



METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION

P.O. Box 4533 • Louisville, KY • 40204

(502) 584-6858 • www.metropolitanhousing.org



Greetings!

MHC works to "Get the Lead Out" *by MHC & LockupLead's John Cullen*

The last week of October is International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. The focus is on prevention since lead is a cumulative poison, absorbed, but not eliminated by the body. Toxic lead exposure remains a top environmental health hazard to young children in the U.S. (per CDC), although most children with exposure are never diagnosed, show no symptoms until later in life, and suffer mild to severe IQ loss, ADHD, and behavior and learning disorders.

On November 1, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer will recognize MHC for an initiative to kick off a lead poisoning prevention **year** for MHC and its partners. MHC's "**Get the Lead Out**" initiative was selected for a Mayor's Healthy Hometown grant to recruit other community partners to join in promoting recent best practices to raise awareness about the common dangers of lead exposure and empower families and community groups to play a far more significant role in fighting this epidemic. But the CDC is urging prevention to identify common hazards in the home and take steps **before** a child is poisoned at any level.

It is estimated that 1 in 3 children under the age of 18 in the U.S. have had measurable lead exposure at some point (visit leadsafeamerica.org for links to research). Research shows that children with histories of prolonged lead exposure enter school with diminished reading and learning abilities, and experience learning and behavior disorders at

MHC needs YOU!
Your membership
advances safe, fair, and
affordable housing for our
community!

**Join MHC or Renew Your
Membership Today!**

Each new member and every
donation makes possible MHC's
critical work for our community.

Become a recurring monthly
donor for as little as \$1 per
month to provide ongoing
support of MHC's work or
consider gift to MHC in the name
of a loved one.

Contact Michael Kolodziej at
michael@metropolitanhousing.org

or

502 584-6858 regarding
donations & gifts.

**To make an online donation,
visit us on the web at
www.metropolitanhousing.org**

or

**Mail your donation to:
Metropolitan Housing
Coalition**

**P.O. Box 4533
Louisville, KY 40204-4533**

increased rates as they enter adolescence and teen years. Recently, CDC dramatically lowered its "action level" for child blood lead levels, triggering when immediate public health actions should be taken to protect a child and emphasized that "there is no safe of lead in a child."

The leading cause of child lead poisoning is from lead-based paint, which was not banned in the U.S. until 1978, after most homes today in Louisville were built. Even newer homes can contain lead hazards from old vinyl mini-blinds, painted antiques, and other items, but the majority of child lead poisoning is linked to pre-1978 homes through conditions that create household dust containing toxic lead. Research shows the majority of children who are poisoned unknowingly ingest microscopic amounts of lead dust from normal hand-to-mouth activity. And it takes only millionths of a gram of lead paint dust to poison a child. New, innovative approaches to identify lead hot spots in a home are available along with recommended safe practices to rid areas of lead.

Organizing the community on this issue is a natural fit for MHC, since this entirely preventable epidemic is so linked with housing. **Get the Lead Out** will build upon the success of Louisville Metro Government Lead Safe Louisville's home lead test kit distribution. MHC is enlisting community groups in low-income neighborhoods and partnering with local government, companies, and other nonprofits to help empower parents to learn how to easily detect lead in the home through distribution of instant lead test kits in targeted neighborhoods. MHC is also helping to link families to resources and information on practical and affordable ways to eliminate hazards and protect children from being exposed to lead paint hazards.

Get the Lead Out enjoyed a great kickoff event on October 22nd at the Louisville Zoo Halloween Event. Partnering with Louisville Metro Health & Wellness and the Lead Safe Louisville Department, MHC sponsored a booth at the event and organized volunteers from Mercy Academy, DuPont Manual, LockUpLead, Healthy Home town Louisville, Louisville Metro Health & Wellness, and Louisville Metro Department of Housing to help distribute approximately 1000 instant lead test kits provided by Lead Safe Louisville to families living in pre-1978 housing. Along with test kits, information on how to maintain a lead safe home and child blood testing were also provided along with treats for young children.

