



Democracy at Work Institute

US FEDERATION OF WORKER COOPERATIVES

NYC Story



DAWI Mission



To expand the promise of worker ownership to marginalized communities and to ensure that cooperative development is adequately supported, effective and strategically directed.

NYC Invests



City of New York funds the development of worker cooperatives.

2014
\$1.2 M

2015
\$2.1 M



With Mayor's Support



“Worker cooperatives historically treat their employees with respect and ensure that all people who work in the firm are able to benefit from their hard work, something that we do not see enough of in this country.”

-NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio

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Activities & Objectives



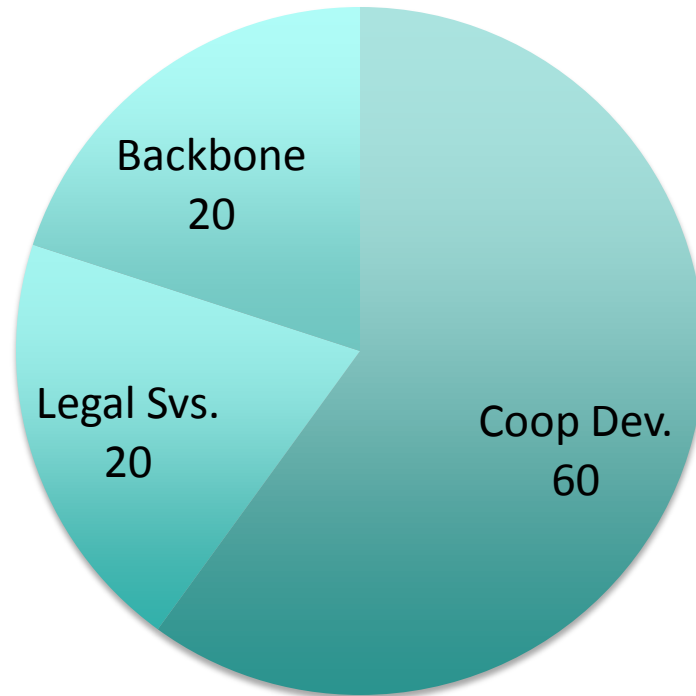
Activities

1. Creation of cooperatives in low income areas
2. Business assistance to grow jobs in existing cooperatives
3. Education and outreach to entrepreneurs and communities

Objectives

	FY 15	FY 16
Entrepreneurs Reached	900	1,560
New Worker Owner Positions	194	295
Existing Cooperatives Assisted	22	44
New Cooperatives Created	24	29

