



Monday, February 11, 2018 ♦ 1:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

1:00	<p>Departure from Greenwood, Mississippi Hampton Inn, The Alluvian Hotel</p>
1:30	<p>Moorhead, Mississippi</p> <p><u>Small Town Partnership</u>: Many rural and high poverty communities lack the staffing needed to develop and secure resources for community and economic development projects. Recognizing the need in these municipalities, HOPE initiated the Small Towns Partnership, which provides community-grounded strategic planning and technical assistance in eight Mississippi communities. The primary objective of the Partnership is to advance projects that expand economic opportunity, empower local residents, and leverage private and public resources.</p> <p><u>Eastmoor Estates</u>: Built in the late 1960’s as an affordable-housing development, and converted into a Low-income Housing Tax Credit project in the 90’s, inadequate construction and infrastructure resulted in deteriorating conditions, including fires, pest infestation, and raw sewage. Ultimately, a lawsuit forced the developer to transfer ownership of the substandard properties to the residents. In 2015, HOPE began working with residents and local leaders to address the severe deficiencies, combining funding from Goldman Sachs with public and philanthropic sources to rehab 44 homes and other amenities to <u>substantially improve conditions in Eastmoor</u>.</p> <p><u>Hope Credit Union</u>: HOPE’s Moorhead branch is one of five located in a five-county cluster where poverty, education, health, housing, employment and financial service outcomes significantly lag state and national averages. The services delivered through these facilities, four which were <u>donated to HOPE by Regions Bank</u>, provide insight into the <u>vital role that CDFIs play in closing financial service gaps</u> in persistent poverty areas.</p> <p><u>Perspectives from Community Leaders</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Johnny Carter</u>, Eastmoor Resident Leader - <u>Desiree Hensley</u>, Associate Professor and Director of the Housing Clinic, University of Mississippi School of Law - <u>George Holland</u>, Moorhead Mayor (Small Towns Partnership)
3:30	<p>Indianola, Mississippi</p> <p><u>B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center</u>: The mission of the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center is to empower, unite and heal through music, art and education and share with the world the rich cultural heritage of the Mississippi Delta. The exhibits include thousands of rare artifacts, award-winning films, computer interactives, and a story that will give your emotions a workout.</p>



**RURAL PLACES,
RURAL SPACES:**
Closing Financial Service Gaps in
Persistent Policy America

Where Do We Go From Here: Civil Rights & Community Development in the 21st Century



A Pre-Forum Tour Hosted by Hope Enterprise Corporation

<p>5:30</p>	<p><u>Civil Rights in Mississippi – The Past & The Present:</u> <u>A Dinner Conversation with Hollis Watkins and Derrick Johnson, moderated by Jerry Mitchell</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hollis Watkins who grew up on a small farm in Chisholm Mission (a rural hamlet named for an AME Church), was one of the first Mississippi students to commit to full-time work with the Mississippi Voting Rights Project of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He was a county organizer for 1964's "Freedom Summer", and assisted the efforts of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party to unseat the regular Mississippi delegation from their chairs at the 1964 Democratic Party national convention in Atlantic City. He founded Southern Echo, a group that gives support to other grass-roots organizations in Mississippi. He also is a founder of the Mississippi Veterans of the Civil Rights Movement. ▪ Derrick Johnson is President and CEO of the NAACP, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Johnson previously served as president for the Mississippi State Conference NAACP. A Detroit native, Johnson attended Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS and received his JD from the South Texas College of Law. A veteran activist, as president for the Mississippi State Conference, he managed bond referendum campaigns in Jackson that brought \$150 million in school building improvements and \$65 million towards the construction of a new convention center. After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina Johnson served as Vice Chair of the Governor's Commission for Recovery, Rebuilding, and Renewal. He later founded One Voice, a nonprofit that seeks to improve quality of life in disenfranchised communities through civic engagement, and initiatives such as the Mississippi Black Leadership Institute, a training program for community leaders. ▪ Jerry Mitchell is founder of the Mississippi Center for Investigative Reporting. For three decades as a reporter with the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, his courageous efforts ensured that unpunished murders from the Civil Rights era were finally prosecuted. Mitchell's work helped put at least four Klansmen behind bars: Byron De La Beckwith for the 1963 assassination of Medgar Evers, Imperial Wizard Sam Bowers for ordering the fatal firebombing of NAACP leader Vernon Dahmer in 1966, Bobby Cherry for the 1963 Birmingham church bombing that killed Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Denise McNair and, most recently, Edgar Ray Killen, for helping orchestrate the June 21, 1964, killings of Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman. A MacArthur Foundation Fellow, Mitchell's life and work serve as an example of how a courageous journalist can make a difference in the pursuit of justice.
<p>7:30</p>	<p>Return to Greenwood</p>