



New CSR Director Introduces Herself

A little over a month ago, I received the tremendous honor of being asked by Mayor Fischer to serve as director of Louisville Metro Department of Community Services and Revitalization (CSR). Naturally, taking on this new leadership role in a department with 179 full-time employees and a \$32 million budget -- coupled with the fact that I had been retired for nearly two years -- was cause for great consideration but also great excitement.

After spending the first few weeks getting to know CSR's dedicated staff and seeing first-hand the passion they have for the work they do, I know I have made the right decision. I am eager to apply the combination of management and technical experience, along with the support and expertise of the our staff, to help move Community Services and Revitalization forward with the goal of becoming a national model agency.

For many readers of the MHC newsletter, our paths may have crossed in previous walks of life. For more than 30 years, I worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and served in a variety of roles, most recently as Director of Community Planning and Development. I held that position in the Tennessee State Office from 1988-2002 at which point I returned to Louisville to oversee the Kentucky State Office until 2010. I am proud of my track record in many areas including helping to develop the rules for the HUD Consolidated Plan, assisting Memphis with one of the first nationally recognized Continuum of Care and providing leadership that resulted in one of the first HOME consortia to cross state boundaries. I fully recognize and embrace the role that non-profits have in assuring our communities are strong and healthy and have worked hard to assure they not only receive the recognition they deserve but also the support.

During the coming months, Mayor Fischer has tasked each Metro Government department to develop their own strategic plan to provide clear departmental priorities and needs for the upcoming Spring 2013 budget process. The input from our Management Team, staff members and clients will be invaluable in developing this plan. We will also be looking to solicit expertise and input from our community partners, such as MHC, to help problem solve and look for innovative ways to serve our city's most vulnerable families while helping to rebuild neighborhoods. I am excited about making this journey together.

**- Virginia Peck, Director
Louisville Metro Department of
Community Services & Revitalization**



Community-Wide Conversation on Economic Justice

**Saturday, October 20, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Central High School
1130 West Chestnut Street**

In collaboration with the Metropolitan Housing Coalition and many other organizations engaged in the broad work of social justice, the newly-formed Sowers of Justice Network is hosting an October conference entitled a "Community-Wide Conversation on Economic Justice."

We are all acutely aware of the grave disparities that exist in our country and city and the struggles of so many people, so many families, on so many fronts. The network's hope is that whether you have been involved in some of these issues for a long time or are feeling the need to get involved for the first time, this "Conversation" will be a great place to learn, to get to know people, to network, and to get engaged in actions that make a difference.

There will be an interactive panel discussion featuring Attica Woodson Scott, Cathy Hinko, Anthony Smith (Director of Network Organizing for the Network Center for Community Change), and several persons sharing their personal stories illustrating how all of these issues are inter-related and not theoretical.

The bulk of the conference will occur in breakout sessions on nine topics:

- Jobs, Unemployment, Underemployment
- Housing, Homelessness
- Environmental Justice
- Health Care
- Access to Capital
- Immigration Rights
- Voting Rights
- Food Justice
- Restorative Justice

Registration for the "Community-Wide Conversation" is free. The Sowers of Justice network encourages people to register online so they can get an idea of how many people will participate. Food and child care will be provided. To register, go to <http://www.sowersofjusticenetwork.org/gathering.html>.

If you have questions about the event, call Phil Lloyd-Sidle at 681-4386 or email sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com.

**Help for Homeless Veterans
Call 1-877-4AID-VET**

New System Proposed to Improve Access to Services for Homeless Persons in Louisville

The Coalition for the Homeless, in partnership with its member agencies, is developing a new "Single Point of Entry" system for homeless persons in Louisville. The purpose of the Single Point of Entry system is to provide homeless persons with a centralized intake point for services. The Single point of Entry system is planned to be implemented by July 2013.

