



NOVEMBER
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NEWSletter

*Report has
startling findings*

MHC's 5th annual State of Metropolitan Housing Report released October 17!


The 2008 *State of Metropolitan Housing Report* has already generated community discussion on several areas concerning fair and affordable housing. The focus of the report is transportation.

Even today, affordable housing development is being blocked in areas where none exists. The "safe" argument against this development is that transportation infrastructure is not present. Transportation planning is deliberately arcane so that people do not participate, but MHC hopes to change that with this report which describes what currently happens and advocates for change in the process to include public perspectives in planning.

The annual report on nine measures of fair and affordable housing found that:

- Subsidized housing remains concentrated in areas of our community where jobs and services are scarce;
- Nearly 190,000 people who are heads of households in the Louisville MSA have incomes that are defined as being qualified for housing assistance;
- Over a third of wage earners in the Louisville MSA make less than \$12 per hour making it a challenge to find decent, affordable housing;

- More than 13,000 households in Louisville Metro continue to wait for a share of the limited number of housing subsidies;
- Disparity still exists between whites and African-Americans when the percentage of homeownership is based on population distributions;
- The affordability rate for first-time home buyers fell by seven points;
- At year end 2006, Louisville Metro foreclosures were up by 8%, while in the southern Indiana counties there was a 32% increase;
- The number of homeless served continues to rise, especially in southern Indiana where there was a 40% increase;
- Federal CDBG funding continues to stagnate.

Each measure contains a recommendation for improving opportunities for fair and affordable housing for everyone in our region. **Please, get involved!** Work on the Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund campaign, which is heating up as a proposal for administering funds is being developed. Or work on the *Yes In My Back Yard* campaign to encourage neighborhoods to intentionally include diverse housing and diverse families. We need your involvement — with it we *can* create a better community. 

Non-profit Housing Alliance works on regulatory barriers to revitalization in Louisville communities

If you will recall from our July/August newsletter, **MHC** is one of only three entities in **Kentucky (Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville** and the City of Bowling Green are the other two) to have pledged and be actively engaged in HUD's National Call to Action. This campaign was developed by the **America's Affordable Communities Initiative** to enlist states, local communities, and affordable housing advocacy groups across the nation to commit to producing affordable housing through public participation in a national network for regulatory reform.



Regulatory barriers serve as the biggest roadblocks to affordable housing development

Some of the biggest roadblocks to the development of affordable housing are regulatory barriers. In some parts of the country regulatory barriers can

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Metropolitan Housing Coalition

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Email your organization's
newsworthy information to
Kendell@metropolitanhousing.org.

MHC MEMBER News

November 6 — Election Day! Exercise your democratic rights and vote! 🗳️

November 9 — *The Art of Caring*, a gala art auction to benefit the **Dare to Care Food Bank** will be held on Friday, November 9, 5:30-8:30pm at Gardencourt, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Tickets are \$75 and include food and drink. There will be over 80 pieces of art from local and well known artists on which to bid. For more information, call 966-3821. 🗳️

November 9 & 10 — **Kentucky Habitat for Humanity's** Statewide Conference will be on November 9 & 10 at St. Matthews Baptist Church at 3515 Grandview Avenue. To access a registration form, visit www.kyhfh.org. 🗳️

November 11 — **Kentuckians for the Commonwealth** and the **Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund** will be hosting a meet and greet with Penny Loeb, author of *Moving Mountains and Patricia Bragg*, a grassroots leader in the West Virginia movement to preserve Appalachia on Sunday, November 11 from 2-4pm at the Portland Museum, 2309 Portland Avenue. Music will be by Silas House, Jason Howard, Kate Larken and George Ella Lyon of Public Outcry. A \$5 to \$50 contribution is requested. Refreshments and copies of Loeb's book will be provided by Carmichaels Bookstore. 🗳️

November 15 — On Thursday, November 15 at 7pm, **JFVS** will facilitate a free seminar at The Temple Trager Early Childhood Education Center for parents interested in learning about the various elementary school programs offered in the Louisville area. Representatives from various public, private

and parochial schools of Louisville will be present to meet with parents seeking more information about their programs. Contact Ellen Shapira at 452-6341, ext. 225 for more information. 🗳️

November 28 — On Wednesday, November 28 you can dine at a participating, locally-owned restaurant and a portion of your check will benefit HIV/AIDS services provided by **House of Ruth/Glade House**. To learn more, please call 587-5080 or visit www.diningoutforlife.com. 🗳️

December 8 — **Women In Transitions' (WIT's)** First Annual Poverty Summit Saturday, December 8 at Spalding University in the Eagan Leadership Center at Third and Breckinridge, 10am-4pm. Come talk and learn about Internalized Oppression and Health Disparities and Health Inequities. The event is free with lunch and childcare provided. Sponsored by **WIT, Center for Health Equity**, and Spalding University. For information, contact Khalilah at 636-0160 or kvcollins@witky.com. 🗳️

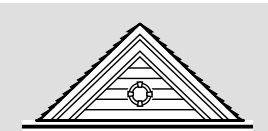
ElderServe program recognized by Foundation for the Improvement of Justice

The Foundation for Improvement of Justice, a national non-profit, has presented ElderServe's Senior Crime Victims' Assistance Program with the **Paul H. Chapman Award**. The Foundation for the Improvement of Justice works to improve local, state and federal systems of justice by rewarding the accomplishments of innovative programs throughout the United States. Each year awards of \$10,000 are provided to justice-related programs that have proven to be effective and can serve as models for others.

