

NEWSletter

METROPOLITAN
HOUSING
COALITION
LOUISVILLE KY
JUNE 2005

Join us on June 20!

MHC's June paper to focus on living wage issues

MHC will publish an issue paper in June entitled *Housing the Essential Workforce: Our Community's Challenge*. The paper will be presented on June 20 at noon at the Louisville Urban League.

In Metro Louisville, neither a police officer nor a nurse can afford to buy a median priced home at current wage levels. Last year, fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Metro Louisville increased by \$33, while wages only increased by \$25 last year. This means a minimum wage worker in Louisville Metro had to work 79 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom apartment at fair market rent, a figure up four hours from 2003. The affordable housing gap here is growing wider and local wages just aren't enough to address the situation.

The paper will address these issues and more. Be sure to attend this compelling presentation on June 20! Bring a brown bag lunch and a friend. ■



Metropolitan Housing Coalition

CONTACT US!

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PHONE (502) 584-6858

Wow!

16th Annual Meeting a smashing success!

Nearly 600 people arrived in style for MHC's 16th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 17. The crowd delighted in the new Marriott's beautiful surroundings and the event's expanded social hour.

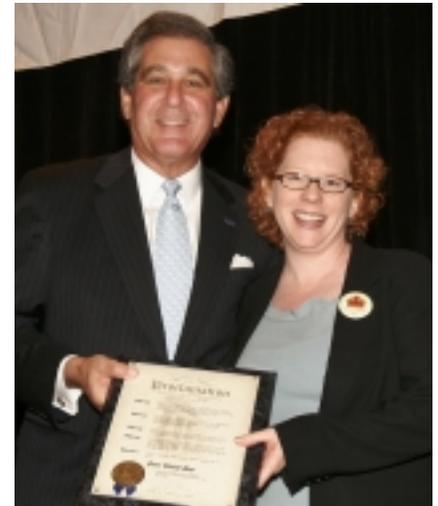
This year's event drew the largest crowd ever with nearly 600 people in attendance — a true testament to the great work the Metropolitan Housing Coalition has been doing this year to advocate for affordable housing in Metro Louisville. **Mayor Jerry Abramson** echoed this in his comments for the evening. He proclaimed May 17 to be **Jane Walsh Day**, reading a heartwarming proclamation to MHC's outgoing Executive Director.

MHC's circle will miss Jane, but we were also thrilled to hear **Kathi Whalen**, MHC Board President, announce that **Cathy Hinko** will be MHC's new Executive Director on May 28.

James Carr of the Fannie Mae Foundation gave a compelling presentation about unequal access to financial services for poor and minority households in the United States. He provided compelling information and — always a crowd pleaser — viable solutions to the problems.

Finally, we celebrated the significant contributions of **Councilman Leonard Watkins** MHC honored Leonard's dedication to affordable housing issues and our community.

Thank you to all who made this event possible, including the **Annual**



At Metropolitan Housing Coalition's 16th Annual Meeting, Mayor Jerry Abramson proclaimed May 17 as Jane Walsh Day, in honor of our outgoing Executive Director.

Meeting Committee volunteers, the Board of Directors, Dreams with Wings, Alter Ego Clothing Store, Holt Printing Company, The HOME Store, Joseph Kremer, John Catlett, Jennie Jean Davidson, Leo & McGee Catlett, Darcy, Colin, & Corey Maloney, and Michael & Calloway Relish.

A special thanks to our sponsors:

- **FOUNDATION SPONSOR:** Fannie Mae, Kentucky Partnership Office
- **CORNERSTONE SPONSOR:** National City Bank
- **KEYSTONE SPONSORS:** Carpenters Local Union 64, Fifth Third Bank, Louisville Metro Housing Authority, Kentucky Housing Corporation, PNC Bank
- **GROUNDBREAKING SPONSORS:** Catholic Charities, Commonwealth Bank & Trust, Greater Louisville Building, Construction & Trades Council, Louisville Urban League, Republic Bank & Trust, Stites & Harbison PLLC

MHC MEMBER News

Here is what some of MHC's member organizations are doing

ElderServe will have its 2005 Champion for the Aging Award Luncheon on June 15 at noon, in the Galt House East Tower Grand Ballroom. Film writer and director Elliot Greenebaum and film star Maggie Riley will be honored at the event for the award winning film, *Assisted Living*. A special Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Duane Murner for his extraordinary support of ElderServe and the Oak & Acorn Intergenerational Center. For sponsorship or ticket information, call Nancy Doctor at 736-3833.

