

# RECLAIM PHILADELPHIA

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I, Habeebah Ali HABEEBAH ALI, certify that the information provided on this questionnaire is accurate and the opinions stated here accurately reflect my own positions.

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Please complete, sign and return this via email in both Word Doc and PDF format to [Amanda@reclaimphiladelphia.org](mailto:Amanda@reclaimphiladelphia.org) on or before February 1, 2019.

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### INTRODUCTION

This is a two-part questionnaire. The first seven questions are intended to be richer questions with longer answers. They are intended to help the members of Reclaim Philadelphia understand how you view the world and the political issues that face Philadelphia. As you might expect, these questions are big and broad. Please limit your answers to each question to no more than 250 words. The second set of questions are "yes" or "no" questions, which are NOT meant to be answered at length.

**PART I - LONGFORM QUESTIONS - Please respond in 250 words or less.**

1. Tell us a personal story about yourself that informs your worldview, your politics, and your decision to run for City Council. *I want to serve the people of Philadelphia*
2. What is your opinion of capitalism as a political-economic system? How do your opinions and analysis influence your campaign and legislative priorities? *our society's what it is. We have to work within parameters that are set.*
3. What do "white supremacy" and "patriarchy" mean to you? How do you see them operating in the City of Philadelphia and its government? What policies, if any, would you enact in order to end them? *We are all equal. No one group of people are above any other. We need to try to help each other understand this*
4. What do you think of the crisis facing Philadelphia schools? What do you see as its root causes? What steps would you take? *We must insure free quality education. We must work with educators + parents to bring this about.*
5. Under what circumstances should a person be detained or incarcerated, if any? Does the current system meet this criterion? What does safety mean to you and what policies or programs would you pursue to achieve your vision? *Some systems better than none however there is room for much improvement a person is still innocent*
6. What is the fundamental factor causing climate change? How should we address this? Do you support a Green New Deal for Philadelphia and, if so, what does that mean to you and what will you do if elected to City Council? *We must improve the pollution on this earth. See future generations. We must work collectively*
7. Do you think Philadelphia is facing a housing crisis? If so, why? If not, why not? What changes would you make to bring housing policy more in line with your vision? *Yes. we are homeless men is out of control in this and many large cities. We need affordable housing as well as home ownership.*

**PART II - YES OR NO QUESTIONS**

1. Do you commit to opposing the privatization of all utilities in Philadelphia? YES [  ] NO [  ]
2. Do you commit to support and vote for the creation of a Philadelphia Public Bank? YES [  ] NO [  ]
3. Will you support using savings from closing the House of Corrections to invest in job training programs and opportunities for formerly incarcerated people, in an effort to combat mass incarceration? YES [  ] NO [  ]
4. Will you support a participatory study funded by the City to formulate a local Green New Deal energy plan to transition Philadelphia to a democratically controlled 100% renewable energy system by 2030, create unionized jobs, and center the decisions and needs of Philadelphia's working class and communities of color? YES [  ] NO [  ]

5. Do you support a democratically elected school board? YES  NO

6. Will you commit to publicly funding and administering fully staffed libraries and recreation centers seven days a week? YES  NO

7. Do you support rent control? YES  NO

8. Will you commit that at least 50% of all City funds allocated to create or preserve housing, including but not limited to the Housing Trust Fund and subfunds, must go toward helping the poorest Philadelphians (30% or less of area median income)? YES  NO

9. Will you commit to introducing or sponsoring legislation that would establish a system of public financing for city campaigns that would create a fund that would provide matching public funds for money individual donors contribute to candidates? YES  NO

10. Do you support the creation of an overdose prevention site / supervised consumption site to help efforts to combat the opioid epidemic in our community? YES  NO

11. Do you support completely ending the ten year tax abatement? YES  NO

12. Do you commit to opposing all new fossil fuel projects in Philadelphia by using all zoning and regulatory means at your disposal? YES  NO  *I would need more information*

13. Will you support increasing funding of the Police Advisory Commission from \$500K to \$1.5M and giving it the power to subpoena, investigate and censure cases of police brutality and over-policing?  
YES  NO

14. Will you publicly support a moratorium on all charter school expansion? YES  NO

15. Do you support the right to strike for public employees including teachers? YES  NO

16. Will you enact a statutory right to counsel for any Philadelphian facing the loss of their home, be it foreclosure or eviction? YES  NO

17. Will you use all means at your disposal to support workers' right to unionize?  
YES  NO

**PART III - ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION**

If there's anything else our membership should know about you or if you feel the need to provide additional information about any of your above responses, do so here. Please keep your response to a total of 100 words or less.