% Allocation

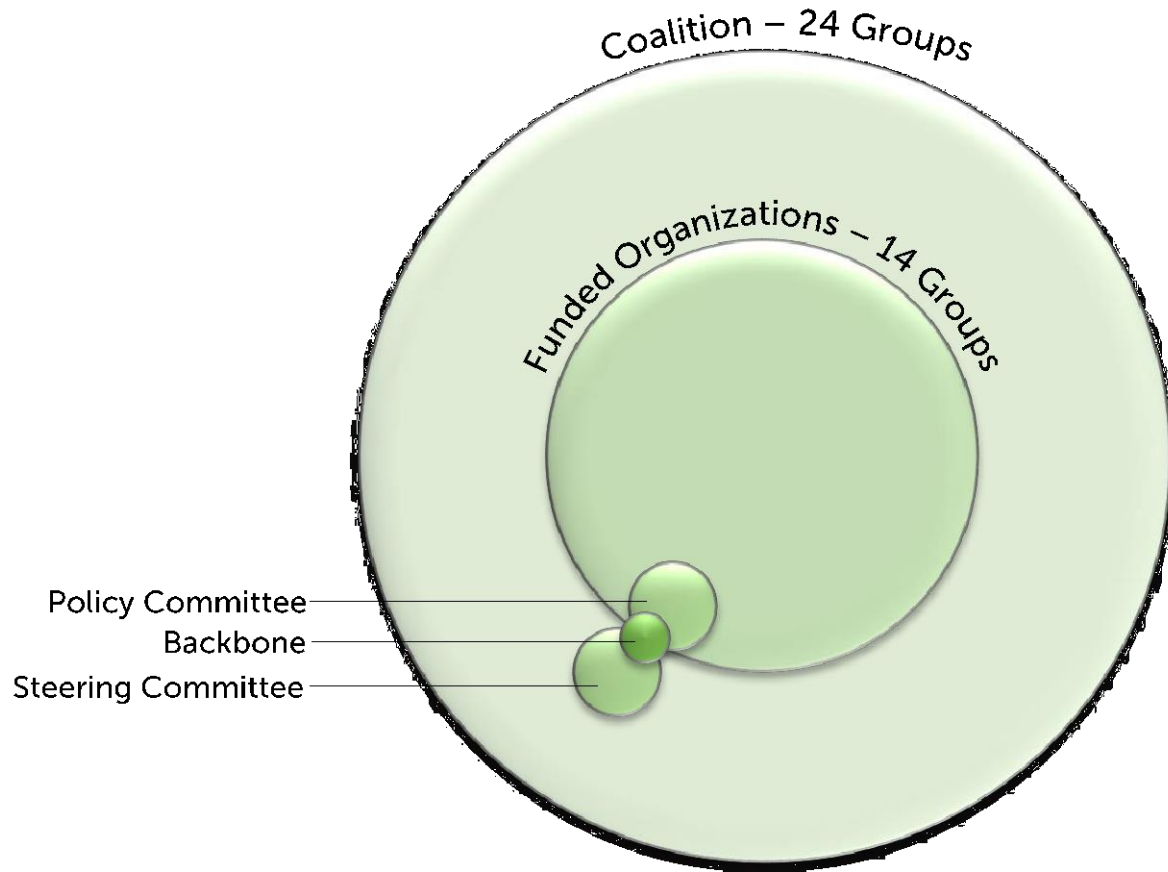


Story



- **Initiator**
- **Political moment**
- **Stakeholders**
- **\$ Drives Process**
- **Defining Roles & Structure**
- **Sufficient Success and Organizing**
- **Strategic Questions**

Structure 1: Coalition



Structure 2: Backbone



- **Who**

- DAWI
- FPWA

- **What**

- Advocacy and policy (FPWA)
- Fiscal conduit and admin (FPWA)
- Data, reporting and admin support (DAWI)
- Coalition infrastructure
- Communication
- Reporting
- Strategy development

