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METROPOLITAN  
HOUSING COALITION

# Newsletter

P.O. Box 4533 Louisville, KY 40204-4533 • (502)584-6858 • [info@metropolitanhousing.org](mailto:info@metropolitanhousing.org)

In Honor of Our 30th Anniversary We Celebrate the Catalyst for MHC

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David Bos

## Sheltering the People<sup>1</sup>

by Johanna W. H. van Wijk-Bos

Throughout his long career of service to the Church and the urban community my husband, David Bos, was devoted to the improvement of social conditions. While he was aware of the broad horizon of social change on global and national levels, David brought his efforts to bear on the local arena. For him this was not merely a matter of sound politics but a foundational belief in what he called “the priority of relationships at the most local level.” As a Presbyterian minister he believed

<sup>1</sup> Quotations are from the book by A. David Bos *Bound Together- A Theology for Ecumenical Community Ministry* (Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2005).

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**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, May 30, 2019**

2019 MHC Annual Meeting Dinner

The Olmsted, 5:15-7:15PM

Keynote Speaker: Andrea Levere, President of Prosperity Now

*More information on Pages 4-5*

# Sheltering the People

*(continued from Page 1)*

this commitment to a local expression of healthy covenantal relationships to be crucial for the wider human community of which the religious community is a part. He saw local daily life on all levels of human existence, as a “battleground between nihilism and oppression on the one hand and resistance and liberation on the other,” and argued that one’s commitment to sustainable community globally is meaningless unless one delivers on that commitment locally.

One of David’s most passionate interests was in the area of housing, the right to shelter regardless of class, race, sex, gender or gender orientation, or any other aspect of human existence open to abuse and discrimination, and the appropriate distribution of such accommodation. To his understanding, strictly market-based programs result in segregated housing by class, making poor neighborhoods still poorer, reducing the quality of public and private services to those neighborhoods. He understood scattered-site housing to offer a counter-initiative, taking a stand against ghettoizing and stigmatizing low-income families and neighborhoods, making it instead more likely to enable families to become fully participatory and politically empowered citizens. When he founded the Smith Haven Community Ministries on Long Island in the late 1960’s, he helped establish the Suffolk Housing Services, an organization that sought to break the segregated pattern of rapid suburbanization in the area. His role as one of the founders of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition in Louisville was of a piece with his ethical commitments as a Christian minister and engaged citizen of the urban community in which he lived. The diversity of groups and people he was able to bring together initially serves as a testimony to his deep-seated commitment to the value of partnerships.

In his sermon at David’s funeral service our friend Christopher Elwood highlighted David’s conviction that the resources we have been given are enough. That there is enough for all, enough to share, and that, if there is enough to share, we are morally obliged to share freely, lovingly, eagerly. At the time of his death David was writing a history of Christian engagement with housing, a work he was unable to finish, called *Sheltering the People*. It seemed fitting to give the same title to this reflection, in tribute to his participation in the founding of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition thirty years ago.

**A special thank you to Johanna Bos for sharing the above words, during our 30th Anniversary Celebration, about her husband David Bos and his role in founding the Metropolitan Housing Coalition!**

## LG&E Case and Public Service Commission Decision Results in Outages

An update on the LG&E rate case and the accompanying court case against the Public Service Commission is, well.... complicated! Due to a Writ of Prohibition by the Kentucky Court of Appeals (which may have some procedural irregularities) MHC, the Association of Community Ministries, the Lexington Community Action Council and the Sierra Club became the “Group Formerly Known as Interveners”. The Court of Appeals basically said there is absolutely no way, not at any time or under any circumstances, anyone can file a judicial appeal of a decision by the Kentucky Public Service Commission on intervention status. That decision is a bit.... unusual. Supreme Power is now wielded by an appointed administrative body. This requires a deeper theological training than mine.

As for the actual rate case, due to the kindness of the Kentucky Attorney General’s Office and the kindness of all the other parties, including LG&E/KU, our testimonies were allowed to be entered. Thank you to all. Now all decisions are before the PSC: what is the dollar amount of and work to be done by LG&E/KU, how to split between the different ratepayer classes (you and I are in the Residential class) and how to apportion the amount between meter charge and usage. We wait for their decision.

Do you feel you've been discriminated against in the housing market?

**Know your rights.**



Visit [MetropolitanHousing.org/Resources/PSAs](http://MetropolitanHousing.org/Resources/PSAs) to learn more.

