

Welcome to Midnight
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Families Displaced on Cleveland's West Side

Cleveland, OH 8/26/17 – Local media production company *Welcome to Midnight* is launching a multimedia documentary project chronicling the experiences of families facing displacement at the hands of the nonprofit Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO). A multimedia project incorporating video, news articles and audio recordings, **Displacement** will broaden the conversation around gentrification to hear all sides, most importantly of those directly affected by these plans.

These families have been dealing with months of miscommunication, promises of “relocation assistance” only to be rescinded without warning and even threats of eviction, with none of DSCDO’s intentions clearly stated in writing. Some of the families impacted want to fight to stay in their homes. They don't want to leave their churches, change doctors, or find new childcare. Parents are worried about the consequences to their children’s health, happiness, and education if they are forced to move in the middle of the school year. Other families simply want

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enough time and money to reasonably move. Many residents have limited mobility or transit options and are concerned moving will isolate them from critical support networks..

Jasmine Golphin, director of the **Displacement** project, hopes to provide a platform to make sure their voices are heard throughout this process. Because it is a multimedia project, people outside of the community that are interested in learning more will be able to receive the most up-to-date information possible through multiple direct sources. Currently advocates for the families are raising emergency funds to help with immediate needs (learn more here - fundrazr.com/detroit_shoreway_displacement). As the story grows, *Welcome to Midnight* will expand the scope of this project to look into other stories of displacement in Cleveland and examples of instances where community development respected the dignity of existing residents.

Displacement currently is available at <http://welcome2midnight.com/displacement/>

About Jasmine Golphin/ Welcome to Midnight

Jasmine Golphin is a writer, filmmaker and founder of *Welcome to Midnight* who believes in telling stories that center marginalized people. She is the writer/director of the fictional web series *To New Beginnings* and editor on the television show *The Weekly Pulse* (currently airing on WKYC). Jasmine's other credits include co-director of the documentary *Project 31*, writer of *Thanksgiving at the Morgans*, which received Honorable Mention at the 2013 Short. Sweet. Film. Fest, the documentary short *On Deck: The MEV Story*, which won second place in Octavia Spencer's Short Film Contest, and her written works have been published in the online magazines *Alturus*, *Shadow and Act*, CSU's *The Vindicator* and in the HitRecord book *Tiny Book of Tiny Stories Vol. 3*.