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www.metropolitanhousing.org

METROPOLITAN
HOUSING COALITION

Newsletter

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What's Inside

THE PAST IS PART OF THE
FUTURE IN FAIR HOUSING

Pages 1-3

ZONING VOTE SUCCESSFUL

Page 2

GEORGIA POWERS

Page 3

COMMUNITY FORUM:

AGING IN PLACE

Page 4

WHAT IS A

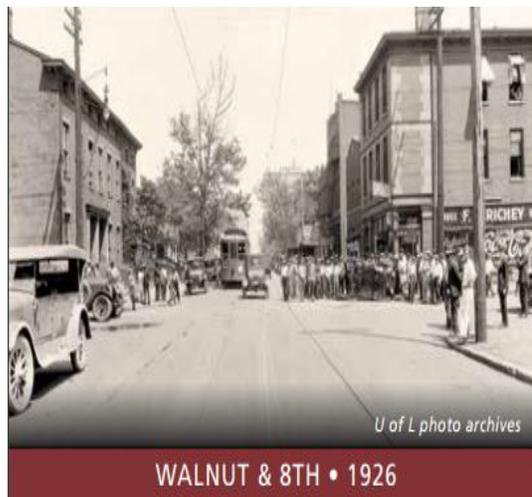
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

Page 5

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Page 6-7

The Past is Part of the Future in Fair Housing



Suzy Post, the first director of MHC, recently was named a Daughter of Greatness by the Muhammad Ali Center for all of Suzy's work in justice over the decades. In her remarks, Suzy talked about how the past is entwined with the present, and we explore that in this issue of the MHC newsletter.

The recent loss of two great and formidable champions of fair housing: Senator Georgia Powers and Dr. Jack Ford, makes us reflect that we are on a long multi-generational journey toward justice. We need to know the road we have followed to see where we are headed.

**Save the Date! A community forum on Aging in Place for Fair Housing month.
Tuesday, April 5th 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Metro United Way | 334 E. Broadway**

Past is part of our future (Cont.)

This newsletter we will honor Georgia Powers, and in a subsequent one, Dr. Ford will be honored. Please read the articles about these two tireless workers for fair housing and for housing for persons with disabilities. Then review the history of segregation in Louisville in the publication Making Louisville Home for Us All: a 20-Year Plan for Fair Housing, which reminds us that:

“residential patterns are neither accidental nor the result of individual choice. They developed over generations of policies and practices that included (1) widespread denial of mortgage loans to people of color in suburban areas whose residents resisted diversifying, (2) the routing of highways through African American and poor neighborhoods resulting in large scale displacements, (3) land-use policies that confine multi-family housing to small areas of the count and (4) persistent housing discrimination and massive cutbacks since the 1980s in subsidized housing and even in times of high unemployment. “

These same conditions exist today in transmogrified forms:

(1)The 2015 State of Metropolitan Housing Report had recent data from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act that showed denial of mortgages to minorities is as intense as ever.

(2)The only large scale displacements in the last decade have been from flooding in African American neighborhoods or from HOPE VI, which neighborhoods were predominantly African American.

(3)While we are very proud of the incentives and permission to have development in R4 and R5 that includes multi-family and affordable housing, but these are only incentives. To combat decades of exclusion, we need deliberate strategies covering all industries involved in development.

(4)Massive cut backs in public housing, Community Development Block Grants, and HOME funds have eroded the city’s ability to respond to the legacy of segregation. Louisville needs a local well-funded Affordable Housing Trust Fund to have the ability to respond. All resources need to be expended using a fair housing lens in allocation.

Using our historical perspective we can see how much and how little we have moved (pun intended) toward true housing opportunities and choice.

HMDA 2014 Data Louisville/Jefferson County MSA

	All Groups	White	Black	Latino
Total Population	597337	421719	136,790	26,880
% of Total		71%	23%	4%
Total Applications	50845	37224	3,152	1,083
% of Total		73%	6%	2%
Origination	24743	22660	1,481	602
% of Total		92%	6%	2%
Denials	7802	6635	912	255
% of total		85%	12%	3%
% of total applications of race/ethnicity approved		61%	47%	56%
% of total applications of race/ethnicity denied		18%	29%	24%

Download all of our State of Metropolitan Housing Reports for FREE at our Web site:
www.metropolitanhousing.org/resources/mhc-reports

Honoring Georgia Powers

Legendary civil rights icon, Senator Georgia Davis Powers, died on Saturday, January 30, 2016, at the age of 92. Georgia Lee Montgomery was born to the union Ben Gore and Frances Walker Montgomery on October 29, 1913, in Springfield, Kentucky. She grew up in West Louisville on Grand Avenue with eight brothers – Georgia was the only girl.

Georgia Powers' political career began in 1962 working for candidates Wilson W. Wyatt for US Senate, Edward T. Breathitt for Governor, Norbert Blume for Congress, and other local candidates. A history maker and civil rights activist, Powers led the Allied Organization for Civil Rights in promoting a statewide public accommodations and fair employment law. She was one of the organizers of the 1964 March on Frankfort in support of equity in public accommodations.