A Single Point of Entry "Call Center" will be established that people can either call or visit to seek assistance. Once contacted, the Call Center representatives will ask clients a few questions to find out if they qualify for homeless prevention or homeless shelter services. Once determined homeless, the Call Center will assign a bed at a shelter- giving people a reservation. People's preferences for a particular shelter will be honored, if that shelter has room. In preparation for this reservation, the call center staff will ask questions that would normally be answered at shelters- like name, gender, veteran status, etc. In conjunction with this, the Call Center would make a photo ID that clients can then use to check in at the shelter. Once the reservation is complete, people would have until a certain time to arrive at the shelter where they have a reservation.

Since the Call Center will not be open 24 hours a day, clients may miss the window to receive help from the Center. If so, they can go to a shelter and check in there. However, they will still have to answer the Call Center questions in a paper form that will then be forwarded on to the Call Center by agency staff. Clients would have to visit the Call Center sometime after this to have a photo ID made.

People will only have to use the Call Center once, unless they want to stay at a different shelter. In the morning after their first reservation, clients can tell shelter staff that they wish to reserve a bed again there for that night.

Within two weeks of call center intake, clients will receive a more involved "Common Assessment." Social workers (that do not work for the shelter) will ask clients detailed questions about their reasons for homelessness and make referrals for housing and services. This is the last step in the Single Point of Entry process. The assessment will remain with clients and be given to the next agency serving them. The goal of the Single Point of Entry/Common Assessment process is to quickly get clients into housing and services that are right for them without asking the same questions at each agency. If you have questions about the proposed system, please contact Merritt Gill at 636-9550 x16 or mgill@louhomeless.org.

Louisville Metro Government, the Coalition for the Homeless, and agencies serving homeless persons are currently seeking feedback from homeless consumers on the proposed Single Point of Entry /Common Assessment system. Discussions about the changes were held with clients at St. John Center on September 11, St. Vincent de Paul on September 12, and Salvation Army on September 13. These changes will also be discussed in small focus groups held at the 2012 Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect on October 10.

2012 Festival of Faiths

November 14 through 17

Kentucky Center for African American Heritage
1701 W. Muhammad Ali Boulevard

The theme of the 17th annual Festival of Faiths is *Sacred Fire: Light of Compassion*. Compassion for our neighbors, particularly for those who are homeless, will be a multi-faceted program, concentrating on effective solutions to this problem. The program will include an address by an expert, a panel discussion on strategies that work, a video featuring testimonials by homeless persons, and information on what we can all do to significantly decrease homelessness. Cathy Hinko of MHC will be participating in the panel discussion about homelessness that will address concerns about homeless children, affordable housing and healthcare for the homeless that will be held on November 15 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

This program is one of the many Festival events. A few highlights of other Festival of Faith events include:

- Ambassador Thomas Graham, Jr., who represented the United States in all major international arms control and non-proliferation agreements from 1970-1997, will give a keynote address about the state of nuclear proliferation.
- Rev. Joan Brown Campbell, co-author of the national Charter for Compassion and Director of Religion at the Chautauqua Institution, and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer will discuss the Charter and what our community can do to make Louisville "the most Compassionate City in the world."
- James Doty, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education at Stanford University, will join Bridgeman Foods CEO Junior Bridgeman, Spalding University President Tori Murden McClure and Signature Healthcare Vice President of Spirituality Dianne Timmering in a panel discussion about the prominent role that compassion plays in the workplace.
- Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, Director of the Regeneration Project and Founder of Interfaith Power and Light, will speak about a sensible energy policy. Other nationally renowned experts will discuss environmental issues such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and "green" building design.
- Youth programs will draw over 400 middle school and high school students to the Festival and include breakout discussions on environmental concerns, racism, homelessness, controlled burns and other social issues.
- Major interfaith offerings will include an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at the Cathedral of the Assumption, an Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, a Hindu fire ceremony, a Seder, a Sufi concert and the Children of Abraham Dinner.
- The annual Night of a Thousand Stars.

Please visit the website at <http://festivaloffaiths.org> to learn more about the festival and get tickets to events.

