



Greetings!

MHC's 2015 Annual Meeting Luncheon Thursday, May 21st, 2015

11:30-1:30

The Olmsted, 3701 Frankfort Avenue
featuring **Keynote Speaker**
James B. Bullard, President & CEO

of the

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Individual tickets: \$70

****Sponsorship information available [HERE!](#)****

For more information, contact dana@metropolitanhousing.org
or call (502) 584-6858

Are you a fair housing hotshot?

Share your knowledge and opinions of fair housing in Louisville!

Follow [this link](#) to Survey Monkey and complete a

brief survey on fair housing in Louisville.

Your responses will help improve our city.

Metropolitan Housing Coalition is working with Louisville Metro Government to develop a report for the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development on the impediments to fair housing in our community. As part of that work, we want to assess our community's knowledge and opinions of fair housing issues in Louisville.

Thank you for your time!

For more information or for questions, contact
info@metropolitanhousing.org
or call (502) 584-6858

FULL LINK TO SURVEY:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FairHousingLouisville>



MHC needs YOUR support to provide research, education, and advocacy in support of safe, fair, and affordable housing!

Join MHC or Renew Your Membership Today!

Each new member and every donation makes possible MHC's critical research and advocacy work in support affordable housing 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 Dana Loustalot Duncan at dana@metropolitanhousing.org 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 2pm
each 2nd TUE at New Directions,
1000 E. Liberty

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

Bank on Louisville Events

Start Fresh! workshop:

Thurs. March 12, 5:30pm-7:30pm at the Louisville Urban League (1535 W. Broadway). To register, call 574-5156.

Basic Budgeting workshop: **Wed. March 18, 5:30-6:30pm** at Farnsley Middle School (3400 Lees Lane, 40216). To register, call 574-5156.

Start Fresh! workshop: **Thurs. March 19, 10am-12pm** at Urban Government Center (810 Barret Ave.). To register, call 574-5156.

To register for any of these workshops, call Bank On Louisville at 574.5156.

Sunday, March 1, 6:00 pm

Preservation Louisville's Downton Abbey Finale Viewing Party
Join us in a beautiful Victorian home built in 1868 for a silent auction, costume contest, beverages and hors d'ouerves before the finale viewing. The Brennan House 631 S. Fifth Street. Louisville, KY 40202. Registration and more information can be found on our website www.preservationlouisville.com.

Tue-Wed March 10-11 8-430p - Competent Person class
KY Habitat for Humanity holds these courses for their statewide affiliates and feel these are extremely good classes for any non-profit that engages in building or rehabbing homes and needs to know the liabilities, correct use of tools, and what to do with volunteers.

For additional information or to register, contact Holly Todd, KyHFH - Sustainable Building Specialist at 513-477-0130.

March 10th 5-6:30 p.m.

History of ACLU of KY's Work on LGBT Rights
University of Louisville Chao Auditorium
For more information, contact the ACLU of Kentucky at (502) 581-1181.

Monday, March 16th -

Dinner at 5:30 pm, program at 6:00 pm -
League of Women Voters' Dinner and Democracy meeting
The topic for this public forum:
Is the Planning Commission an Echo Chamber.

The speaker is Stephen T. Porter, attorney, realtor, and

acknowledged expert in Land Use and Planning.

We will look at the Planning Commission: why, how, and who?
what about the Board of Zoning Adjustment?
what's all the Wal-Mart hullaboo?
why should we care about planning and zoning?

Mr. Porter has been an attorney since 1968 when he graduated from the Brandeis School of Law. He is also owner of Steve Porter, Realtors, a real estate brokerage firm. As an adjunct professor at U of L Brandeis School, he teaches Land Use and Planning Law and Local Government Law. He has long been involved in planning, land development, preservation activities.

Friday, March 20, 7-10pm

2nd Annual We Are Kentuckians: Celebrating Our Common Heritage

Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street, Louisville
Join Kentuckians For The Commonwealth for a celebration of African American culture and heritage through art, music, poetry, and storytelling. The 2nd Annual "We Are Kentuckians: Celebrating Our Common Heritage" honors the important but often unheard stories, culture, and heritage of Black Kentuckians. Kentucky writers, musicians, and artists will share their work and personal stories and invite the audience to help shape a collective vision for Kentucky's future. Performers and speakers include: Tiffany Bellfield, Jeremy Clark, Cassia Herron, Michael Jones, Benny Massey, Rutland Melton, Joshua Outsey, Joy Priest, Tarsha Semakula, Yared Sound
Suggested donation \$10. Cash bar and food provided by Dasha Barbour Southern Bistro, available for purchase.

