



Resident / Tenant Council Membership Overview



Introduction

Hello Future Can I Live Member,

My name is RW Jones. I am President and CEO of Can I Live, Inc. The only national public housing tenants association in the United States. We are dedicated to reducing dependency on government subsidies. We have one bodacious goal—To Move One Million Moms OFF Welfare by 2032. **In 2009, I was appointed as a Housing Authority Commissioner, where I chaired the agency for almost 10 years.** My role as a commissioner was to provide oversight to the agency's fiscal policies and ensure the agency was operating responsibly.

What you might not know is that I too was also a welfare mom. I struggled with the dependency on various welfare programs while raising my four (4) sons. I was tired of everyone making money except for me. So I rolled up my sleeves, dug in, and did the work.

That's why, I'm so glad you are here, I want to help you and the leaders of your community do their work. It doesn't take hundreds of people to set a standard for a community. It only takes a handful.

Now that you have taken the first steps in becoming stronger, unified, and more effective leaders in your community. Things will start to change.

The path before you all will not be easy, but it will be worth it! The time, effort, skill, and passion that you put into transforming your community will pay off for generations to come. Our children are deserving of our fight, and their futures depend on us.

Are you Ready to Dig In?

This Member Services Agreement outlines Can I Live's full range of services we offer to our resident/tenant council members.

Thank you for trusting us with your community.

I look forward to transforming the place you call home!

RW Jones

President / Chief Empowerment Officer (CEO)



About Us

Can I Live, Inc has been in business for more than 17 years. We provide full support for all things resident services in and throughout HUD-assisted communities (i.e. public housing & section 8).

Founded in 2003, in the fight to help single mothers find a safe and affordable place to raise their children and access a piece of the American Dream. In 2015, we organized and became the only national tenants association and began to dig our heels into the work we believed would change the nation.

Our mission is to advance affordable housing, economic inclusion, and personal responsibility through education, civic engagement, and entrepreneurship.

We will do this work until all residents can build powerful lives centered around great health and economic empowerment.



Board Governance & Community Leadership Training



The Team



RW Jones

Chief Empowerment Officer (CEO)

Creator of RADAR. Leads strategies and guides community action planning.



Michael Wilson

Chief Operational Officer (COO)

Oversees all programs to ensure they meet the needs of our members and their communities.



Kimberly Muktarian

RADAR Leadership Trainer

Provides unique insight and strategies for community leaders.

Membership Services

What You Get...

RADAR (Realistic Approaches to Developing Active Residents) is a structured, research-based, hands-on training program designed to equip Resident Councils with the necessary skills required to represent the interest of their respective communities. In general, the program encompasses the role of the resident councils, effective meetings, budgeting, partnerships, leadership, community safety, and a review of HUD Resident Council regulation requirements. Training sessions are presented using a hybrid format and include mock simulations where skills learned are practiced in a controlled environment, with constructive feedback.

RADAR is based on standards as outlined in Section 511 of the United States Housing Act and the regulations in 24 CFR Part 964.

On-Going Access to Continual Training & Support

Utilizing a hybrid learning module—the Can I Live membership provides **RADAR** training & support using both self-paced and instructor-led training. **RADAR** modules are easily accessible from any mobile device, laptop, or computer. Enjoy ongoing comprehensive and robust content which can be accessed anytime at the convenience of your residents. Our strategy delivers the information, resources, and support to leaders to help increase positive outcomes for families.



A Voice in Washington

The power of the 24 CFR 964 and 135 are critical laws that if only enforced to the true spirit of its intent, would solve the crime, poverty, and a host of other social ills that plague the communities we live in.

With an office down the street from Capitol Hill and minutes away from HUD, who else is best positioned to take your concerns to law and policymakers.

Here at Can I Live, we advocate for the

communities WE CALL HOME!

HUD Policy Updates

Receive updates on HUD policy and how it will impact you and your neighbors. Can I Live fights to reduce displacement, increase self-sufficiency, through Resident Owned Businesses, Section 8 Homeownership, and Section 3 training, employment, and contracting opportunities. We provide our members with the education, advocacy, technical assistance, and support they need to improve their overall quality of life.

Member Services (Cont'd)

Live Technical Assistance Zoom Calls

Understanding the authority invested in Resident Councils and the roles and responsibilities that are bestowed upon them are of critical importance in laying the foundation of efficient and accurate training sessions. Learning the technical aspects of managing resident councils is vital to the success of developing thriving communities and maintaining healthy relationships. Join the team for weekly calls where you can access foundational and advanced CFR education and advocacy strategies.

Get questions answered in real time and troubleshoot your most pressing challenges with other leaders. Our team is experts at systems navigation and civic engagement strategies.

