

Fair and Affordable Housing for All



Greetings!

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Mayor Fischer Responds to Your Letters!

MHC submitted your advocacy letters for affordable housing to Mayor Fischer and he sent the following letter to MHC acknowledging your letters. Read Mayor Fischer's response below:

([Click](#) the image to read the letter)



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 Tony Curtis at tony@metropolitanhousing.org



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

DEAN FISCHER
MAYOR

February 17, 2020

Cathy Hinko
Metropolitan Housing Coalition
2821 Champmar Way
Louisville, KY 40203

Dear Cathy,

Thank you for your letter and for sharing the letter in support of affordable housing. As you know, this is a critical time in our city, when we are facing both opportunities and challenges. Our local economy is strong as we've seen thousands of new jobs created and billions invested in Louisville since 2014. However, we also face more budget cuts in the coming years as a result of the state-mandated pension obligation, and must balance multiple priorities.

Safe and decent housing is a basic right. During the previous five budget years, my administration has invested more than \$45 million to ward Louisville CARES and the Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund. That's a much smaller investment than we want to make, and that we need to make. That's why, in order to continue investing in affordable housing and maintain key services, we must find a new revenue source.

As a result of our recent work, the Housing Needs Assessment and Metropolitan Housing Coalition's great work, we are reviewing our land use policies and development regulations to remove barriers and encourage developers to build more affordable units as part of their projects. We also are considering Renter Equity Models to help renters build wealth, the possible establishment of a Community Land Trust as well as looking at how we invest in affordable housing to ensure that public dollars are supporting housing options for our lowest income residents.

I urge you and others to contact your state and local representatives and ask them to raise the money our city needs and express your support for affordable housing funding. It will take partners from the local, state and national levels to tackle this challenge. I thank you for your passion and advocacy!

Sincerely,

Greg Fischer
Mayor

WWW.LOUISVILLEKY.GOV

LOUISVILLE METRO HALL 517 WEST JEFFERSON STREET LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202 502.574.1000

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

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

Community Calendar

Fair Housing Coalition

meets at 2:00 P.M.
on the 2nd Tuesday of each
month at New Directions,
1615 Maple St.

Louisville Vacant Property Campaign

meets at 5:30 P.M.
on the 3rd Tuesday of each
month at the
Western Library
604 South Tenth Street



Documentary & Panel
*The Beecher Terrace
Story*
by Lavell White

Wednesday, February 26th
5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
Ekstrom Library, W104

2020 Legislative Update!

Kentucky General Assembly

MHC is watching several Kentucky Legislative bills affecting fair and affordable housing. To act, you can call (800) 372-7181 to leave messages for Kentucky legislators. It is really easy as you can say "I want to leave a message for all legislators" or any combination. You can leave a message for all committee members and you do not need to know their names, just identifying the committee is enough. (SB = Senate Bill; HB = House Bill)

SB1

An act relating to federal immigration cooperation-MHC is very concerned about the impact of this bill if it is enacted. It will make



people fearful of calling in code violations in housing and our rental housing is deteriorating. There is no reporting exemption for day shelters so people who are homeless will have no safe place to go during the day. Nor are services to homeless people exempt from reporting, so services that help stabilize homeless people will feel unsafe. Stereotyping may affect the ability of a citizen to get an apartment.

This bill has passed the Senate, now it is in the House Judiciary Committee. Please call and tell members of the Committee that you oppose this bill. You may also want to tell all members of the legislature your opinion.

SB11

Criminalizes tenants who damage a unit even though excessive damages can now be processed criminally. This bill will be used to threaten renters into keeping security deposits and more. Renters cannot afford attorneys to fight bogus claims. This has the potential for enormous abuse.

This bill has passed the Senate and is now in the House Judiciary Committee. Please call and tell members of the Committee that you oppose this bill. You may also want to tell all members of the legislature your opinion.

HB1

Limits access to public assistance programs. It is in the House Family Health and Services Committee. Please call and tell members of the Committee that you oppose this bill.