ElderServe, Inc. was chosen for two of the programs within its Senior Crime Victims' Assistance Program: the Emergency Crisis Response Team (ECRT) and the Emergency Protection Order Service. The ECRT program assists those 60 and over who need varying degrees of support when subjected to crimes such as physical abuse, neglect and exploitation. ECRT members are on call 24/7 and respond within one hour of a crisis involving a senior, providing immediate safe housing and/or home care for up to five days.

The Emergency Protective Order Service was implemented for medically fragile seniors so they would be able to file for legal protection from their perpetrators without going downtown. A special collaboration with the Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Adult Protective Services and the Family Court Judges supports this service available from the victims' temporary or permanent residence.

ElderServe's Senior Crime Victims' Assistance Program also provides senior victims with crisis counseling, emergency financial assistance, assistance with crime victims' compensation claims, home care, help with legal and court procedures and transportation. Contact Elderserve's Senior Victims' Assistance at 587-8673 or crimevictims@elderserveinc.org. 🗳️



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Member Spotlight on YouthBuild Louisville




Non-profit Housing Alliance works on regulatory barriers to revitalization

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increase the cost of a newly constructed home by \$45,000! These man-made barriers are being directly tackled by the **Non-profit Housing Alliance Program Manager Doug Magee** through a grant awarded by the Center for Health Equity.

The project of the NHA will bring together residents and activists from neighborhoods throughout the old City of Louisville with local non-profit housing and community developers to educate each other about various issues and policies hindering revitalization efforts. These targeted communities will create a list of well-defined barriers in their communities. The lists from the various neighborhoods will be put together by interested residents throughout Metro Louisville to target several barriers on which to concentrate our city-wide efforts at developing possible solutions.

If you or anyone you know is part of a neighborhood organization which would be interested in a chance to express their thoughts about barriers to revitalization or is interested in being a part of the Task Force to Remove Barriers to Neighborhood Revitalization please call Doug Magee at 584-6858 or you can send email to doug@metropolitanhousing.org. The initial meeting is being planned right now!

Stand up for affordable housing and be a part of the Task Force to Remove Barriers to Neighborhood Revitalization! 

YouthBuild Louisville is an exciting youth and community development program in Louisville. This nationally recognized program provides opportunities for youth to build homes for low-income people.

YouthBuild's mission is: "to capitalize on the positive energy of young adults by helping them rebuild their communities and their own lives with a commitment to work, education, responsibility, and family. YouthBuild aides unemployed and undereducated young people, ages 16-24, build affordable housing for homeless and low-income families in their own communities. They split their time between the construction site and the classroom, where they earn their GED or high school diploma, learn to be community leaders, and prepare for jobs or college."

At least 75% of youth served through YouthBuild programs are high school dropouts looking for a chance to demonstrate their worth to themselves, their families and their community. Approximately 61% of YouthBuild participants are young parents and 30% are young women. YouthBuild participants are actively involved in the decision-making and governance of YouthBuild programs, serving to demonstrate leadership skills in the implementation and evaluation of program activities. Youth receive an incentive stipend for their participation, as well

as a variety of services and supports to promote their continuing success as responsible community members.

YouthBuild Louisville has an inspiring philosophy. They believe that the positive energy and intelligence of young people should be liberated and enlisted in solving the problems facing our society and that the desire to do meaningful work is universal. YouthBuild is successful because they give the young men and women in challenging personal, social and/or economic conditions exactly what they seek: work that is of value; skills training with access to well paying jobs; means to continue education; and a helps to outline a clear vision on who each YouthBuild participant can become.

YouthBuild Louisville was one of 96 recent recipients of the Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration first YouthBuild Awards. The awards were given to provide leadership training and education in construction to at risk youth. They will receive \$550,000! Congratulations YouthBuild Louisville!

To volunteer, donate or learn more about YouthBuild, please visit www.YouthBuildLouisville.org or call 213-4257.

-- Information from YouthBuild
Louisville and YouthBuild USA

IMPORTANT: MHC requests public input!

The campaign for a Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund is heating up again. While we applaud Mayor Abramson and the Metro Council for seeding the fund with \$1 million, we are working on how the fund will be administered. Make sure there is public input in the AHTF and make sure it serves people with the greatest need. Join us. Call MHC at 584-6858 or go to Openthedoorlouisville.org for information on what you can do.



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HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER ...

MHC's 5th annual State of Metropolitan Housing
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Member News / ElderServe Program Recognized
by Foundation for the Improvement of Justice /
Member Spotlight on YouthBuild Louisville /
Important: MNC Requests Public Input / MHC
Membership Renewal Form

MHC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

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INDICATE LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP

- Sponsoring Membership \$1000 or more
- Sustaining Membership \$500—\$999
- Anchoring Membership \$200—\$499
- Supporting Membership \$75—\$199
- Assisting Membership \$1—\$74

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