

Mortgage on a Mission

The first Progressive, worker-owned mortgage lender in Texas.

www.MortgageMission.org

Paid Internships. Turning Texas Blue in 2020.

About Our Work

Mortgage on a Mission is a worker-owned lender that believes Fair Housing is a Human Right. At a time when over 20,000 people in Texas are homeless, when 600,000 Texans cannot find affordable housing, and mortgage lenders nationwide continue to charge minorities \$700 million per year in discriminatory interest, we exist to advocate for working-class Texans. Big Banks in the past have lobbied to reduce consumer protections intended to protect minorities. They have invested in private prisons that has fueled the mass incarceration crisis and child migrant detention. They fight against unions and worker dignity and the wage increases that we desperately need after decades of wage stagnation.

Mortgage on a Mission exists to give Progressives in Texas an alternative when buying a home or refinancing their mortgage. We advocate for public policy at the state level to end homelessness and protect the public from predatory lending. We have also created opportunities for young Progressives to earn fair wages by getting into the mortgage industry part-time. Your paid internship helps us raise more money for non-profits and political candidates fighting for what we care about.

Join Mortgage on a Mission. A Statement from Founder Ben Strube.

If you are like most Millennials, you probably have some student loan debt and maybe are having a hard time making the kind of income that you need. I get it. When I graduated college, I had quite a bit of student loans. Finding a good paying job was hard. My first job out of college was at Chase Bank, where I began doing mortgage lending. I needed the job but hated the fact that I was supporting a bank that did not share my values as a Progressive. So I quit, and set off to create Mortgage on a Mission.

I care about climate change, ending mass incarceration, protecting voting rights and strengthening our democracy, a \$15 minimum wage, and universal health care. As someone living with juvenile diabetes, it was the Affordable Care Act that really saved me and my family by helping me get the life-saving insulin I needed. As someone with undocumented friends, the DACA program changed their lives and is something we must defend. That's why after finding a great job doing mortgages with an awesome, worker-run company (NXT Mortgage) I decided to create Mortgage on a Mission specifically for Progressives. I am launching this paid internship program for my friends who, like me, need to earn a living wage and who also care about Progressive issues and leaving this planet better than we found it, and our communities stronger than they are now.

What we have achieved so far in 2019:

- After creating Mortgage on a Mission earlier this year, we launched our support for the refugee resettlement program as a sponsor of the annual fundraiser for the International Rescue Committee, donating \$1000. We are a member of Generation Rescue, a young professionals' group that supports the IRC and refugee policy. www.MortgageMission.org/rescue.
- We launched our official website with information for home buyers, background on the issue of racial discrimination, and resources to get involved. www.MortgageMission.org.
- To help make housing an election issue in 2020, we kicked off the first of several discussions on housing policy with Texas House District 67 candidate Lorenzo Sanchez, along with bcWorkshop and Agape Resource and Assistance Center, a homeless shelter in Plano. Check out our full video of the discussion at www.facebook.com/mortgagemission
- We were excited to support a Progressive Latina running for US Congress on a No Corporate PAC agenda to beat an incumbent who has accepted over \$30,000 from GEO Group, which owns and runs migrant detention facilities in Laredo, Texas. We were a sponsor of the fundraiser at Mercado369 in Oak Cliff and donated \$500 to the Jessica Cisneros for Congress campaign. We will continue to work with the campaign as they discuss federal policy affecting immigrants and low-income Texans, including the HUD rule barring DACA recipients from using the FHA loan program. www.jessicacisnerosforcongress.com and www.mortgagemission.org/daca
- Our mission is to defend Texans from high cost loans and predatory lending. That's why we created and printed 2000 brochures for home buyers, **Know Your Rights as a Home Buyer**, to help first time buyers avoid predatory lenders as well as refinance cards for those who own homes. www.MortgageMission.org/buy and www.MortgageMission.org/refi
- We became a member of the Faith Forward Dallas coalition, an interfaith gathering of faith leaders in Dallas who work on social justice issues including homelessness and poverty. www.thanksgiving.org/faithforwarddallas
- We helped sponsor the Dallas County Democrats' Labor Day picnic this year with our awesome marketing materials from Tino J Designs: www.MortgageMission.org/blue
- We researched the public policies impacting homelessness and created our first state-level policy initiative, \$1 For Texas, to raise the level of funding by the state for homelessness from \$5 million to \$30 million, funded by \$1 in sales tax from each Texan every year. www.MortgageMission.org/homeless.

