Eviction Prevention Now and After COVID-19
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OPENING REMARKS BY

MATTHEW DESMOND
Author, Professor of Sociology, Princeton University
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Matthew Desmond is the Maurice P. During Professor of Sociology at Princeton University. In 2018, Desmond’s Eviction Lab at Princeton University published the first-ever dataset of more than 80 million American eviction records. The Lab currently is pursuing lines of inquiry analyzing this groundbreaking dataset that will help scholars, policymakers, and advocates better understand eviction, housing insecurity, and poverty. In 2015, Desmond was awarded his MacArthur Genius Grant for “revealing the impact of eviction on the lives of the urban poor and its role perpetuating racial and economic inequality.” In 2018, he received the Stowe Prize for Writing to Advance Social Justice, awarded by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center to authors whose work shines a light on critical social issues.

Desmond was also in 2016 named one of the Politico 50, one of “fifty people across the country who are most influencing the national political debate.”

PANELISTS

GERALD HUNTER
President and Executive Director, Idaho Housing and Finance Association
@IdahoHousing

Idaho Housing and Finance Association is a unique financial institution and administrator of affordable housing resources. In its simplest form, Idaho Housing’s mission is to provide funding for affordable housing opportunities in Idaho communities where they are most needed and when it is economically feasible. Idaho Housing is a self-supporting organization that sustains its business operations through earned fees and revenues similar to any private financial institution. It does not receive financial support from the state of Idaho.

In the financial services sector, Idaho Housing is best known for its residential and multifamily mortgage products, which it primarily markets through its mortgage lender and broker partners. It functions as an agent for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and performs a variety of tasks associated with financing, developing or managing affordable housing. Among its economic development activities, Idaho Housing provides financial products that support small-business financing.
KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON  
*President and CEO, Chicago Urban League; Former Mayor of Gary, Indiana*  
[@karenaboutgary](https://twitter.com/karenaboutgary)

Karen Freeman-Wilson began serving as President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League in January 2020. She brings a passion for equity and social justice to the organization, which works to advance economic, educational and social progress for African Americans through direct service and advocacy. Having served in the public arena for most of her life, Freeman-Wilson has deep experience in addressing issues that impact urban communities. She was mayor of her hometown of Gary, Indiana, from 2012 through 2019. She was the first female to lead the city of Gary and the first African-American female mayor in Indiana. She previously served as Indiana Attorney General, Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, and presiding judge of the Gary City Court.

She also served as Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute and CEO of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, where she is currently Board Vice Chair.

PAMELA HUGHES PATENAUDE  
*Board Member, BPC; Former HUD Deputy Secretary*  
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Pamela Hughes Patenaude is a member of BPC’s board of directors. Patenaude is an accomplished real estate, housing policy, and disaster recovery expert with a three-decade track record of success as an executive in government, nonprofit sector, and private industry. She is an Independent Director of CoreLogic, Inc. (NYSE:CLGX) and a member of the Audit and Compensation Committees. Patenaude is also a member of the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity International. Patenaude served as the Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As HUD’s Chief Operating Officer, she managed the day-to-day operations of the $52 billion cabinet level agency with a diverse portfolio of federal housing and community development programs.

Prior to rejoining HUD, Patenaude served as President of the J. Ronald Terwilliger Foundation for Housing America’s Families, a national nonprofit, education and research organization dedicated to illuminating America’s affordable housing crisis.