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The Board of Directors of **Jewish Family & Vocational Service** invites you to attend its 97th Annual Meeting — *The Seasons of Your Life* — on Tuesday, June 21, at 7:30pm in the Louis & Lee Roth Family Center, 3587 Dutchmans Lane. RSVP by calling 452-6341, ext. 211.

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Cathe Dykstra, formerly with The Center for Women and Families, has joined **Project Women** as Executive Director. In May, Project Women celebrated the graduation of participant Temeka Higgins with degrees in political science and history from U of L. This fall, Temeka will attend law school at Chicago-Kent on a full tuition scholarship.

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It's not too late to recruit a Repair Affair volunteer team! Call Will Meacham at **New Directions Housing Corporation**, 589-2272, ext. 3039 or at willm@ndhc.org and sign up to work for Southern Indiana on Saturday, June 11, or Louisville Metro on Saturday, June 20. Repair Affair teams will aid 150 elderly or disabled homeowners in 2005.

Legacy Homes and **Neighborhood Development Corporation** are pleased to announce the opening of Rowan Place, a 42-unit senior apartment building which is now leasing 1- and 2-bedroom units. Call Stephanie Vest at 562-0016 for leasing info.

▼
Legacy Homes is pleased to announce the commencement of construction of Norton Commons Senior Residences in the new Norton Commons development in East Louisville. The 24-unit Seniors' apartments will be built in an elevator-serviced building above first floor commercial space at the heart of the Town Center at Norton Commons, making seniors an integral part of the center of the community. For more information, please contact Legacy's Director of Development, Michael Gross, at 583-1500, ext. 32.

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Join **Cabbage Patch Settlement House** for fun at the 18th Annual LG&E Energy Foundation Street Ball Showdown! Be a part of the 3-on-3 basketball tournament on June 25 & 26 near Waterfront Park and Louisville Slugger Field. Register online at www.streetballshowdown.com by May 31 and save \$5. Registration deadline is June 13. Stop by your local McDonald's and Buehler's stores for a registration form. For more info, call the Street Ball office at 636-1888 or email streetball@cabbagepatch.org.

▼
Fifth Third Bank is taking down all roadblocks and delivering homeownership to you this July! Watch for more info for your chance to visit the Fifth Third Homeownership Mobile and Bring the Dream Home.

Message from Cathy Hinko, MHC's new Executive Director



You may have heard at our Annual Meeting that I will be the next Executive Director of MHC. I appreciate the Board's confidence in me and will work hard to keep the organization vibrant, influential and fun. We increase our vision when we stand on the shoulders of the giants that came before, and I find myself with an incredible view because of the work of Jane, Suzy, and you.

Our next report, which reflects the disconnect between wages and affordability of basic housing, will be out in June. The work of MHC will continue without interruption.

I would like to introduce myself a little more. I am a graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School and I practiced law with Legal Services in Tennessee and then Kentucky, focusing on housing issues. I ran the Jefferson County and Louisville Section 8 program, and was Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Jefferson County from 1998 until merger. Most recently, I was with MHC as program director of the Non-profit Housing Alliance, working with a group of 19 non-profit housing developers. I served on the board of MHC for many years and participated in its committees for many more.