How You Can Join Us

Mortgage on a Mission is looking in the next year to provide 10-15 hours of work every week to 20 paid interns. Our goal is for the work to pay around \$25 per hour, or \$1000 per month per intern. The work would consist of helping us spread the message of Mortgage on a Mission, of the savings that Progressives can find by comparing lenders and of the good we can do by supporting us as a lender that is fighting for fair housing policy in Austin. We know that mortgage work is not for everyone, and so as we look to fill these roles we have several ways for you to see if you might enjoy this work:

Part One

Start talking to your community about the work that we do. Visit our website and learn more about us. Hand out our **Know Your Rights as a Home Buyer** brochures and our **Turn Texas Blue with your Refinance** cards. 20% of Texans with a mortgage should be refinancing, so if you know 25 homeowners with a loan then there are 5 who you can talk to about refinancing. Talk to people about why they should compare lender offers to save money and avoid discrimination. Talk about our advocacy to fund homeless programs with our **\$1 For Texas campaign**. If you enjoy talking to people, and you start meeting people who need a mortgage, then you should consider part two, our paid internship.

Part Two

Our internships will be 8 weeks long and will pay \$50 weekly for 3-4 hours of work. To schedule an interview, send me an email to ben.strube@nxtmortgage.com. Your internship will include continuing to talk to your community about getting a mortgage with us, but over the course of 8 weeks you will also gain some of the technical mortgage skills needed to succeed as a junior loan officer. **You will gain confidence in understanding the types of loans that exist, what it takes to get approved, how to compare competitor offers, how to be effective in talking to people about loans, and join a small group of Progressive interns devoted to fair housing in Texas.** Once you complete this internship, you will have looked at a few mortgage loans start to finish and you'll be ready for part three, getting paid as a part-time junior loan officer.

Part Three

Getting your mortgage license means that you are ready to devote 10-15 hours weekly to talking to people about their mortgage needs and helping them get approved. Your license allows you to earn \$500 in commission per loan for 15-20 hours of work each. Studying for your mortgage license will require around 40 hours of study. The cost of the exam and course is around \$500 but upon successful completion of your internship, we will cover the cost for you. Your pay will be as an independent contractor (1099). Most of your work will be talking to people and explaining concepts that we will teach you. You will learn the technical mortgage skills on the job as you gain experience. To earn \$1000 per month you would talk to enough people to close two loans.

Want We Can Accomplish Together in 2020

With 20 new Progressive loan officers working part time, we can serve the needs of 480 clients in 2020 (two loans per month per worker). We can raise \$50,000 for political candidates that we decide to support as well as donate another \$50,000 to Progressive non-profits to fight climate change, end mass incarceration, help refugees, and defend voting rights (\$100 per loan to candidates, and \$100 to a non-profit).

We can create \$240,000 in wages for our team which will lift the burden of student loan debt and empower us to do more volunteering for campaigns and more advocacy work in our communities. 300,000 Democrats in Texas should refinance their mortgage, right now. We only need around 500 of them next year to make a big difference in Turning Texas Blue in 2020. Even if we do 10% of this goal, we will end up making a real difference in our communities.

Want More Information?

Visit our website to learn more:

www.MortgageMission.org

Check out our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/mortgagemission

Sign up to get our monthly newsletter:

www.MortgageMission.org/join

Send me an email to:

ben.strube@nxtmortgage.com

Friend me on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ben.strube.bluedot

Text or call me at:

972-299-3661.

We partner with the team over at NXT Mortgage. They are a ton of fun!

Check out photos of their team: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/nxtmortgage/photos>

Thank you to my partner Tino Jaramillo for all of his love and support and the awesome graphics on our website that he made! Check out his work at www.tinojdesign.com

