RTCNYC Tool 12.3.3.1

**Organizing Principles**

**"We have rights only as long as we are willing to struggle for them." --Ella Baker**

* Provide tenants with tools to fight/leadership development.
* Share resources with tenants to have access to the right.
* Increase tenant power to defend themselves and assert themselves.
* Stop intimidation and harassment.
* Immigrants rights--ensure all immigrants have equal access to this right.
* Change the dynamic in housing court.
* Hold landlords accountable.
* Upend the popular narrative that eviction cases are simple or a tenant’s fault---evictions are about power! There is more housing law in new york than all the federal law combine. We should use the law to defend our communities!
* Build community to create space for action.
* Building tenant power--to go bigger--fight against larger structures.
* Education and awareness--applies to all.
* Shift the narrative about tenants’ rights--being behind in rent does not take away your rights.
* Right will not exist in practice if we don’t organize.
* Create space for more creative action.
* Protecting vulnerable communities during implementation.
* Preserving affordable housing.
* Create a model for the nation--building the way towards a right to housing.