Schedule of Events

October 9 - Fair Housing Coalition Meeting. New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty Street, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

October 9 - Education & Advocacy Committee Meeting. New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty Street, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

October 16 - Louisville Vacant Properties Campaign. Presbyterian Community Center, 701 S. Hancock Street, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

September 19 - Rx Housing 1-Year Anniversary Celebration. In its first year, Rx Housing has moved over 40 of our city's most vulnerable homeless people from the streets into permanent housing. Features a presentation by Dr. Jim O'Connell, President of Boston Health Care for the Homeless. To make a reservation for this free event, contact Natalie Harris at nharris@louhomeless.org or 636-9550x11. University Center, Spalding University, 824 S. Fourth Street (enter through doors at south end of building), 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

September 20 - Network Center for Community Change Network Nite. Enjoy a family dinner while networking with your community and learning about events and opportunities. For more information, call 583-1426 or email jpotish@makechangetogether.org. The West End School, 3628 Virginia Avenue, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

September 21- 11th Annual Employment Opportunity Fair. For more information, contact Relia Bailey at 776-6369 or rbailey@ccdcy.org. Canaan Community Development Corporation, 2480 Hikes Lane, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

September 22- People Advocating for Recovery Annual Recovery Rally. The event is open to all, especially those in recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions and those who support and love those who are. For more information, go to www.peopleadvocatingrecovery.org. Brown-Forman Amphitheatre at Waterfront Park, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

September 22 - ACLU of Kentucky Reproductive Freedom Project Fall Celebration. For more information, contact Michael Aldridge at michael@aclu-ky.org or 581-9746. Green Building, 732 E. Market Street, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

September 22 - Louisville Urban League Walk to Defeat Childhood Obesity. For more information or to register, go to www.lul.org or contact Tim Tomes at 566-3417. Fourth Street Live. Registration, 9:00 a.m. Walk, 10:30 a.m.

September 22 - Urban League "Do the Right Thing" Youth Expo. Features a talent showcase, an oratorical competition, youth recognition, and a performance by Jacob Lattimore. For more information, go to www.lul.org or call 566-3383. Fourth Street Live, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

September 22 - Youth Empowerment Summit. The conference seeks to educate and empower young people who are aging out of foster care to help them access resources needed to make the transition successfully. For more information, contact Melissa Muse at Melissa@childrensallianceky.org or 875-3399. Imani Family Life Center, 1555 Georgetown Road, Lexington. Registration, 8:30 a.m. Program, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

September 22 - 2012 Community Exchange. An information sharing and resource exchange to build collective efforts for healthy family ties with those impacted by incarceration. RSVP by 9/18/12 to Jo Dufton at B1NSpirit@aol.com. Egan Leadership Center, 901 S. Fourth Street, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

September 25 - National Voter Registration Day. The Louisville League of Women Voters welcomes volunteers to help register voters. To volunteer or for more information, call 895-5218.

September 28 - Project Warm Volunteer Blitz Team Registration Deadline. The blitz is a free service for seniors or people with disabilities on fixed incomes. Volunteers will install clear, interior window covers on 11/10 and 11/17. To volunteer or for more information, go to www.projectwarm.org, email info@projectwarm.org, or call 636-9276.

October 1- Louisville Urban League Project Ready Begins. This after school program, which runs from October to May, helps middle and high school students get ready for college and learn more about science, technology, engineering, and math. For more information or to register, call 566-3381. High school students meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Louisville Urban League, 1535 W. Broadway. Middle school students meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. at Meyzeek Middle School, 828 S. Jackson Street.

