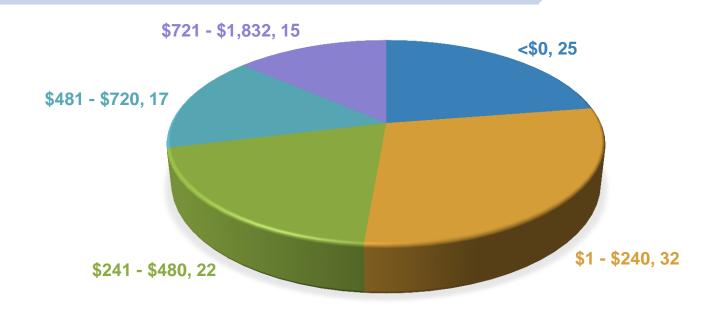
 Program participants have owned their homes for an average of 22 years. 88 participants (80%) have had their home in the family for more than a decade.



# Who is Benefiting from the Fund?

- \$71,500 Median Assessed Value 2018
- **\$87,200** Median Assessed Value 2019
- **\$1,705** Median Tax Bill 2018
- **\$2,071** Median Tax Bill 2019

# 2019 Tax Increase (Assistance from Fund)



# **Lessons Learned / Fund Impact**





Photo Credit: Data You Can Use





# For more information:

mkeunited.com/antidisplacementfund