Are you a MEMBER of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition?  
Ask Tony at [tony@metropolitanhousing.org](mailto:tony@metropolitanhousing.org)

# MHC Invites YOU to the 2019 Annual Meeting Dinner!

## *22,000 Equities: Prosperity & Housing Justice For All*

Thursday, May 30th, 2019  
5:15-7:15PM  
The Olmsted  
3701 Frankfort Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40206

Individual Tickets: \$80 per person  
Dinner & Cash Bar

To Purchase Tickets:  
Visit the MHC Website and Click 'DONATE'  
<http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/>

OR

Mail a Check to:  
**Metropolitan Housing Coalition**  
P.O. Box 4533  
Louisville, KY 40204-4533

\*\*\*Note 2019 Annual Meeting, # of Tickets & Attendee Names, and Vegan/Vegetarian meals required



### **Keynote Speaker: Andrea Levere, President of Prosperity Now**

Since 2004, Andrea Levere has served as president of Prosperity Now (formerly CFED), a private nonprofit organization with the mission of ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to gain financial stability, build wealth and achieve prosperity. Prosperity Now designs and operates major national initiatives that aim to integrate financial capability services into systems serving low-income people, build assets and savings, and advance research and policies that expands economy mobility for all with a special focus on closing the racial wealth divide. Levere is currently the chair of the Community Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve System. She will be talking about building wealth for residents in predominantly black communities and MHC's 22,000 Equities campaign focused on creating housing opportunities for black households, as 36% of black households are homeowners, compared to 70% of white households.

**Do you wish to DONATE tickets as sponsorships for low-income attendees?**

Note "Annual Meeting Ticket Donation" on your check or in the comment section on the **ONLINE DONATION** form. Contact Tony at [tony@metropolitanhousing.org](mailto:tony@metropolitanhousing.org) with any questions.

# Are You or Your Organization Interested in Sponsoring the 2019 Annual Meeting?



Metropolitan Housing Coalition  
2019 Annual Meeting

**Thursday, May 30th at The Olmsted, 3701 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206**

**5:15 p.m. Networking, 6:15 p.m. Dinner & Program**

**Keynote Speaker: Andrea Levere, President of Prosperity Now**

## **Foundation Sponsors - \$2,500**

- 3 reserved tables at the event (24 ppl)
- Display organizational banner(s) on stage
- Freestanding marketing display w/materials at event
- Double full-page ad in Annual Meeting program
- Key sponsor listing in all press releases/advisories
- Recognition in 4 MHC social media posts w/link to your site
- Recognition in MHC newsletter, website, and annual State of Metropolitan Housing Report
- Short greeting at beginning of Annual Meeting

## **Cornerstone Sponsors - \$2,000**

- 2 reserved tables at the event (16 ppl)
- Display marketing materials on audience tables
- Full-page ad in program
- Display large banner at event
- Recognition in press releases/advisories
- Recognition in MHC newsletter, website, & SMHR
- Recognition in 2 MHC social media posts w/links to your site

## **Keystone Sponsors - \$1,500**

- 1 reserved tables at the event (8 ppl)
- Full-page ad in program
- Display small to medium banner at event
- Recognition in press releases/advisories
- Recognition in MHC Newsletter and Website

## **Groundbreaking Sponsors - \$1,000**

- 1 reserved table at the event (8 ppl)
- 1/2-page ad in program
- Recognition in press releases/advisories
- Recognition in MHC Newsletter and website

## **Advocate - \$500**

- 4 tickets to the event
- Recognition in press releases/advisories
- Listing in program
- 1/4-page ad in program

## **Advertise in our Event Program!**

- Full page - \$500 - ½-page - \$300 - ¼-page - \$175

### **Yes, we will sponsor MHC's 2019 Annual Meeting!**

Foundation Sponsor - \$2,500

Groundbreaking Sponsor - \$1,000

Cornerstone Sponsor - \$2,000

Advocate - \$500

Keystone Sponsor - \$1,500

I would like to donate  sponsorship tickets that MHC can provide to low-income attendees (\$80 each).

I cannot sponsor, but will purchase  tickets (\$80 each).

I would like an ad in the Annual Meeting program:  Full page (\$500)  ½-page (\$300)  ¼-page (\$175)

Contact name  Organization

Address

Phone  Email

Total Amount \$  Method of Payment (check one):  Check  Visa  MC  Amex  Discover

Credit Card Number  Exp. Date (month/year)

Please mail form with payment (by check or credit card for full amount) to MHC, PO Box 4533, Louisville, Kentucky 40204-4533.