October 8 - Kentucky Youth Advocates 2012 Step Up for Kids Conference: Invest in Kids, Grow Our Future. For more information or to register, go to <http://kyyouth.org/2012stepupforkidsconf.html> or call 895-8167 x121. Muhammad Ali Center, 144 N. Sixth Street, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

October 9- Center for Nonprofit Excellence 12th Annual Center for Nonprofit Excellence Leadership Conference. Luncheon features Keynote Speaker Andy Goodman and the presentation of the Pyramid Awards for Excellence. For more information or to register, go to www.cnpe.org. Rivue - Galt House Hotel, 140 South 4th Street. Conference 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Luncheon 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

October 10- 2012 Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect. Over 50 agencies are collaborating to serve homeless persons on a single day. This project provides access to state IDs, flu shots, medical services, counseling, food, clothing, benefit applications and many other services all under one roof. To volunteer or for more information, go to <http://volunteer.truist.com/gguw/org/opp/10539704549.html>. Salvation Army, 911 S. Brook Street, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

October 11- Spalding University Presidential Faculty Colloquium. Dr. Danelle Stevens-Watkins will discuss "Exploring the Mental Wellbeing of African American Women: From Silent Resilience to Healthy Living." Egan Leadership Center, 901 S. Fourth Street, 4:00 p.m.

October 13- Preservation Louisville Hands on History Preservation Maintenance Workshop- Historic Windows 1. An introduction to historic windows and their maintenance. For more information, call 540-5146 or email director@preservationlouisville.org. Brennan House, 631 S. Fifth Street, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

October 13 - 15- Parkland Boys and Girls Club Community Build Playground Project. Volunteer to be part of the team that helps build a new playground and community garden. For more information and to register to volunteer, go to <http://www.bgckyana.org/playground.aspx>. Parkland Boys and Girls Club, 3200 Greenwood Avenue. Prep Days, 10/13 & 10/14, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Build day, 10/15 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

October 20- ACLU of Kentucky Bill of Rights Dinner. This year's keynote speaker will be the founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, Bryan Stevenson with special guest Stephen Bright, President of the Southern Center for Human Rights. For more information, contact Michael Aldridge at michael@aclu-ky.org or 581-9746. Location and time TBD.

November 10- 5th Annual Race to End Homelessness. A fundraiser for the Coalition for the Homeless. To register or for more information, go to www.racetoendhomelessness.org. Scenic Loop in Cherokee Park near the Rugby Field at the bottom of Cochran Hill Road. Registration, 8:00 a.m. Race, 9:00 a.m.

Help Raise Money for MHC at No Cost to You!

Do you shop at Kroger? If so, participate in the Mid-South Kroger Fund Raising Program!

How does it work?

- 1) Buy a \$5 Kroger Gift Card from MHC. This card starts with a \$5 balance.
- 2) Add money to your Kroger Gift Card at any Kroger Customer service desk or any Kroger register.
- 3) Use your gift card to buy your groceries or get gas at a Kroger station.
- 4) Refill your gift card when your balance is low and keep using it to make your Kroger purchases.
- 5) **Each time you refill your gift card, Kroger will donate 4% of your recharge amount to MHC.**

How can I sign up?

There are three ways you can sign up and get a MHC Kroger Fund Raiser Gift Card.

- 1) Send a check for \$5 to MHC, PO Box 4533, Louisville KY 40204. Be sure to include your mailing address and write Kroger Card on the "for" line of your check. We'll then mail you a gift card.
- 2) Make a \$5 donation online at www.metropolitanhousing.org. Be sure to type "Kroger Card" in the Comment box of the donation page. MHC will then send your gift card in the mail.
- 3) Call MHC at 584-6858 or email curtisstauffer@metropolitanhousing.org and make arrangements to stop by MHC offices to pay for and pick up your card.

Join MHC or Renew Your Membership Today!

For membership questions, please call the office at (502) 584-6858 and speak with Curtis Stauffer.
To make an online donation, visit us on the web at www.metropolitanhousing.org.



Metropolitan
Housing
Coalition

P.O. Box 4533
Louisville, KY 40204-4533
Phone (502) 584-6858
Fax (502) 452-6718
www.MetropolitanHousing.org

Return Service Requested

*MHC's monthly Newsletter is
underwritten by a generous grant from*



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

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No.
1878