

RAD Curriculum Guide: Your roadmap for understanding RAD:
Rental Assistance Demonstration

ORGANIZE

A. RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS

B. ORGANIZING 101

Organize:

Resident Organizations (ROs)

- Types of Resident Groups
- ROs in Details
- Forming an RO

When organized, residents can:

- **Ensure their rights remain protected**
- **Have more of a voice in the decision-making process**
- **Provide input on the renovations that will take place**
- **Create a transparent, trusting and productive working relationship with the new property manager**

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TYPES OF RESIDENT GROUPS

UNDER NYCHA



**Resident
Associations
(RAs)**

UNDER NYCHA



**Resident
Associations
(RAs)**



**District
Councils (DC)**


UNDER NYCHA



**Resident
Associations
(RAs)**



**District
Councils (DC)**



**Citywide
Council of
Presidents
(CCOP)**

UNDER NYCHA




**Resident
Associations
(RAs)**



**District
Councils (DC)**



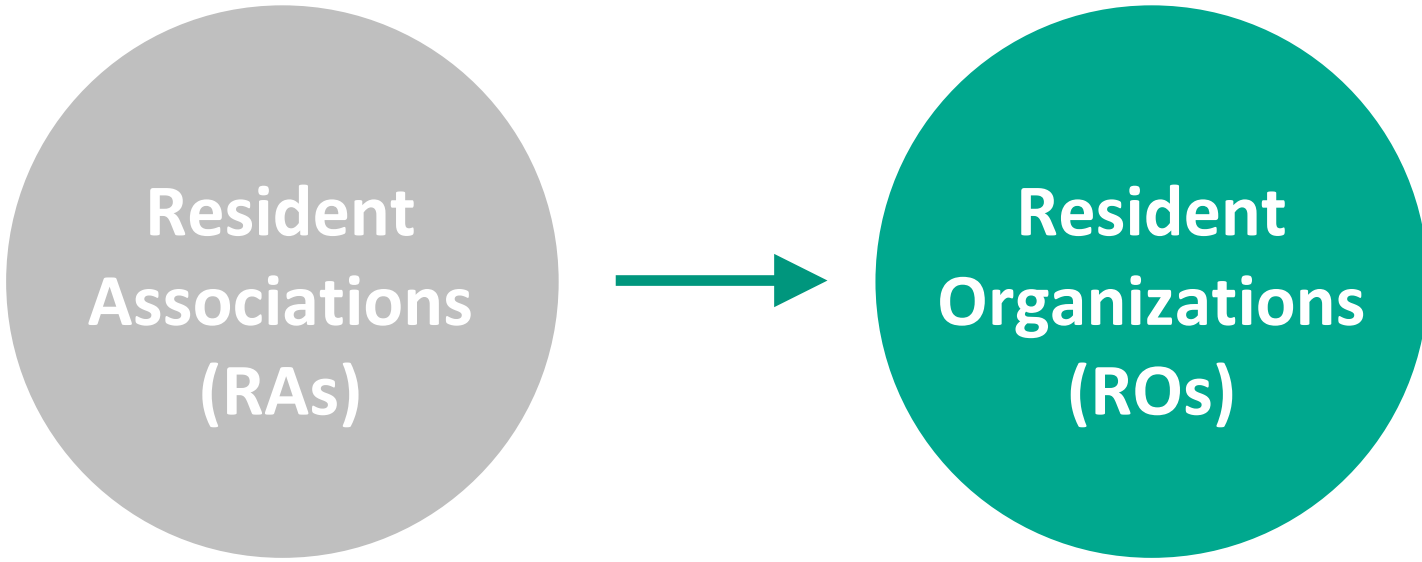
**Citywide
Council of
Presidents
(CCOP)**