Metropolitan Housing Coalition is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Your contribution is tax deductible within IRS regulations.

Community Calendar

Fair Housing Coalition meets 2pm

**each 2nd TUE at New Directions,
1000 E. Liberty**

Louisville Vacant Property Campaign

**meets 5:30pm
each 3rd Tuesday at Shelby Park Community Center
600 E. Oak St.**

Project Warm - Blitz 2016

This Winter Stay Warmer

In November Project Warm volunteers will be installing clear, interior window covers (plastic) in homes of seniors (60 and over) or disabled.

Call 502.636.9276

**Project Warm is located at
1252 S. Shelby St.**

Free service provided to all qualifying households.

First come first serve

**2016 Sustainability Summit:
It Takes a 'Ville**

*This year's theme is ACTION!
Join us as we jazz Louisville's sustainability community to action by highlighting inspiring national champions who drive measurable success, and boldly connect participants to shovel-ready projects that together contribute to meeting our goal of being recognized as one of the top ten most sustainable communities in*

the nation by 2025.

Key note speaker: Dr. Shahzeen Attari, School of Public & Environmental Affairs Indiana University

Including city panelists from: Cleveland, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis, & Columbus

Saturday, October 29

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Bellarmino University

2001 Newburg Rd.

Registration is required. Click [here](#) to register.

First Model UN at U of L & Refugee Presentation by Andrea Risotto & Board Meeting

Andrea Risotto is the Communications Director for the Better World Campaign at the United Nations Foundation. Her speech is titled "One Humanity, Shared

Friday, November 4

10 am - 10:45 am

UNA-USA KY Board Meeting & Invocation

&

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

UN Day Proclamation; Rotary Governor Addresses

U of L Alumni/University Club

Barry Bingham Room

200 E. Brandeis

10th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture featuring Angela Davis

"Freedom is a Constant Struggle"

Tuesday, November 15

6:00 pm

Brown & Williamson Club in the Cardinal Stadium

2800 S. Floyd St.

For more info, contact the UofL Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research at (502) 852-

Mercy Academy Students volunteering for MHC at Louisville Zoo Halloween Event. Who's that in the blue wig?

As MHC kicks off our **Get the Lead Out** campaign, please spread the word and share our stories on social media to help connect us with community groups of all sorts that may be interested in having us come to provide free lead test kits and provide helpful information so that they too can join the efforts to help empower families to promote lead free children for a healthy future!

duPont Manuel student volunteer handing out LockUpLead test kits for MHC at Louisville Zoo Halloween event.

MHC would like to thank Louisville Metro Government and the Mayor's Healthy Hometown grant for funding our Get the Lead Out Initiative.

Mercy Academy

MHC has been working with students from Mercy

Academy for their senior project: "Helping Others Live Mercy." They will be having a special event "Help Others Live Mercy Night" on Tuesday, November 29th at 7 p.m. at Mercy Academy, 5801 Fegenbush Lane. You can learn more about their work by visiting:

Instagram: H.O.L.M.2017
Twitter: Holm2017
Facebook: H.O.L.M.2017

And check out this amazing video they made!



H.O.L.M - how the homeless are affected in our very own community

How to get involved with the Comprehensive Plan

by Cathy Hinko

MHC strongly encourages you to sign up for the Comprehensive Plan process. Remember this is the plan for the built environment of Louisville for 20 YEARS! Whatever your passion - fair housing, affordable housing, healthy neighborhoods, transit and modes of transportation, how we prepare for our aging residents, environmental issues, heat islands, trees, there are 6 work groups. They are:

- Mobility (Transportation)
- Community Form
- Community Facilities
- Housing
- Livability and Environment

6142.

www.louisville.edu/braden

United Nations Human Rights Day Program
Human Trafficking
Conference: Local to Global
Tuesday, December 6th
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday, December 7th
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
University of Louisville
University Club, ballroom
1117 Frankfort Road
200 E. Brandeis Ave.

