



# METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION NEWSLETTER

June 2014

## Concerns about proposed HUD-Louisville Housing Authority study and How YOU can get involved

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is conducting a rent reform demonstration program, designed to test and evaluate an alternative rent policy. Some cities have refused to be part of this, but the Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA) has agreed to participate in the study, and as such, will modify policies and rent calculations for a group of program participants (the Rent Reform Group), and will compare the results to a group of program participants who are assisted under the rent policies used for all other PHA assisted households (the Control Group).

MHC and others have raised opposition to the proposed plan. In its current form, the "rent reform" experiment will be conducted on low-income residents without their consent and without a way to opt out of participating. A disproportionate number of the residents affected will be African-American mothers. Please attend the public hearing to discuss and challenge the experiment described above.

You can get a copy of the proposal by E-mailing [slaster@lmha1.org](mailto:slaster@lmha1.org) or calling 569-4471. Comments on the study will be accepted through July 13 and can be submitted to the same contacts.

There will be a public hearing about the study on Thursday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Avenue Plaza apartments, 420 S. 8th Street.

The public is also encouraged to attend the July 15 LMHA board meeting to share their input on the study. The July 15 meeting will be held LMHA headquarters, 420 S. 8th Street, at 3:30 p.m.

## ***MHC NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU!***

**On the next page you'll find two short forms to fill out and return to MHC.**

**The first is a commitment to fair housing and urges Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer to enact the 20-year plan for fair housing Louisville Metro released earlier this year.**

**The second half of the page is a brief survey about our newsletter to get your feedback, since we'll be changing things up for next year.**

**Here's a bit more information on the commitment to fair housing:**

**What is the 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing?** The Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission, released *Making Louisville Home for Us All*, a history of housing segregation in Louisville, prepared by the Anne Braden Institute at the University of Louisville, and a 20-Year action plan for fair housing, prepared by MHC, which addresses our hidden legacy and provides measurable, achievable steps to lessen segregation in just one generation.

**You can download the full report at MHC's Web site:** [http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/member\\_docs/FairHousingReport\\_2013\\_15.pdf](http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/member_docs/FairHousingReport_2013_15.pdf)

**What is being asked?** Support Louisville Metro as it implements the 20-Year Plan for Fair Housing. Sign on to the plan's principles and the plan's first action steps.

**Send the completed and signed commitment form to us at Metropolitan Housing Coalition, P.O. Box 4533, Louisville KY 40204 FAX to 502 452-6718**

**Scan & email form to** [cathy@metropolitanhousing.org](mailto:cathy@metropolitanhousing.org)

**Call MHC at (502) 584-6858 for additional information or to have MHC speak about the report at your event.**

**I support Louisville Metro's 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing  
I support the principles and seek immediate action from Metro government on steps 1.1 and 1.2  
in the plan.**

**Principles:**

- 1) Fair Housing is a high priority.**
- 2) All people should be housed in safe, decent, affordable housing.**
- 3) Diversity of housing type and cost throughout our community will have a positive impact on education, access to jobs and economic opportunities for all and will help make Louisville a city that thrives over the coming century.**

**Immediate actions needed:**

- 1) Louisville Metro should have a clear policy that states that fair housing must be considered as part of planning and action for all Metro departments. Fair housing will be included in planning and action through use of a Fair Housing Assessment tool, to be developed and coordinated by a designated Metro agency.**
- 2) A Louisville Metro agency or department MUST be designated with the authority and responsibility to lead and oversee implementation of the action steps included in the 20-Year Plan for Fair Housing.**

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**Signature**

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**Date**

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**Full Name**

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**Address**

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**Email**

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**Phone**

**MHC Newsletter Survey**

- 1) I would like to ONLY receive the MHC newsletter via email. Please remove me from the newsletter mailing list. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ and  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(You will still receive other MHC mailings)**

- 2) What do you enjoy most about the MHC newsletter?**

**Articles to education about housing issues**

**Community calendar**

**Articles sharing information from community meetings  Tools for taking action on issues**

**Other:**

- 3) What would you like to see more of in the MHC newsletter?**

**Photos & images**

**Calls to action/Tools for action**

**Foundational education on issues**

**Profiles of people involved in the issues**

**Other:**

- 4) MHC is considering changing the distribution schedule of our printed newsletter to allow us to provide you a richer, improved product. A monthly e-newsletter w/ announcements & other time-sensitive items would continue. Would you prefer a:**

**Bi-monthly printed newsletter**

**OR**

**Quarterly printed newsletter**

## Community Calendar

Fair Housing Coalition meets 2pm each 2<sup>nd</sup> TUE at New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty

Louisville Vacant Property Campaign meets 5:30pm each 3<sup>rd</sup> TUE at 1229 S. Shelby St.