Senator Georgia Powers was elected to the Kentucky Senate in 1967 as the first African American and first woman elected to a full term, serving 21 years until her retirement in December 1988. Georgia Powers was Kentucky's original drum major for justice and equality.

During her tenure in the Senate, Powers authored more than 150 bills, including statewide fair housing legislation and bills prohibiting employment discrimination, and sex and age discrimination. Senator Powers also supported legislation to improve education for the physically and mentally disabled.

Never fully retired from service, Powers continued her work in the community as an activist and as a sought after lecturer. Cherished throughout the country for her quiet strength, no nonsense leadership and charisma, Senator Powers received hundreds of awards and honors, including five honorary doctorate degrees.



Legendary Civil Rights icon, Georgia Powers

At the age of 81, Senator Powers was elected First Vice President of the Louisville Branch NAACP and served untiringly with distinction for ten years.

In describing her life, Senator Powers wrote:
 “What a blessed life I’ve lived from my birth until this time. I considered myself on a mission as an advocate
 for African Americans, women, children, disabled, handicapped, elderly and ‘voiceless’ people.”

On behalf of MHC's Board of Directors & staff, thank you to everyone who donated to MHC in honor of Kenny Lanham, Jr. Kenny was a great advocate for fair & affordable housing and a former MHC board member. He will be greatly missed.

Mary Gail Bryan
 Bernard & Mary Ellert
 Daniel Garvey
 Kathryn Hagerty
 Kenneth & Sharon Bohnert
 Mary & James Henry

Martha McIntire
 Jim Mims
 Tom Miron
 New Directions Housing Corp
 Lisa Osanka

Candice Payton
 Sally & Richard Johnson
 Sandra Riley Bryant
 Vision Homes LLC
 Judie Westmeier

APRIL IS FAIR HOUSING MONTH!

Please join MHC and community partners for this free event, open to the public.

Community Forum: Aging in Place

Please join us during Fair Housing month for a community forum on aging in place. Community partners will discuss the upcoming challenges as an increasing number of our population ages and what services will be necessary to ease this transition.

When: Tuesday, April 5th 12pm-1:00pm

Where: Metro United Way 334 E. Broadway

RSVP or Questions: Email michael@metropolitanhousing.org or call (502)-584-6858

Community Partners



Take the online 2016 MHC supporter survey

Every year we use this survey as a way to assess how our members and the public view our work and help us better identify your priorities going forward! Please follow the link below to take the survey and let your voices be heard!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5XFFXMG>



SurveyMonkey

In Case you Missed It...

What is a Comprehensive Plan? And why you should care and participate in drafting a new one for Louisville

The state requires that municipalities such as Louisville have a Comprehensive Plan that lays out the goals for future growth. Quoting Louisville's current Comprehensive Plan, titled Cornerstone 2020, "Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 100, authorizes local governments to regulate the use and development of land only after the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan which establishes the goals and public policies which define the government interest in such regulations." In particular, K.R.S. 100 requires a Comprehensive Plan to include a Statement of Goals and Objectives and at least three Plan Elements: a Land Use Plan Element (zoning), a Transportation Element (including transit), and a Community Facilities Plan Element.

Why We Need to Improve Cornerstone 2020

MHC has long worked on zoning as a major impediment to fair housing. Cornerstone 2020, the Comprehensive Plan under which the last 17 years of development has occurred, deliberately rejected the goals of fair housing, affordable housing, and/or sustainability. These were all goals promoted by advocates and rejected by governing powers.

DO NOT LET THE GOAL OF FAIR HOUSING OR AFFORDABLE HOUSING OR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH BE THROWN OUT OF THE NEW PLAN.

Cornerstone 2020 is (blessedly) expiring. We have gotten the very growth that it set as a goal: segregation and a lack of affordable housing for workers and people on fixed incomes. We cannot let that happen again. With the expiration of Cornerstone 2020, we have a chance to set new goals that bring Louisville forward, but this will only happen with your participation.

Opportunities to Participate in Upcoming Comprehensive Plan

There will be opportunities for your input, and MHC is committed to providing them. MHC will work with Louisville Metro government to ensure you get ample opportunities, but you need to participate through your personal engagement and by engaging your groups.

K.R.S.100 mandates that the Comprehensive Plan should be based upon research and analysis of the community, including:

The general distribution of past and present populations and a forecast of the extent and character of future populations. **MHC believes that the recent U.S. Supreme Court case on fair housing laws will make this a more important factor because documented segregation patterns need to be addressed.

An economic survey and analysis of the major existing public and private business activities, a forecast of future economic levels, and a forecast of necessary actions to increase the quality of life of current and future populations through economic development.

An analysis of the nature, extent, adequacy, and needs of the community for the existing land and building use, transportation, and community facilities.

Your Vision of Louisville in 20 Years!

