

The Preston model

A Placed Based example to Revitalize a Local Economy and Reduce Precariousness

4.15 Watch “Special Report: Building the Democratic Economy, from Preston to Cleveland.” (25:42)

<p>SPECIAL REPORT: Building the Democratic Economy, from ...</p> 
<p>Flanders, Laura. “Special Report: Building the Democratic Economy, from Preston to Cleveland,” video, 25:42, posted by The Laura Flanders Show to YouTube, June 20, 2018. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnXsteyfiUg (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnXsteyfiUg)</p>

Earlier you got a big picture vision behind the organizing beginning to take place in Jackson Mississippi. This place-based example illustrates a more advanced model in a very different context.

Preston, Lancashire, England is a formerly industrial city: the birthplace of the industrial revolution in many ways. Residents have seen ten years of austerity. Partly out of need—and partly out of aspiration—they’re practicing and experimenting to develop a new model. They’re calling it the Preston model of community wealth building, and it’s inspired by a model in another formerly industrialized city: Cleveland, Ohio’s Evergreen Cooperative model. In turn, Cleveland is part of the inspiration for Jackson Rising.

4.16 Read “Working Together: Trade Union and Co-operative Innovations for Precarious Workers,” pages 91-98. (17 minutes)

Conaty, Pat, Alex Bird, Cilla Ross, Co-operative College, and Co-operative UK. “Working Together: Trade Union and Co-operative Innovations for Precarious Workers,” Co-operatives UK, 2018.

https://www.uk.coop/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/working-together_final_web-version.pdf (https://www.uk.coop/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/working-together_final_web-version.pdf)

There is emerging best practice in the UK, Europe, and the USA that illustrates how impoverishment can be reversed and decent work secured through unions and co-operatives building an alliance based on a solidarity economy approach. Additionally, consider the growing thinking about what is common

ownership and how this can be secured.

This report has identified eight different solutions that can tackle precarious work through different forms of democratic action, co-operative ownership, and public-social partnerships including the co-development of commons. Reference is made to the need for Universal Basic Income to address the social insecurity of atypical work. A short video introduction by Robert Reich that explains the basics is included as supplemental viewing in the next section.