**Resident
Advisory Board
(RAB)**

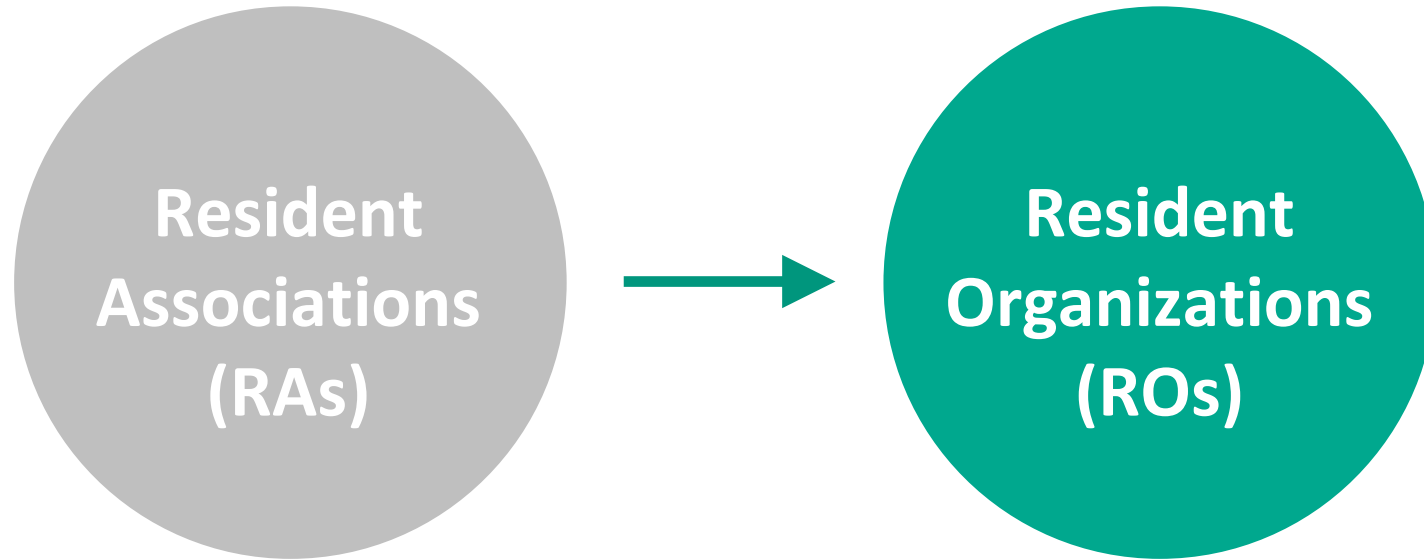


UNDER RAD





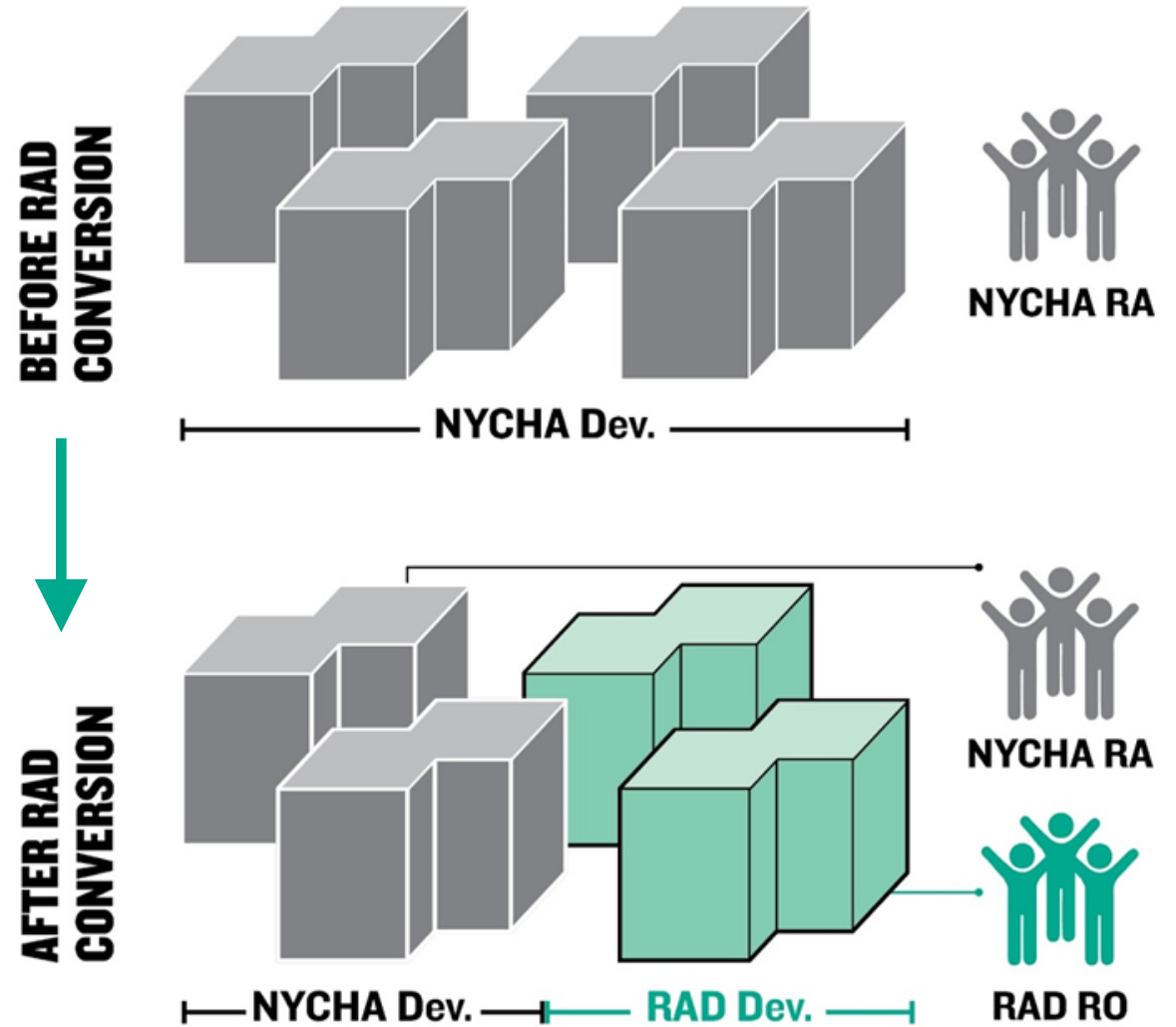
UNDER RAD



Under RAD, there is no equivalent for DC, CCOP, or RAB

UNDER RAD

If only part of your development is converting, you may need to form a new Resident Organization that represents only the RAD buildings.



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RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN DETAIL



A LEGITIMATE RO MUST:

- **Be established by the residents of the property;**
- **Meet regularly;**
- **Operate democratically;**
- **Represent all residents at the property;**
- **Be independent from the property owner**

Organize: Resident Organizations (ROs)
RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN DETAIL



**Communication with
the property manager
will be most effective if
done through the RO**



Organize: Resident Organizations (ROs)
RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN DETAIL

Property managers must allow tenants to continue independent organized activities





ACTIVITIES THAT CANNOT BE FUNDED WITH TPA FUNDS:

- **Activities that do not directly offer services to improve resident quality of life. Ex: empowerment activities or social services resources;**
- **Organized fundraising;**
- **Giveaways to reward participation**

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FORMING AN RO

BEST PRACTICES - GETTING STARTED:

- **Talk to neighbors to understand common issues**
- **Gauge interest in getting involved**
- **Find a core group to help you organize**



BEST PRACTICES – SET A MEETING:

- **Meet with the core group to organize a building-wide meeting**
- **Agree on goals for the meeting: for ex, addressing a widespread issue**
- **Get the word out to as many people as possible**



BEST PRACTICES – PRODUCTIVE MEETINGS:

- **Stick to your agenda but leave room for the group to add other priorities**
- **Start and end on time**
- **End with actionable next steps**
- **Set the next meeting so people know when to follow up on next steps**



BEST PRACTICES – FORMALIZE:

- **Formalize resident leadership by developing election protocol**
- **Create by-laws so everyone understands the decision-making practice for the RO**