Conferences and Events

Your membership affords you and everyone in your community the opportunity to attend our online **RADAR** Radio show, housing, and other special events. Our events are built with you in mind. Why is this? Because we are you. **We are residents** who call or at some point in time have called public housing home. Many of the Can I Live team members currently live or have even lived in Section 8 communities, battled homelessness, and/or have had to navigate the social services terrain. We say all of this to say, **we bring opportunities to the communities WE call home.** And everything we do here at Can I live is designed to serve the needs of our families. So whether we're hosting a relocation conference or section 3 business expo, just know, we've got you covered.



Networking

You are not in this alone. You are joining a network of other new and seasoned leaders who refuse to have their voices silenced because of greed, power, and injustice.

Learn first hand what strategies and techniques are working in other parts of the United States.

Be empowered through a community of leaders all with one goal—**Access, Inclusion, and Opportunity!**

Results

Thriving Communities! At the end of the day, resident/tenant councils are the engines that build thriving communities. And they don't happen by accident but are the result of deliberate and proactive training, and development choices exercised by progressive leaders with both the heart and courage to challenge the status quo.

Why Choose Us?

We are the Country's only National Resident/Tenant Association!

There is a reason why we exist and have remained a growing concern. Because we are the best at what we do and there is no one else who does it better—and we mean NO ONE!

The **RADAR** curriculum provides a hands-on approach to learning and implementing a successful resident council program. **RADAR** was developed by two professionals with over 50 years of experience working with individuals who have led public housing authorities in both the Commissioner and Executive Director's roles, along with providing leadership to a successful resident services department. The pragmatic nature of the program is reflective of the experiences of **RADAR's** creators and can be observed in the curriculum plan of study.

RADAR is based on standards as outlined in Section 511 of the United States Housing Act and the regulations in 24 CFR Part 964.

Your membership also affords each member of your community access to the online RADAR workbook which reinforces the content and forms discussed during the training sessions.



- Build strategic partnerships
- Lead effective meetings
- Stay in compliance
- Keep the budget about the business
- Gain respect and credibility
- Execute in excellence
- Create thriving communities



RADAR is Reality! It is what you can do now with what you have now. Our residents kept asking for RADAR and we finally gave them RADAR!

– R.Coston, Wilmington Housing Authority

Our Process & Services

Our strategy delivers the information, resources, and support to your resident leadership team to help increase self-help initiatives, self-sufficiency, and overall quality of life for families.

Becoming a Member

1. Become a member by completing our application, reviewing, signing, and submitting your member service agreement, along with your membership dues.
2. Attend our new members "Getting Started" webinar that is facilitated twice a month. During this phase, members are onboarded and granted access to the membership portal.
3. Once leaders have been properly onboarded, and receive access to their training tools (i.e. zoom links, emails, private group, and support contacts). Engagement is initiated.
4. On-going and consistent training sessions and technical assistance calls are customized to meet the needs of leaders to meet their desired end goals.

What Else Do We Offer...

Technical Assistance & Governance (TAG) Package*

Non-Profit Set-Up

Non-profit set up at the state and federal level (short form 1023), with ongoing consultation (Short Form 1023 and State filing fees are separate). This is ideal for new councils looking to begin doing the work needed in their local community.

Grant Writing

Our back-office support team will write one (1) grant (per month) with grants ranging from \$1000-\$10,000 max. This helps to become more independent from the local housing authority and have discretionary funds outside of HUD dollars.

Program Evaluation

Program evaluation and development services, with ongoing consultation, provide feedback and recommendations regarding organization structure, program efficiency for funding being received through grants.

Consulting, Guidance, and Support

Running and operating a non-profit is serious work and requires due diligence in the overall administration (i.e. document management, annual filings, reporting, and fiscal responsibility). Councils will need this consultation as they grow the work and become sustainable organizations within their local city and state.

Pricing & Fees

- **Resident/Tenant Council Membership fees are priced at (\$1,200) per resident/tenant council, per year.** Housing Authorities or private organizations that manage more than five (5) communities can save with our Resident/Tenant Advisory Board and community add-on package.
- **Resident/Tenant Advisory Board Membership package includes up to 5 communities is priced at (\$5,000) flat rate per year.** Resident/Tenant councils acquiring more than 5 communities/council memberships will receive a discount for each additional community that joins.
- **Community Add-on Services are priced at (\$1,000)** for each additional community after the initial Resident/Tenant Advisory Board investment.
- ***The Technical Assistance and Governance (TAG) Package is priced at (\$1,200) per month, per resident/tenant council.** This additional membership service is available to councils as they begin to grow in their strength and power. TAG pricing is not included in the basic resident/tenant council membership. If you are interested in adding this package to your membership, please contact a team member at members@canilive.org





Thank You for Choosing Us...

Can I Live is Doing Great Things and We Look Forward to Doing Great Things With You!

Contact us at members@canilive.org