Advanced tickets available online:

<http://wearekenhttp://wearekentuckians.eventbrite.comtuckians.eventbrite.com>

April 7, 2015

Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky Annual Meeting, Lexington Convention Center, 3:30-5:30PM. More information: Call (502) 223-1834

April 8-9, 2015 - KHC-HHCK 2015 Kentucky Affordable Housing Conference. "Housing Kentucky Families: New Vision, New Strategies," Hyatt Regency and Lexington Convention Center. Sponsorship and lodging information at <http://kyhousing.org/Conference/2015KAHC/Pages/default.aspx>

****RESCHEDULED DUE TO WEATHER****

Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. Greater Louisville Sierra Club presents Attica
Scott discussing "Environmental Justice + Public Health". Program will focus on environmental justice in Louisville and how the movement for environmental justice is a public health priority. Location: Clifton Center. Free and open to the public.

Eat at Mark's Feed Store at 1514 Bardstown Rd. on Thursday, March 12th to support MHC!

Present **this voucher** when you order and
15% of your purchase will be donated to MHC.
Great food for a great cause!



Download this voucher, print it, and bring it with you to Mark's on March 12!

For more information, contact dana@metropolitanhousing.org



MHC newsletter changes for 2015

MHC will continue to send out a monthly e-newsletter, but we are switching from a monthly printed newsletter to a quarterly publication. That change should allow us to create a richer, more engaging document for our members and the community. For more information or to request a copy, contact

dana@metropolitanhousing.org

URGENT!: Ask Kentucky Senate Leadership to Grant a Committee Hearing and Vote for Senate Bill 32 to cap Payday Lending Interest Rates at 36% Call 1-800-372-7181 to leave a message for Senate leadership in support of SB 32.

MHC is sending you this Action Alert on behalf of the Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending (KCRL).

GOOD NEWS!

After all of KCRL's work to meet with legislators in Frankfort over the past two months on the payday lending issue (to put reasonable regulations on what are now 400% interest loans in Kentucky!) KCRL has secured commitments of support from 7 (and possibly 8) of the 11 members of the Senate State & Local Government Committee for our bill (SB 32)! That is plenty of votes to get the bill out of committee and onto the Senate floor for a vote!

HERE'S THE PROBLEM...

KCRL was told on Thursday evening that Senate majority leadership had agreed to hold the hearing in committee, and that the hearing would be this coming Wed., Feb. 25. But yesterday KCRL heard that leadership had changed their mind, and now will not allow it to be heard! It is unconscionable and unacceptable for them to block the hearing when there are enough votes to get it out of committee! It can only be due to Senate leadership choosing to side with the payday loansharks rather than Kentuckians! When we met (twice) with Senate President Stivers, he said that the bill would get a hearing if there was "a groundswell of support" for it in the Senate. Well, we have created that groundswell of support, and Sen. Stivers needs to keep his word!

THREE KEY ACTIONS to take this week...

1. CALL SENATE LEADERSHIP FIRST THING MONDAY MORNING (Feb. 23)!

- We need to call Monday morning and flood Senate majority leadership with messages. SO, even if you've called before, call again on Monday morning, 1-800-372-7181 (it is answered from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.) to reach the General Assembly switchboard. A live attendant will answer. Ask the attendant to LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR ALL FIVE MEMBERS OF SENATE LEADERSHIP.
- The message should say the following (or similar): "As a member of Senate leadership, we are calling upon you to stand with the people of Kentucky instead of with the payday loansharks, by allowing SB 32 to have a fair hearing! The bill has enough votes in committee, and it is unacceptable to block it from getting a hearing!"

2. COME TO "RALLY IN THE ROTUNDA"-Tues., Feb. 24!

- We need to fill the rotunda of the capitol for a Rally & Press Conference to show the legislature that a lot of people from all across Kentucky support this bill! We'll be joining with allied organizations from all across Kentucky for this event
- So come with us next Tuesday, Feb. 24. The Rally will be from 11:30 to 12:00.