Please see Bio attached,  
my system would not allow me to type this  
on my computer and I don't have the best  
hand writing. Thank you.  
Allie



## Habeebah Ali

Is the innovative founder of Raise Of Hope, Inc.(ROH). As the Executive Director of ROH, Inc. she has managed to build a solid reputation for her organization. According to her colleagues in the social services, housing, and education fields, Sister Ali brings a hands on approach with strong passion, knowledge, and commitment to her work. Since 1993 Ms. Ali has been a member of the ROH Board of Directors. 2013 marks the twentieth year anniversary of this dynamic non-profit organization.

For well over 20 years Sister Ali, a proficient urban generalist has stood up with and organized hundreds of men, women and children in the greater Delaware Valley. She has and continues to work for the betterment of humanity and particularly for freedom, justice and the right to decent affordable, accessible housing.

In addition to being an active advocate for homeless families, she has been a significant voice in affecting policy regarding homeless families at the city, state and federal levels of government. Sister Ali's education includes study at Dickinson Business School, Berean Institute, Arbor Career Center, Urban Institute for Self-Study, Global University for Human Development, and Temple University. She also does public speaking nationwide on housing, domestic violence issues and most recently the Patriot Act and the anti-war movement.

Under Sister Habeebah Ali's leadership and tenacity her non-profit, tax-exempt organization has formed creative, fertile, and successful partnerships with a host of community organizations such as: Resources for Human Development, Inc.(Hope Partners); the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD); Christian Tabernacle Pentecostal Church of Philadelphia; Kensington Welfare Rights Union, The Delaware Valley Union of the Homeless; Dignity Housing (the early days); Philadelphia Housing Authority; HUD; Tenants Action Group-TAG; Philadelphia Affordable Housing Coalition; Women's Revitalization Project; Amadi Wellness Connection; Masjidullah Health and Human Service Committee; the National Coalition of 100 Black Women and most recently our co-developer ONION Flats for the Belfield Avenue Townhomes Development.

The Belfield Avenue Townhomes Development vision was realized and completed in October 2012 with Ms. Ali's diligently continuing efforts and the President of Onion Flats, Tim McDonald after scheduling and budgeting issues complicated the project with previous builders. Although funding was limited and time was running out Tim said "sure, we can deliver". Onion Flats was able to utilize the limited, available budget and build the same modern homes that sell for large sums in other neighborhoods, despite never doing subsidized housing before. Tim stated that "this was an amazing opportunity to demonstrate that subsidized housing can be the best housing in the country".

The Belfield Avenue Townhomes are passive, net zero units. Each unit has the potential to create as much energy as it uses, leaving residents with little to no electric bill. The units are unlike anything Raise of Hope had previously created and Ms. Ali has stated that she is "interested in funding more units of its kind - particularly modular ones. There is a definite need, it's the housing of the future".

Habeebah Ali,--a former homeless mother of four, community leader and organizer, an astute administrator, a site manager, housing consultant, developer of affordable housing for homeless, low to moderate families and senior citizens--is definitely a vital asset to the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and a good example of humanity in action. She has been recognized as one of Women's Way Woman of the Year 2002.

Sister Ali has been highlighted in a number of publications such as Philadelphia New Observer, Philadelphia Daily News, Philadelphia Inquirer, SCOOP, USA, The City Paper, Generosity Online Newspaper and RHD Resource Magazine. She has been interviewed not only by print media but also electronic media such as WTXF-TV a local Fox network affiliate and CNN.