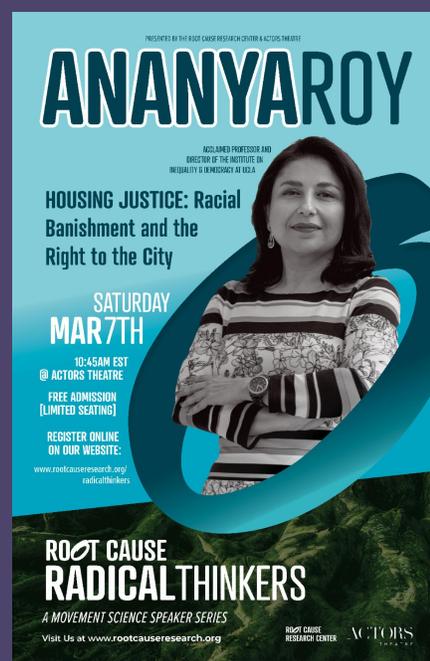
HB 213

Allows those over 16 year olds to seek mental health care without a parent. This bill passed the House and is now in the Senate Health and Wellness Committee. Please call and tell members of the Committee that you support this bill. You may also want to tell all members of the legislature your opinion.

HB371

Creates a state Affordable Housing Tax Credit program for development/rehab - like federal tax credits. This bill is in the House Appropriations Committee. Please call and tell members of the Committee that you support this bill. You may also want to tell all members of the legislature your opinion.

"Housing Justice: Racial Banishment & a Right to the City"
 Saturday, March 7th
 10:45AM



Register [HERE](#)

"From Redlining to Gentrification: Racial Capitalism and Real Estate"

Joshua Poe
 Monday, March 16th
 Ursuline Arts Center
 Building 5
 6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

From Redlining to Gentrification:

Metro Ordinance 0-395-19

This ordinance that expands Fair Housing has been assigned to the Community Affairs, Health and Education Committee. The Committee meeting of February 12th with this on the agenda was cancelled. But it meets February 26th - we do not know if this will be on the agenda.

Call your Council Member to support this ordinance. The number is (502) 574-11(council district number). For instance, Council District 1 is (502) 574-1101 and Council District 26 is (502) 574-1126.

The new ordinance proposes prohibiting discrimination in housing based on:

Source of Income - Allowing people using Section 8 to use their voucher anywhere as well as those on fixed incomes having their source of income counted.

Arrest history not resulting in a conviction

Conviction history provided that the conviction is one for which the person has been placed on probation, fined, imprisoned and/or paroled. There are exceptions to this protection for felonies the state defines as violent offenses , arson, felony criminal mischief , registered sex offenders and offenses that would make the person ineligible for public housing.

Homeless status

Lawful source of income - such as using a voucher to pay rent or getting social security or disability benefits

Prior military service

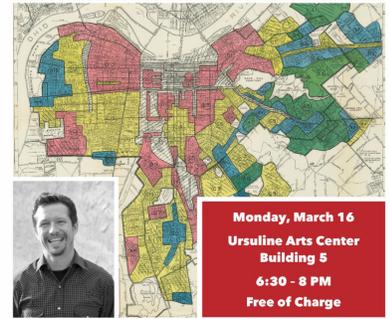
Let your Council Member know you support this ordinance!

Fair Housing Events

2020 Race Relations Conference

U of L ShelbyHurst Campus

Thursday, April 9th



Monday, March 16

Ursuline Arts Center
Building 5

6:30 - 8 PM

Free of Charge

Sacred Heart

3113 Lexington Rd. Louisville, KY 40206

shelou.org

Sacred Heart Schools • Sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville • A proud partner of Compassionate Louisville



Legal Aid Society Free Legal Clinic Schedule

Click [HERE](#) for a
complete list of
upcoming free legal
clinics.

Thursday, April 9th
Doors Open: 8:00 A.M.
Program Begins: 9:00 A.M.

The Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission is hosting the 2020 Race Relations Conference and MHC will be presenting on renter issues in the morning and it will be one of several tracks available to attendees. This conference will be held on the U of L ShelbyHurst Campus located at 9001 Shelbyville Rd, Louisville, KY 40222. Registration for the event is \$50 (Continental Breakfast and Lunch provided with registration). Doors open at 8:00 A.M. and the program begins at 9:00 A.M.