- Marketplace (Economic Development).

Metro government is hosting a kick-off meeting for all Work Groups on :

**Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 9:00 - 10:30 am.
Memorial Auditorium (970 South 4th Street) in the
2nd Floor Ballroom.**

Ample parking should be available in the lot at 5th and Kentucky and on the street. Attendance is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged for all work group members.

If you are able to attend the meeting on November 5th, please RSVP to Kelly Probus at Kelly.probus@louisvilleky.gov.

At the meeting, we will provide background on the Comprehensive Plan and an overview of the process. Each group will go over its work plan and discuss future meeting dates and times.

If you cannot make that day and time, you can still join a committee by clicking [here](#). For more ways to get involved click [here](#).

New Tools and Strategies for Reclaiming Vacant Properties *by Cathy Hinko*

There are some new tools to help reclaim vacant property, and your neighborhood may be interested. The Louisville Vacant Property Campaign worked with Louisville Metro's Vacant and Public Property Administration and the Louisville Metro Council's Ad Hoc Vacant Property Committee to present the new abilities to reclaim property in a great presentation on September 26.

First new tool- the spot condemnation law was amended to make it a useful tool in reclaiming deteriorated property. Formerly, it had been so expensive it was rarely used. The change is that when the mandatory appraisals are done, the appraiser can also factor in the cost of bringing the property to code. For instance, if the property is appraised at \$20,000, in the past Metro government would have had to pay \$20,000. But under the new rules, if it is appraised at \$20,000 but it would cost \$15,000 to bring it up to code, the cost to Metro is \$5,000. So if your neighborhood has a property deteriorating, but

still salvageable, this may be a useful tool and your group should contact Metro's Vacant Property Administration. FYI, all the notice requirements and protections for owners are still in place and it still requires Metro Council approval and then a court case. Only the appraisal part changed.

The second new tool- the city now has the ability to declare census tracts, in areas that meet strict criteria, to have a moratorium on selling property tax liens to third parties. This really is about neighborhood revitalization. Any time a tax lien is sold to a third party they get all the privilege of government without any of the responsibility. The sale of the tax liens has been a really big impediment to neighborhood revitalization.

By being able to declare a moratorium on selling the liens, there is local control and strategy on being able to make the property useful. The responsibility to pay property taxes is still as strict and the consequences for non-payment can be loss of ownership, but the process is locally controlled. Your neighborhood may have census tracts where this new tool can help keep properties attractive to improvements and reuse.

There is the possibility of more useful tools becoming available, but these are things that require changes to the law at state level. MHC will present its legislative agenda for the 2017 state legislative session in November.

Join Cathy and MHC for PechaKucha Night!

On Tuesday, October 25th at 8pm, come see Cathy take part and speak at PechaKucha Night at the Muhammad Ali Center. What is PechaKucha? It is an innovative presentation format where each presenter shows 20 slides, for 20 seconds each. The topic is "An Evening of Short Talks about Race, Ethnicity, & Culture in Louisville". See the image below for more information.



***Homeless & Housing
Coalition of Kentucky***

**Make noise. Make Change. Make
Room.**

***by coalition members Homeless & Housing Coalition
of Kentucky***

The Make Room campaign is working to put the 11 million American families whose rent consumes more than half their incomes on the national agenda.

Today, 20 million families are struggling to keep a roof overhead. It's time Congress turned its full attention to solving this problem.

Please join the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky to send Congress 1 million messages to get housing affordability on the agenda by Election Day.

Sign the national letter today and learn how you can

help mobilize others at

<http://www.make roomusa.org/take-action-organizations/>

We hope you'll join us. We can't achieve our ambitious goal of 1 million messages without you!