3. COME AND PACK THE COMMITTEE MEETING-Wed., Feb. 25!

- We need to return to Frankfort in large numbers the day after the Rally, to pack the meeting of the State & Local Government Committee (in Room 154 of the Capitol Annex), on Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 12:00-1:00. At this point, we may or may not have a hearing of our bill on that day, but even if we don't, we need to be there to make our voices heard that the bill should be heard at their next meeting!

*****LAST BUT NOT LEAST, please forward this email to others you think will be supportive)! Click here to download a Fact Sheet on Payday Lending in Kentucky.**

We have never been closer to winning this issue than we are now-PLEASE MAKE YOUR CALL MONDAY, AND JOIN US ON FEB. 24 & 25!

2015 KENTUCKY STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

While the weather has thrown a bit of a wrench in this short session, things remain in motion...

Don't forget to call in to have your say on the legislation that matters to you! Contact your senator or representative via the Legislative Message Line at **1-800-372-7181**.

HB 219 and HB 279

are two bills that would help in localizing the portion of increased options including with the problem of

two bills that would allow localities the option of increased options in dealing with the problem of abandoned and dilapidated housing. HB 219 updates the powers of any land bank and follows best practices from around the country by giving updates to the land bank. In Louisville, we have a land bank, but the current Kentucky state limitations on what a land bank may do really hamper dealing with the problem of vacant and abandoned and deteriorated properties. HB 279 would give a locality more options to re-use blighted abandoned properties.

HB70, the Local Investments for Transformation (LIFT) bill, is a proposal to change the Kentucky constitution to allow local governments to hold local referendums on raising the sales tax to support specific projects in the local area. The bill passed the KY House on Feb. 12 and has received approval from KY Senate Majority Leader Stivers to proceed, but we do not know how it will ultimately do in the Senate.

The following updates are from the web site of the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK), a member of MHC. Former MHC-staffer Curtis Stauffer is now the Executive Director of HHCK. You can get up-to-date reporting on the issues below by going to www.hhck.org/2015-legislative-priorities.

- **Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act (URLTA) implementation statewide, filed as HB 368 in the 2015 Legislative Session.** (Sponsors: Reps. Marzian and Bell). Adopted in 1974 and reformed by the legislature in 1984, URLTA is codified in KRS Chapter Under KRS 383.500, local governments must opt-in to enact URLTA. "The General Assembly hereby authorizes cities, counties and urban-county governments to enact the provisions of the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act

as set forth in KRS 383.505 to 383.705. If adopted, these provisions shall be adopted in their entirety and without amendment. No other ordinance shall be enacted by a city, county or urban-county government which relates to the subjects embraced in KRS 383.505 to 383.705." Currently only these jurisdictions have adopted URLTA: Lexington-Fayette County, Louisville-Jefferson County, Oldham County, Pulaski County, Barbourville, Bellevue, Bromley, Covington, Dayton, Florence, Georgetown, Ludlow, Melbourne, Newport, Shelbyville, Silver Grove, Southgate, Taylor Mill, and Woodlawn. Contact HHCK to join the Healthy Homes Coalition in support of this important housing reform. Originally drafted in 1972 by the National Conference of Commissioners on State Laws, the purpose of URLTA is to "encourage landlords and tenants to maintain and improve the quality of housing," and clarify the "rights and obligations of landlords and tenants." It specifies notification requirements for evictions, thus preventing "overnight" evictions. KRS 383.660 specifies that in the instance of a "material noncompliance by the tenant with the rental agreement... the landlord may deliver a written notice to the tenant specifying the acts and omissions constituting the breach and that the rental agreement will terminate upon a date not less than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the notice." It also specifically protects tenants from retaliatory actions should tenants complain about conditions of the housing to the landlord or a code enforcement board (KRS 383.705).