For more information contact: Erin.Smith@louisvilleky.gov.

Click [HERE](#) to view the event flyer.

Rental Issues Forum

Shawnee Library
Tuesday, May 19th
5:15 P.M.

MHC, in partnership with the Presbyterian Committee on Self-Development of People, The Fair Housing Coalition, and many more organizations, will host a Rental Issues Forum. How slanted is the law for landlords? What should we do about that? The forum will take place on May 19th at 5:15 P.M. at Shawnee Library located at 3912 West Broadway.

Stay tuned for more forum details!

2020 Fair Housing Survey

The Metropolitan Housing Coalition (MHC) is writing the 2020 Analysis to Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice for Louisville/Jefferson County and your survey answers will help us create a more holistic report and a more aggressive action plan. This report is produced every five years.

The AI will be available to the general public and will be open to public comment alongside the Draft of the Consolidated Plan and 2020-2021 Action Plan. The Analysis will also be utilized by Louisville Metro Government to inform decisions for the five-year Consolidated Plan and successive Action Plans and City housing

goals.

Click the link below to take the 2020 Fair Housing Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FairHousingSurvey2020>

Click below to read the 2015 Analysis of Impediment to Fair Housing for Louisville/Jefferson County:

http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/member_docs/AI%20FINAL%20DRAFT%204-2-15.pdf

Click Here to Become a Member Today!



Support Fair and Affordable Housing Advocacy!

Did you know that 40% of all Louisville workers are not paid a high enough wage to afford a two-bedroom unit at Fair Market Rent?

Public Meetings on

Louisville's Consolidated Plan

Louisville Metro Government is in the process of developing our Consolidated Plan. This 5-year plan guides the investment of Louisville's federal entitlement grants from the U.S. Department of

Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These grants - CDBG, HOME, ESG & HOPWA - address the needs of our community through affordable housing, community development, public services and other community needs.

Develop Louisville is reaching out to the community for your input on the priorities of these funds. There will be several opportunities for public participation, and for you to share your ideas about priorities for our community. Develop Louisville will host 4 public meetings over the next two months, two meetings remain:

Wednesday, March 25th at 10:00am - Bon Air Library, In partnership with the Seneca Vista Neighborhood Association

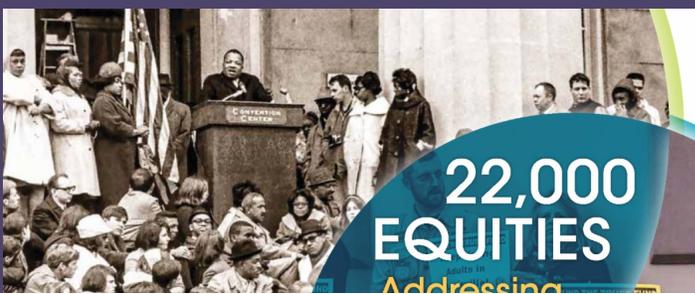
Thursday, March 26th at 6:00pm -Ujima Neighborhood Place, In partnership with the Ujima Neighborhood Place Council

These meetings are free and open to the public, so please feel free to share this information within your communities.

For more on the Consolidated Plan, including up-to-date participation opportunities, contact information, and other resources, please visit:

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/develop-louisville/consolidated-plan>

Click Below to Download an Electronic Copy of the 2019 State of Metropolitan Housing Report





Support MHC Through Kroger Community Rewards and Amazon Smile!



- (1) Go to www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com.
- (2) Look for "I'm a Customer" and click "View Details."
- (3) Sign in with your existing Kroger account, or create a new account.
- (4) Enter the code BA764 in the "Find an Organization" search box - click "Search."
- (5) When Metropolitan Housing Coalition pops up, simply click "Enroll."



- (1) Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or

- (1) Sign in to [myaccount.pnc.com](#) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
- (2) From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity. Or, from your mobile browser, select Change your Charity from the options at the bottom of the page.
- (3) Search "Metropolitan Housing Coalition" and click "Select" to support.



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.