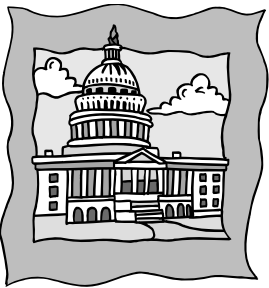




NEWSletter


Kentucky Congressman Yarmuth works to protect homeless youth



On Monday, June 9, the United States House of Representatives passed HR 5524, the Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act, which was introduced in March by Louisville's own Congressman John Yarmuth.

The major five-year reauthorization bill will strengthen the main source of federal funding for disconnected youth outside of the foster care and juvenile justice system. It will also create a nationwide network to prevent youth from falling through cracks in the system. This legislation reauthorizes and strengthens the federal runaway and homeless youth programs for five years, authorizing an increase of over 50% more than last year — \$150 million for residential services and \$3 million for runaway prevention. The measure will improve outreach and preventative care, establish emergency management

plans, and develop a national runaway and homeless youth research and evaluation agenda. The bill now heads to the Senate where Senators Patrick Leahy (D-Vt) and Arlen Specter (R-Pa) have sponsored companion legislation, which is expected to come to be considered this summer (excerpted from Yarmuth website).

Let your senators know how you want them to vote! To read the full report or to watch Congressman Yarmuth's statement from the House floor, go to yarmuth.house.gov and click on "Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act." 


In memoriam Honoring Alice

by Suzy Post

Louisville lost another important civil rights hero in May when Alice Wade (1938-2008), a long time Kentucky Alliance partisan, died after a short illness. Alice began her activism while a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in the West End. She and others began to pressure the Archbishop for an African American priest. Father Joseph Bell was appointed after several meetings with church members, led by Alice.

Alice's work with the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression eventually resulted in her becoming its Director. One of her highest priorities and that of the Alliance was to focus on police malpractice and the need for Louisville government to create a civilian police review board. She was drawn to this issue by events during the infamous "riots" in the late 60's at 28th and Greenwood.

In later years Alice was one of the regular drivers and donors of helping hands for Anne Braden. She leaves behind her daughters Sheila and Ursula, and Kevin, a nephew she helped raise. Alice will be sorely missed by those who work with regularity in the Kentucky Alliance.

Contributions in her honor may be made to the Kentucky Alliance or to MHC. 

Metropolitan Housing Coalition

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At issue: **Public Transit & Housing**

by **Cathy Hinko**
MHC Executive Director

The public transit conversation has been limited to raising fares and cutting service just as more people are questioning their dependence on their cars due to rising gas prices — which will go from 3% of T A R C ' s budget in 1999 to 13% of their budget in 2009.



Public transportation lets the city move more people with lower fuel costs and provides economic entry point for people who can't afford the \$8,000 per year it takes to own and operate a car. Public transit is a fundamental part of the basic infrastructure that allows a city to develop affordable housing and it is critical to meaningful fair housing initiatives — just look to MHC's *The Dividing Line* which reported on where female heads of household live or the *2007 State of Metropolitan Housing Report* which found a lack of support for public transit at all levels of government.

MHC continues to urge citizens to contact elected representatives at the local, regional, state and national levels and urge them to focus on transit in today's economy. The Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation has gone further and recommended an increase in the already existing tax stream dedicated to TARC.

MHC is looking at all options and would like to hear from you. Send your email comments to info@metropolitanhousing.org. 

Schedule of events for *Affordable Housing* advocates

July 12 ... Shelby Park Neighborhood Association will host *Steps Toward Healthy Living*. This event is free and open to all. There will be activities for kids, health screenings for adults and a special visit by Congressman John Yarmuth at 9:45am! In lieu of a registration fee, SPNA asks that everyone bring two canned goods to be donated to the House of Ruth. Don't miss out on Saturday, July 12, 9:45am–noon, Shelby Park at 600 E. Oak.

July 15 ... Regulatory Barriers to Community Revitalization Public Meeting, 5:30–7:30pm, Presbyterian Community Center, 701 S. Hancock. RSVP to Doug@metropolitanhousing.org to ensure enough food for all!

July 16 ... A Community Conversation on Vacant Properties featuring Melissa Barry, Division Director, Department of Housing & Family Services, Louisville Metro Government, 11:30am–1pm at Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 101 S. Fifth, Suite 1920. Call 502-568-9292 to register by July 11.


July 18 ... The Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods is now accepting nominations for the 2008 Mayor's Good Neighbor Award which seeks to identify and honor people in Louisville who are outstanding examples of neighbors helping neighbors. Deadline for nominations is Friday, July 18. Contact MetroCall 311 or 502-574-5000 for information or email neighborhoods@louisvilleky.gov.