Lesson 1: Find Policy Partner

To build and
navigate relationships

To translate the language
of cities to coops and
vice versa



FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT WELFARE AGENCIES

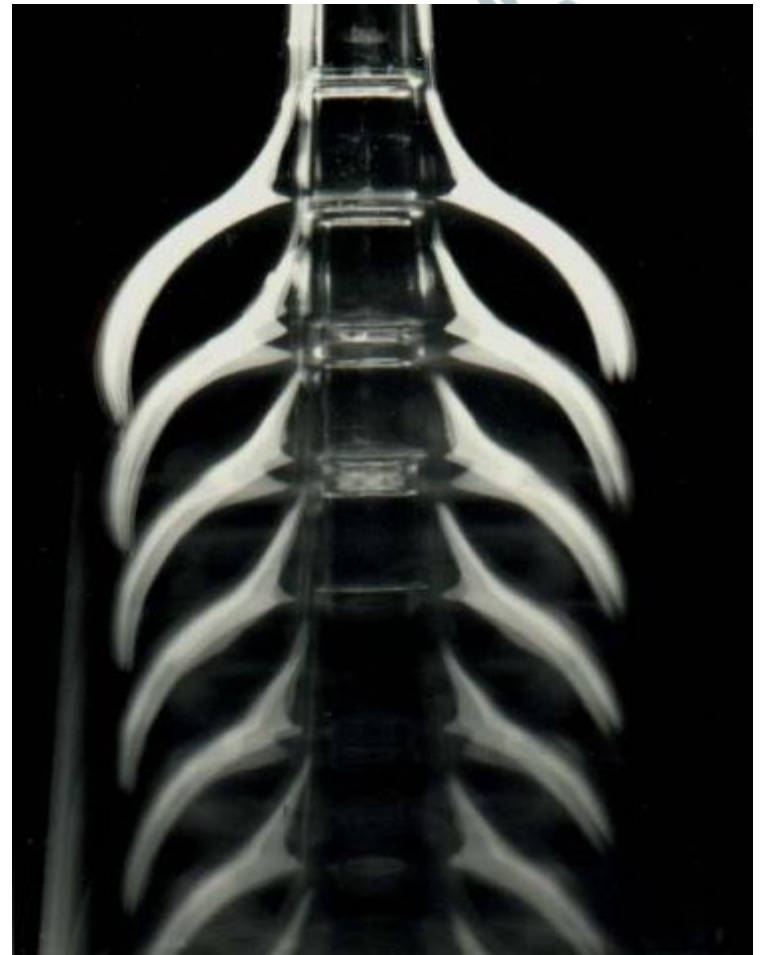


**Worker Cooperatives for New York City:
A Vision for Addressing Income Inequality**

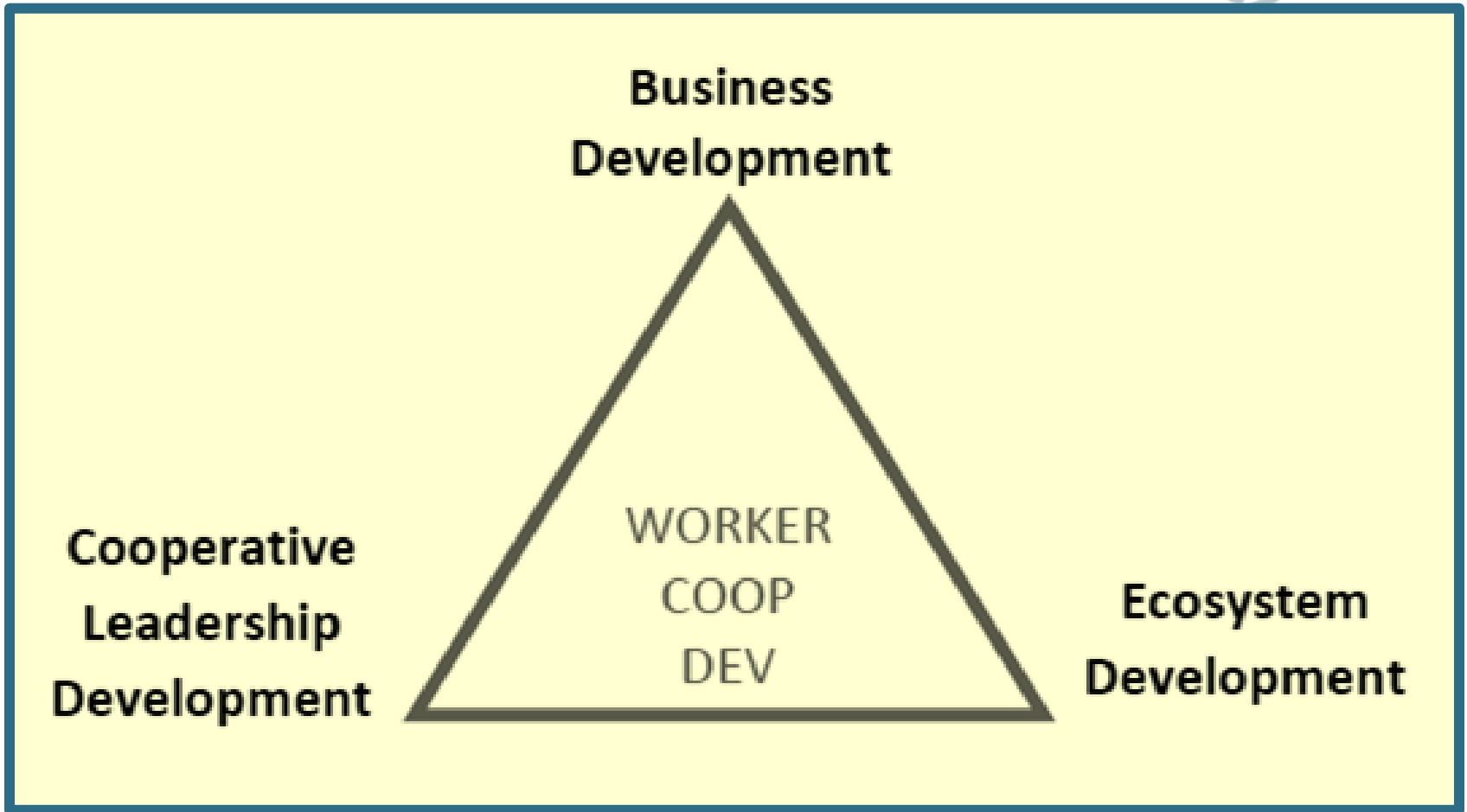
Jennifer Jones Austin, CEO/ Executive Director
January 2014

Lesson 2: Build Backbone

1. Advocacy and policy
2. Coalition infrastructure
3. Communication
4. Data, reporting and admin. support
5. Fiscal conduit and admin.
6. Reporting
7. Strategy development



Lesson 3: Build Capacity



What do you want?



- **Money**
 - Planning
 - Coop Development
 - Lending
- **Policy**
 - Regulatory changes
 - Hiring preferences
 - Purchasing preferences
- **Infrastructure**
 - Relationships with city departments and resources

What do you need?



- Research
- Analysis
- Readiness Assessment
- Skills
- Strategy
- Resources
- Examples

How can others support you?

A stylized teal silhouette of a bird in flight, positioned in the upper right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the main title.

DAWI

- Framing: EcoSystem, Scale, Equity
- Heatmap Research
- Stakeholder Analysis
- Capacity Building/Leadership Development
- Coop Tools, Training, TA
- Backbone organizing tools
 - Agreements, mission, metrics, meetings, structure

Next Steps



DAWI

- Distributing sample policies
- Sharing city heatmaps
- Interviewing cities & communities
- **For more info:**
- rebecca.bauen@institute.usworker.coop