Sounds pretty technical, but what it all boils down to is YOUR VISION of what Louisville should look like in 20 years. Do you want less segregation by race and/or economics? Do you want sustainable and energy efficient development and rehabilitation of our built environment? Do you want better air, water, and drainage? Do you want transit? Do you think new job centers should be planned to include nearby housing? Do you believe that anyone who works full time should be able to afford a modest place to live without being cost burdened? Do you want trees and art amenities near your neighborhood and other neighborhoods? Do you want different types of housing to choose from?

Like MHC on Facebook and Twitter!
<https://www.facebook.com/mhclouisville/>
<https://twitter.com/mhclouisville>

Community Calendar

Louisville Fair Housing Coalition
Meets each 2nd Tuesday at 2pm at New Directions 1000 E. Liberty

Louisville Vacant Property Campaign
Meets each 3rd Tuesday at 5:30pm at Shelby Park Community Center, 600 E. Oak St

Volunteer of America Mid State's Real³ Journey
A Real³ Journey is a one hour program and engaging tour that highlights the services Volunteers of America Mid-States provides to families in our community challenged by homelessness and addiction. The Journey is specially designed to share how we help real people facing real challenges to find real and lasting solutions.

Tuesday, April 5
9 am - 10 am
Shelby Street Clinical Campus
1436 S. Shelby St

Tuesday, April 26
5 pm - 6 pm
Shelby Street Clinical Campus

Tuesday, May 17
8:30 am - 9:30 am
Louisville Family Housing Services Campus
1321 S. Preston St.
(Enter on E. Ormsby Ave)

The Legal Aid Society is offering free legal clinics

Foreclosure Clinic
Attorneys will be on hand to provide advice on loan modifications and alternatives to foreclosures
Every Tuesday at 11 am from January 19 - March 29
Legal Aid Society Office
416 W Muhammad Ali Blvd
RSVP at 502 584-1254

Tenants' Rights Clinic:
What you should know about your landlord's obligations and your rights
Attorneys will be on hand to answer questions about the eviction process, landlord obligations, and tenants' rights.
Every Thursday at 2 pm from January 21 - March 31
Legal Aid Society Office
416 W Muhammad Ali Blvd
RSVP at 502 584-1254

Second Annual Strategy Roundtable: Meeting the Needs of the Immigrant/Refugee/Noncitizen Community
Please join the Human Rights Advocacy Program of the Brandeis School of Law. At this event we will report on the following four projects conducted in 2015-2016. Each of these reports include unique research results and analysis on relevant and pressing issues in our community:
Language Access, Educational Access, Media Rhetoric, Healthcare.
Tuesday, April 12
12 pm - 2 pm
Genscape Inc., 1140 Gavin Place
To RSVP on Eventbrite, copy the following link: <https://goo.gl/a3uJgD>

Community Calendar

ACLU of KY Annual Meeting & Toast to the end of the General Assembly

"We'll recap the 2016 Legislative session, share tips on how to engage legislators during the interim. Light refreshments and drinks will be served. We'll have a photo booth space & coloring activities for the kids."

Tuesday, April 19, 6 pm
 ACLU-KY Office
 315 Guthrie St, Suite 300

Questions? Email Africa@aclu-ky.org

Fair Housing & Diversity Training

This FREE training will focus on the fair housing law basics and will also include a brief diversity session. The event is being sponsored by the Lexington Fair Housing Counsel, the Kentucky Housing Corporation, & the Bowling Green Human Rights Commission

Thursday, April 14
 9 am - 1 pm (CST)
 National Corvette Museum
 350 Corvette Drive
 Bowling Green, KY 42101

To register: visit lexingtonfairhousing.com OR call the Lexington Fair Housing Council's office at (866) 438-8617

For more information, contact mail@lexingtonfairhousing.com

Certificates of participation will be provided upon completion of the training

Fair Housing Luncheon Sponsored by Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission

Special speaker: George D. Williams Sr., serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Policy, Legislative Initiatives and Outreach, HUD, Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity.

Wednesday, April 20
 11 am - 1 pm
 The Carrick House
 312 N. Limestone
 Lexington, KY 40508
 Please RSVP: 859 252-4931
 \$45 a person

Blueprint University Training funded by the Dona O'Sullivan Fund to Fight Homelessness:

How to Help the Newly Housed with Daily Living Skills

Housing First has successfully helped many who have been homeless for years to access permanent supportive housing. This class is designed to share the tools of local case managers, counselors and peer support specialists in helping clients learn the daily living skills that will help them maintain housing and thrive in their new environment.

Trainers from St. John Center and Family & Children's Place

Wednesday, May 11
 9 am - 11 am
 Metro United Way; 334 E Broadway
 Please send staff that work directly with the homeless. Please RSVP to nharris@louhomeless.org

DONATE TODAY!

Strengthen the United Voice for Fair & Affordable Housing!

Make your donation online at 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 \$ _____

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.



Return Service Requested
MHC's Monthly Newsletter is underwritten by a generous grant from



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