A good union contract alone isn’t enough to protect our families from the growing problems in our communities as the gap between rich and poor gets larger every day. In our member survey, 55% of members said that affordable housing was a major problem in their lives.

The Foreclosure Crisis took billions of dollars from our communities:

- In the recession, Whites lost 7% of their assets...
- ...Blacks lost 27% of their assets...
- ...and Latinos lost 43% of their assets

The Banks’ lending practices in MN contributed to one of the worst racial equity gaps in the country.

- African-American homebuyers were twice as likely as whites to be turned down for a loan by Wells Fargo, and Latinos were 1.7 times more likely than whites to be denied.
- At US Bank, African-American and Latino homebuyers were 2.5 times more likely than whites to be rejected for a loan.

Discussion Questions

1) Have you or any of your neighbors been impacted by the foreclosure crisis? Is your housing affordable?
2) What caused the foreclosure crisis? Who benefitted? Why do we blame individual homeowners instead of the banks?
3) What should be our union’s role be in this fight?