



# Resident Organizing in Pandemic Times

# Welcome!

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- **Welcome to Resident Organizing in Pandemic Times, a Resident Action Project panel session!** The goal for today is to hear from a panel of RAP leaders and learn more about how our work has adapted during COVID-19
- **Introductions: Meet our speakers**
  - Brook Fadley, RAP Steering Committee Leader
  - Mattye Berry-Evans, Resident Services Coordinator at Mercy Housing
  - Gloria Tyler, RAP Member at Mercy Housing
  - Ellen Conrad, RAP Member at Mercy Housing

# What is the Resident Action Project?

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- **We're a statewide network of folks who have experienced housing injustice.** Together, we are building power to change state policy through storytelling, civic action and organizing.
- As RAP members **we are experts on our state's housing crisis, having lived through the struggle to find and keep roofs over our heads.** And now, we're becoming skilled advocates and organizers who are ready to use our power.
- We **partner with nonprofits and affordable housing providers** across the state to connect to residents of affordable homes and lift up leaders who have lived through housing instability.



# COVID-19 Impact

Quick overview of the pandemic's impact on housing & homelessness, our organizing work

# COVID-19 Impact on Housing

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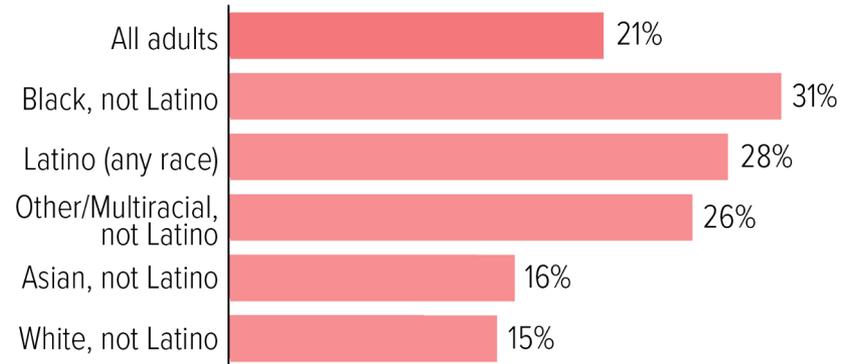
## Missed Rent

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's July Housing Pulse Survey, **12% of Washington renters — nearly 250,000 households — reported they were unable to make rent in June**

But for **Black renters, that number was an astounding 42%, compared with 8% of white renters. 24% of Hispanic/Latino renters and 8% of Asian renters were unable to make rent.**

## 1 in 5 Renters Behind on Rent During Pandemic, With Black and Latino Renters Facing Greatest Hardship

Share of adult renters saying they are behind on last month's rent, as of July 21, 2020



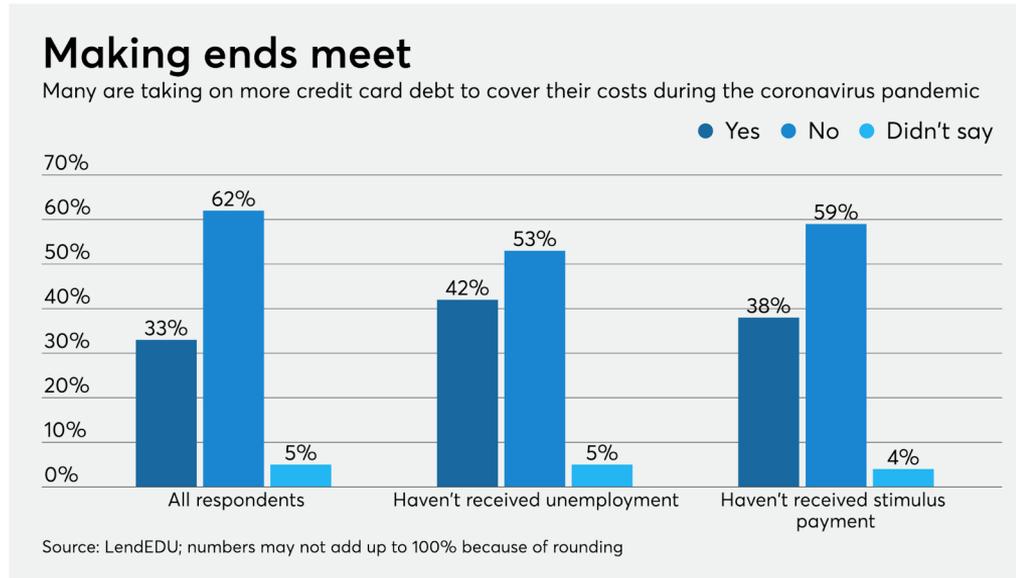
Note: Other/Multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Behind on rent = did not pay or deferred rent. Chart excludes renters who did not respond to the question.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

# COVID-19 Impact on Housing

## *Accumulating Debt*

In June alone, 437,000 Washington residents reported using credit cards or short-term loans to pay their rent — more, even, than the 316,000 who reported using unemployment insurance



**More and more people are on the “cliff” of housing instability, when our state was already in a housing crisis. Our organizing work must reach and bring these folks into our movement.**

# Panel Discussion

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**Brook Fadley, RAP Steering Committee**

**Matty Berry-Evans, Resident Coordinator at Mercy Housing**

**Ellen Conrad, RAP member from Mercy Housing**

**Gloria Tyler, RAP member from Mercy Housing**

# Join Our Movement!

## SIGN-UP

Join our network:  
**[residentactionproject.org/signup](https://residentactionproject.org/signup) or email Kiki at [kikis@wliha.org](mailto:kikis@wliha.org)**

Stay up to date on action alerts, upcoming events & more

## PARTNER

Partner with us to **host a power hour, ballot party or other event** to engage residents in your organization or community. We offer training and resources on advocacy & organizing to folks across the state

## FOLLOW

Follow us on **social media** & help us build people power online!

- Facebook: [@ResidentActionProject](https://www.facebook.com/ResidentActionProject)
- Twitter: [@RAPWashington](https://twitter.com/RAPWashington)



**THANK YOU**