For more information, please call (502) 584-6858 or email [cathy@metropolitanhousing.org](mailto:cathy@metropolitanhousing.org)

**Please respond by Friday, May 10th, if you wish to become a sponsor or purchase a program ad.**

If you do not want to be listed as a member on MHC's website or in our State of Metropolitan Housing Report  
please check box

# MHC Launches New Campaign: 22,000 Equities

Louisville's 225,000 white households have an ownership rate of 70%. Louisville's 63,500 black households have an ownership rate of 36%. This is mainly due to the federal government which had two really successful home ownership policies- to change white households into homeowners and to block black households from becoming homeowners- even labeling them as toxic to a white neighborhood. Amplified by government zoning, banking practices, and real estate industry practices—black families were denied participation in programs that helped developers build housing that people could afford and denied participation in getting mortgages.

It is time to can create opportunities for homeownership for those deliberately left out of attaining the kind of intergenerational wealth that white families have benefited from for decades. With 22,000 opportunities for Louisville's black renters, we can bring equity in the homeownership rate between blacks and whites.



Visit the MHC website to access the first two videos and the affordability calculator.

<http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/resources/rentercenter/>

Subscribe to our newsletter electronically and read it on your phone or tablet!  
<http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/resources/newsletters>

# Louisville Metro Budget Cuts

The city must cut \$35 million from the upcoming 2020 budget because the Council did not approve any new source of revenue to address the new pension requirements and the rising expenses. The compromise would have paid for the pension this year and the \$10 million on top of this year's cuts for the 2021 budget. The pension cost will increase for a few years.

What will be cut? Certainly every one of us will be affected- the parks will not be attended to as well, the pothole initiative will have to end as well as other public works projects. The police will be affected and firefighters as well. MHC is very concerned about the investment in western Louisville which has often been a private (albeit mostly non-profit) and public partnership. For the first time in 12 years, western Louisville is experiencing an increase in real estate value. A hard won improvement now in jeopardy.

Our social service network- so ambitiously done by non-profits- is in danger and MHC is concerned about families becoming homeless and the impact on children. Our 2018 Report included data that a rise in family homelessness was occurring already.

Yes, MHC will be affected. MHC has received External Agency funding and it looks like that is on the chopping block, but so is funding for a host of non-profits. Watch the budget spending bill as it develops to see what is eliminated.

## Community Calendar

Dinner and Democracy - League of Women Voters of Louisville

Monday, April 15th @ 5:30PM at the The Lang House (115 S. Ewing Ave., Louisville, KY 40206)

**Judge Denise Clayton**, Chief Judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, will talk about race and the court system and how the criminal and civil court systems (think evictions) have an enormous impact on African Americans in Louisville. And MHC's Executive Director **Cathy Hinko**, will share data and discuss the impact of intense investments in Western Louisville neighborhoods and the rising economic prospects of current residents.

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Work to End Segregation! The Housing Needs Assessment Recommendations and Fair Housing

Fair Housing Month Forum

Thursday, April 18th from 6:00-8:00PM

Louisville Urban League (1535 W. Broadway, Louisville, KY 40203)

Panel participants will look at the recently released Housing Needs Assessment through a fair housing lens.

**Panelists:** **Christie McCravey**, Executive Director of the Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund; **Kendall Boyd**, Executive Director of the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission; and **Art Crosby**, Executive Director of the Lexington Fair Housing Council. **Moderator:** **Marilyn Harris**, Interim Director of the Louisville Metro Office of Housing and Community Development.

**DONATE TODAY!**

# Strengthen the United Voice for Fair & Affordable Housing!

Make your donation online at [www.metropolitanhousing.org](http://www.metropolitanhousing.org) or  
mail this form to MHC, P.O. Box 4533, Louisville, KY 40204-4533.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type (check one) \_\_\_\_\_ Individual/Family \_\_\_\_\_ Organization/Business

Membership Level

Sponsoring Member - \$1,000 or more

Supporting Member - \$75-\$199

Sustaining Member - \$500-\$999

Assisting Member- \$1-\$74

Anchoring Member - \$200-\$499

Check here if you would like your donation to be anonymous

One-Time Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Recurring Credit Card Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month OR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per quarter

Method of Payment (check one):  Check  Visa  MC  Amex  Discover

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_



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

**PNCBANK**

MHC's Monthly Newsletter is  
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**TEL:** (502) 584-6858

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION  
P.O. Box 4533 Louisville, KY 40204-4533

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