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Tenant leadership has one of the most important roles to play in the conversion processes – getting residents informed about the changes to come and getting them engaged.**
- **Basic organizing tools can help maximize participation and ensure a productive working relationship with NYCHA**

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Organize: Organizing 101

- Case Study Title
- Identifying Community Needs
- Creating a Call to Action

When organized, ROs can:

- **Attend meetings on RAD to keep the resident population informed and ask questions on their behalf.**
- **Help ensure that residents' leases are up to date before the property converts to RAD.**
- **Make sure the Physical Needs Assessment accurately reflects the needs of the building.**
- **Advocate for accommodations to keep residents comfortable and healthy during the construction process.**

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CASE STUDY: **NYC RAD Roundtable on** **Resident Rights and Protections**



Organize: Organizing 101
CASE STUDY TITLE



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IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY NEEDS

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT: PRACTICE INTERVIEW

Instructions: Work in pairs to practice interviewing each other about the needs in your community. Use the Community Needs Assessment handout to guide the conversation. Write down 1-2 priorities you learn from your partner that you will report back on.

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CREATING A CALL TO ACTION

ORGANIZING SCENARIOS

Instructions: Work in small groups to develop an organizing strategy to address the scenario provided. Write a brief Action Plan (5-10 bullet points) that you will report back on. Keep in mind:

- **What are you trying to achieve? What is your mission?**
- **What are the potential obstacles?**
- **What will get others interested in your cause?**
- **Who can you contact for support?**

ORGANIZING SCENARIOS: POWER MAP

Who has a stake in the issue? Who has decision-making power?

ELECTED OFFICIALS
Councilmember,
Borough President,
Senator



COMMUNITY GROUPS
Local CBOs,
Resident Organization

LOCAL INSTITUTIONS
NYCHA, Schools,
Faith based groups

ANYONE ELSE?

**THANK YOU FOR
PARTICIPATING!**