July 26 ... You're invited to the Braden Center annual open house and Anne Braden birthday celebration on Satur-

day, July 26, 1–5pm, 3208 W. Broadway. Free backyard BBQ, youth presentations and good company! Donations to Braden Center and Kentucky Alliance are welcome! Call Shameka at 502-619-8294 or email shamekapparrish@msn.com.

August 1 & 2 ... Learn tools to build our democracy together! Join Kentuckians For the Commonwealth and Kentucky Jobs With Justice and others by becoming a Community Captain to help your friends and neighbors register to vote, get them valuable information about candidates and the election, and mobilize them to vote! Friday, August 1 and Saturday, August 2 in Louisville. For more information, contact Dave Newton at Dave@KFTC.org or 859-420-8919 or Attica Scott at attica@kyjwj.org or 502-582-5454.

August 9 ... Come from 3–5pm for the 2008 Bowl-a-thon at King Pin Bowling Center benefitting **Day Spring!** Visit www.DaySpringKy.org and click on the Bowl-a-thon link to find out more!

September 2 ... Women In Transition and other organizations from the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign will participate in the March for Our Lives on September 2 during the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota. This march is necessary to put a face to poverty in this country and let our elected officials know that as poor people, we will not be ignored; we will make our voices heard! For more information or to make a tax deductible donation to offset the travel costs, contact **Women In Transition** at 636-0160 or kvc@witky.com. 



To learn more about upcoming events and other items of interest to affordable housing advocates, visit www.metropolitanhousing.org.

Transitions ...

Farewell Adam, hello Tammy!

MHC wants to provide a big thank you to **Adam Ruiz** for sitting on MHC's board for five years! Due to demands of his job at Shelbyville's Citizen's Union Bank (CUB), he was not able to be as active as he had wanted, so he recommended CUB's new VP/Director of Affordable Housing, Tammy Thomas, to be MHC's newest Board member. Thanks for all of your hard work, Adam!

Tammy Thomas is an ECU alum with a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on real estate studies. Tammy started her career in the HUD office in Louisville working on single family FHA loans and, eventually, multifamily programs. She has experience with Tax Credit and other government programs. After a decade with HUD, Tammy moved to the Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) in Frankfort.

Her responsibilities there included the review and approval of all multifamily loans at KHC. In February of 2008, Tammy joined Shelbyville's Citizen Union Bank as the Director of Affordable Housing. She works with all multifamily affordable housing projects financed by CUB. MHC is fortunate to have Tammy as its newest Board member! 🏠

I bid you a fond farewell, MHC!

by Kendell Nash

After two years of dedicated service, I will be moving on to another organization that is dedicated to social justice and a member of MHC. By the time you are reading this newsletter, I will be the new Development Director for the ACLU of Kentucky. It is a bittersweet move, as I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities and experiences that I

have had with MHC. A Maysville native by way of Lexington, I moved to Louisville for this position two years ago and it really felt like I came home. I will always be grateful to MHC for getting me to Louisville!

I'd like to say a few personal thank you's. **Suzy Post** — thanks for mentoring me, for always being available, and allowing me to make my own mistakes without too much of an "I told you so" afterwards. **Cathy Hinko** — thanks for the opportunities to grow professionally and for the introduction to the Louisville social justice scene. **Doug Magee** — thanks for all the stories and connections you helped me make in Louisville. **Erica Licourt** — thanks for all the support; I'll miss seeing you everyday!

It has been a pleasure working with all of you and I look forward to attending next year's Annual Meeting where I can relax! 🏠

MHC welcomes Theresa Boyd

We're delighted to welcome **Theresa Boyd** as our new Administrative Assistant! Visit our website to get to know her! Also, check out September's newsletter for a full introduction! 🏠

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PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP

- Sponsoring Membership _____ \$1000 or more
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HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY/AUGUST...

- Kentucky Congressman Yarmuth Works to Protect Homeless Youth ... In Memoriam: Honoring Alice Wade ... At Issue: Public Transit & Housing ... Schedule of Events for Affordable Housing Advocates ... Transitions ... MHC Membership Renewal Form ... Board Meeting Update ... **Oops! We Goofed!**



Board meeting update

MHC's Board will be in a closed retreat in July and will be taking a well-deserved break in August! Please take note that MHC's next open Board meeting will be held on **September 24** at New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty. 🏠



Oops! We goofed!

MHC failed to mention in May's newsletter the three hard-working Board members who will be returning to serve a second term. They are: **Carmen Tisdale** of the Metro Housing Resource Center and PCC; **Kenny Lanham** of Lanham and Associates; and **Dave Armstrong** of the Kentucky Public Service Commission. Thanks for returning to serve MHC for another term! 🏠