The most fun I ever had in a job was being the lawyer for a successful public housing resident rent strike on housing conditions. The work accomplishment I am most proud of is the award-winning Section 8 for home ownership and Individual Development Account program. I plan to break both those records with MHC. ■

THIS



THAT

MHC makes a move

MHC will be moving to our new location at Jewish Family and Vocational Services (JFVS) on Wednesday, June 1. JFVS is located at 3587 Dutchmans Lane. **Both our current phone number — (502) 584-6858 — and our current mailing address — Post Office Box 4533, Louisville, KY 40204-4533 — will remain the same for the time being.** Our fax number will change and we will publish the new one in the next newsletter. We may be difficult to reach on the day of the move, but we intend to be up and running at the new location on Thursday, June 2! ■

MHC salutes Camp Edwards

MHC board, staff and members mourn the loss of **Camp Edwards** who died on May 17. Camp contributed to the community in so many ways that each of us know him from an activity different from the next person. Camp worked tirelessly for Smoketown and the Presbyterian Community Center, and he was also a social worker, a lay leader and elder of Grace Hope Presbyterian Church, a mediator with Just Solutions. He served on the boards of many organizations, including the Housing Authority. We will sorely miss him. ■

Buy a Kroger Card to support MHC

Want an easy way to donate to MHC? Support the mission and work of MHC while shopping for groceries at Kroger! MHC will be selling rechargeable Kroger gift cards that allow a portion of what you spend at your local Kroger store to go to MHC.

Here's how it works: You purchase a \$5 Kroger gift card from MHC. Take it to your local Kroger and use cash, check, or credit to recharge the card at the Customer Service desk or at *any register*. Then, use the card to pay for your groceries. The card can be recharged indefinitely, and each time you recharge the card, MHC gets 4% of the value you put on the card. To pre-order your Kroger gift card supporting MHC, please contact Nick at nick@metropolitanhousing.org or 584-6858. ■

Thank you so very much

We send our thanks to the **Gannett Foundation** for helping to fund MHC's March issue paper, *Out of Breath: Childhood Asthma, Poverty and Housing*, which addressed the connection between substandard housing and increasing rates of childhood asthma. ■

Welcome to our new members

We extend a warm welcome to new individual members **Carolyn Cromer, Debbie Todd, Ellen Friedman, Bill & Winnie Mitchell, Rachel Hurst & Cat Goodman, Pam & Todd Vitaz, Jessica George,** and **Marisa Neal**. Also, welcome to new organizational members **Kosair Children's Hospital** with delegate **Doug Eighmey, People's Mortgage, Inc.,** with delegate **Aaron Willis**. ■



MHC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Send MHC a check for your **INDIVIDUAL** or **ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL!**

Name _____

Address _____

City/state/zip _____

Phone # _____

**Please make your check payable to:
METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION
& mail to MHC, P.O. Box 4533
Louisville, KY 40204-4533**

PLEASE fill out form & mail today!

Want to receive MHC's newsletter by email? If you would like to receive MHC's newsletter by email only, contact Nancy at (502) 584-6858 or email her at nancy@metropolitanhousing.org.



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HIGHLIGHTS FOR JUNE ... MHC's June Paper to Focus on Living Wage Issues/16th Annual Meeting a Smashing Success/MHC Member News/Message from Cathy Hinko, MHC's New Executive Director/MHC Makes a Move/MHC Salutes Camp Edwards/Buy a Kroger Card to Support MHC/Thank You So Very Much/Welcome to our New Members/MHC membership Renewal Form/June 2005 Meetings/Councilman Watkins Receives MHC Award for Community Service

MHC's monthly newsletter is underwritten by a grant from

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June '05 meetings

**6/20 — MHC General Membership Meeting
& Paper Release**

Monday, June 20, 12pm
Louisville Urban League
1535 West Broadway

6/22 — MHC Board of Directors

Wednesday, June 22, 12pm
New Directions Housing Corporation
1000 E. Liberty Street

Councilman Watkins wins MHC award for community service



Kevin Dunlap presented Councilman Leonard Watkins an award at the Annual Meeting for his many contributions to the affordable housing community. (See Annual Meeting article on page 1.)