### Upcoming Bank on Louisville Events:

#### **Start Fresh! workshops:**

**Thursday, July 10, 5:30pm-7:30pm**, at the Louisville Urban League, 1535 W. Broadway. To register, call the Louisville Urban League at 566-3362.

**Monday, July 14, 12pm-2pm**, at NorthWest Neighborhood Place, 4108 W. Market. To register, call Joi Boyd at 574-7301.

**Thursday, July 24, 2pm-4pm**, at South Central Neighborhood Place, 4255 Hazelwood Ave. To register, call Joi Boyd at 574-7301.

### Other events:

**KFTC Vision Smoketown Canvassing:** Help out with the Jefferson County Chapter of Kentuckians For The Commonwealth (KFTC) VISION Smoketown project, a canvassing project in historic Smoketown neighborhood. Volunteers go door to door surveying community to learn more about Smoketown residents' concerns, visions for their future, and opportunities for community engagement. Training and support will be provided.

#### **Meet at 735 Lampton Street.**

#### **Canvassing Dates**

Saturday, July 12, 11am - 2:30pm

Thursday, July 17, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Thursday, July 31, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Saturday, August 9, 11am - 2:30pm

Tuesday, August 12, 5:30p - 8:30pm

#### **Sign-up to Volunteer:**

<http://tinyurl.com/VisionSmoketown2>

Questions: (502) 589-3188, [alicia@kftc.org](mailto:alicia@kftc.org)

Facebook: VISION Smoketown

Twitter: @VisionSmoketown

#### **Friday, July 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**

Greater Louisville Sierra Club Chapter Social Dinner at Vietnam Kitchen, 5339 Mitscher Ave.

Please contact Judy Lyons @502-585-3806 or Gloria Kemper-O'Neil @502-458-5253 before noon Thursday prior to dinner to allow for accurate reservations.

#### **Thursday, July 24, 6 p.m.**

Greater Louisville Sierra Club Annual Picnic at the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue, across from the Louisville Zoo. Our special guest and speaker will be Mark K. Wourms, PhD., Executive Director of Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest. Meal will be a potluck. Greater Louisville Sierra Club will provide two main dishes (one meat, one vegetarian) and one main beverage. Please bring some food of your choosing to share. Also, we ask that you bring your own reusable eating/drinking ware. Sorry, alcoholic beverages are not permitted. Free and open to the public.

### ONGOING:

**Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund** – Get involved and help open the door to the affordable housing Louisville needs! Contact Executive Director Rachel Hurst for more information at (502) 637 – 5372.

### **Pizza & Preservation with Preservation Louisville:**

Pizza and Preservation is a neighborhood outreach program that works in collaboration with neighborhood organizations to inform the public on issues related to historic preservation and the work of Preservation Louisville. You can learn about what Preservation Louisville does in the community, how to preserve your personal artifacts, and enjoy free pizza provided by Bearno's By the Bridge and water from the Louisville Water Company. Email [info@preservationlouisville.org](mailto:info@preservationlouisville.org) if you are interested in scheduling Pizza & Preservation in your neighborhood!

### Later in 2014:

**Historic Preservation Tax Credit Workshop with Preservation Louisville:** Do you live in or maintain an old home? Do you have historic restoration projects in your future? Do you know about the KY Historic Preservation tax credit? Event Dates: July 19th 2014, Oct. 18th 2014, Jan. 24th 2015, Apr. 18th 2015 Event Time: 10am-12pm  
Registration: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e90lnu7cedf136c7&oseq=&c=&ch=>

**New Hope Services Fundraiser Thursday, October 16, 2014:** Join New Hope Services for a festive celebration dinner in the comfort and luxury of a climate controlled deck with lavish Victorian decor on this historic paddlewheeler. The event includes Cocktails (cash bar), Buffet Dinner and Live Auction. Seating limited to 300 guests, tables of different sizes available on a first-come basis. Individual Seats: \$125  
Table of Eight: \$1000 Boarding 6:15 p.m. Sailing 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Call Jayne Labes at 812-288-8248 ext. 120.

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## Strengthen the United Voice for Fair and 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) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

MHC would like to thank  
Louisville Metro Government  
for its continuing support



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Return Service Requested

[www.MetropolitanHousing.org](http://www.MetropolitanHousing.org)

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