[Like Make Room campaign on Facebook](#)

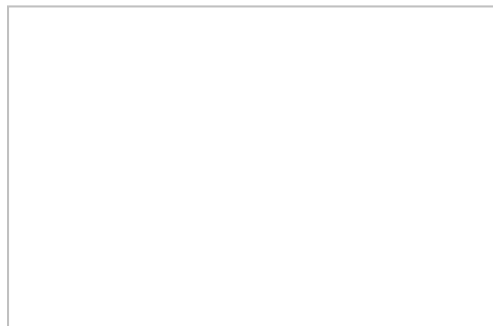
[Follow Make Room on Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#)

[Sign up your email on the website](#) to stay informed and hear about new ways to act. (Expect about 1-2 email updates a month and your email address won't be shared).

MAKE ROOM

Thank you to everyone who supported us during Give Local Louisville. It was a huge success!

Support MHC with Amazon Smile



If you shop on Amazon.com, you can support MHC! Log-in to your existing Amazon account and go to smile.amazon.com, then search Metropolitan Housing Coalition. Below is information from their website if you have any questions.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no

cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?

Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

How can I learn more about AmazonSmile?

Please see complete AmazonSmile [program details](#).

Once you're signed up, make sure to visit smile.amazon.com when you shop. Have anymore questions? Please feel free to email us.

On behalf of MHC's Board of Directors & Staff, we want to thank everyone who donated to MHC in honor of Kenny Lanham, Jr. Kenny was a great advocate for fair & affordable housing and a former MHC Board Member. He will be greatly missed.

Mary Gail Bryan
Bernard & Mary Ellert
Daniel Garvey
Kathryn Hagerty
Kenneth & Sharon Bohnert
Mary & James Henry
Martha McIntire
Jim Mims

Tom Miron
New Directions Housing Corporation
Lisa Osanka
Candice Payton
Sally & Richard Johnson
Sandra Riley Bryant
Vision Homes LLC
Judie Westmeier

Do you already give to MHC through Kroger Community Rewards or want to? Well it's time to re-enroll and renew your support!



Earn money for MHC just by shopping Kroger

Have a Kroger card in your wallet or keychain?
Then you're *almost* ready to help support MHC
through a new program.



Kroger's Community Giving program makes it easier than ever to support your favorite community organizations! Use your Kroger Rewards Card when shopping at Kroger, support MHC. It's that simple.

If you don't yet have a Kroger Plus card, just ask a cashier for one on your next trip to Kroger.

Here's how to get started or re-enroll:

For those who DO have a Kroger Plus card, go to Kroger's Web site: www.kroger.com

If you already HAVE a Kroger.com account:

- 1) At the top of the main Web page, find and click on the word "Community" on the top right of the screen, just below the "Sign In" box.
- 2) Under the menu at the left side of the Community page, click on "Kroger Community Rewards". This will take you to the Community Rewards page.
- 3) At the bottom of the Kroger Community Rewards page, you will see a box for "ENROLL NOW". Click on the box.
- 4) On the next page, you can find MHC by typing our name, "Metropolitan Housing Coalition", in the search box.
- 5) When Metropolitan Housing Coalition appears on the list, select us by clicking the circle next to our name. Then click "Save" to save MHC as your designated organization.
- 6) Confirm that MHC is selected as your Community Rewards organization by checking your account profile.

That's it! Now every time you shop and use your Kroger Plus card, you'll be earning rewards for MHC.

If you DO NOT have a Kroger.com account, click on the "Register" button at the top right of the Kroger homepage. Then simply follow the instructions on the Web site to set up your account and then follow the above instructions.

Want to get involved but need more knowledge on the issues?

MHC will come to you!

We're happy to present on the issues and our work to your group, whatever the size and wherever the location.

Contact MHC at (502) 584-6858 or michael@metropolitanhousing.org

to find out how you and your organization can learn more and get active.



Both our printed newsletter and our e-newsletter are made possible by the generous support of PNC Bank.



MHC would like to thank Louisville Metro Government for its continuing support of our outreach efforts.