- **Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act, filed as HB 327 in the 2015 Legislative Session.** (Sponsor: Rep. Wayne). The act will provide legal protections for owners of manufactured housing who lease their lots and codifies rights and responsibilities of land owners and manufactured housing owners. It would establish requirements and procedures for good cause eviction of residents of manufactured home communities; prohibit land owners from retaliating against manufactured home residents in certain circumstances; establish requirements for the promulgation of mobile home community rules; establish requirements for community operators that provide utility service to mobile home community residents; and require the application of the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to residents and community operators of manufactured home communities that lie within a jurisdiction that has adopted the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.
- **Statewide Fairness legislation, as proposed in HB 379 in the 2015 Legislative Session** (Sponsors: Reps. Marzian, Brown, Burch, Butler, Donohue, Flood, Graham, Jenkins, Meeks, Owens, Palumbo, Simpson, Watkins, and Wayne). **Also filed as SB 156** (Sponsors: Sens. McGarvey, Harper Angel, Clark, Neal, and Thomas). As an organization advocating for safe, fair, and affordable housing, HHCK supports legislation to prohibit discrimination against persons based on their sexual orientation or gender.
- **Payday lending reform to cap interest rates:** legislation to cap payday loan interest rates at 36% as filed in **SB 32 for the 2015 Legislative Session** (Sponsors: Sens. Kerr, Neal, Parrett, and Thomas)
- **Tax Reform with Earned Income Tax Credit:** Tax reforms that modernize the Commonwealth's tax system and ensure sufficient funding for government programs and We are strongly supportive of the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) at 15% of the Federal EITC as recommended by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Tax Reform and as proposed in HB 132 for the 2015 Legislative Session (Sponsors: Reps. Wayne, Burch, Graham, Jenkins, Marzian, Meeks, Palumbo, and Riner). The EITC is also contained in the tax reform package proposed in **HB 374 for the 2015 Legislative Session** (Sponsors: Reps. Wayne, Stumbo, Bell, Jenkins, Rand, Richards, and Riner) & **SB 183 (Sponsor: Sen. Morgan McGarvey)**
- **Clean Energy Opportunity Act: Filed as HB 229** "Renewable and Efficiency Portfolio Standard" that would require utilities obtaining 5% of their retail sales from renewable sources and offsetting 10.25% of annual retail sales through energy efficiency through gradual increases by 2023. Because it will increase access to energy efficiency programs for low-income households and reduce their housing costs, HHCK is highly supportive of the act's clause that requires "a portion of the incremental electricity savings achieved from energy efficiency programs in any year shall be obtained through low-income residential energy efficiency programs. The portion shall be at least ten percent (10%) of the incremental energy savings multiplied by the percentage of total electricity sales from each utility that comes from residential customers."

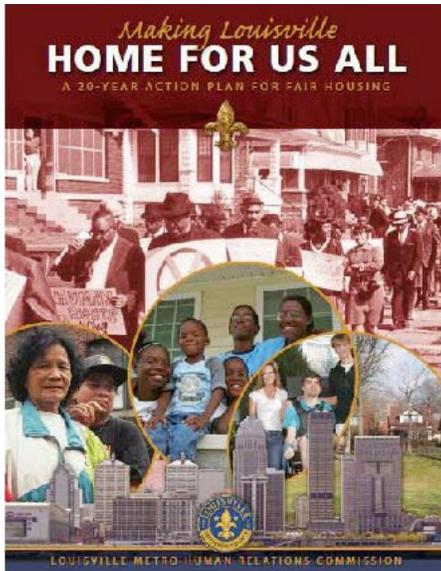
Mayor Fischer Needs to Hear from YOU!

Urge Metro Government -

Urge the Metro Government TAKE ACTION NOW to Make Louisville Home for Us All

What is the 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing?

The Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission released *Making Louisville Home for Us All in 2014*. The report includes a history of housing segregation in Louisville and a 20-Year action plan for fair housing, which addresses our hidden legacy and provides measurable, achievable steps to lessen segregation in just one generation.



Download the full report at the Louisville Human Relation Commission's Web site:
http://louisvilleky.gov/sites/default/files/human_relations/reports_publications/louisville_metro_20-year_action_plan.pdf

Also available in Spanish as two downloads at

<http://louisvilleky.gov/government/human-relations-commission/reports-publications>

What can you do NOW to further fair housing in Louisville?

Urge Mayor Fischer and Louisville Metro government to implement their

20-Year Plan for Fair Housing by signing on, as an individual or organization, to show our community's commitment to the plan's principles and first action steps.

Commitment to Fair Housing:

I/we support the 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing.

I/We support the principles and seek immediate action from Louisville Metro government on Plan Steps 1.1 and 1.2.

The 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 the 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 for Metro government:

- 1) Louisville Metro should have a clear policy that states that fair housing is a mandatory lens for review of all actions using a Fair Housing Assessment which is developed and coordinated by a designated body.
- 2) A Louisville Metro agency or department must be designated with the authority and responsibility to oversee implementation of the action steps of the 20-Year Plan.

*****Download and print the commitment form
HERE.*****

Send your completed and signed form to Metropolitan Housing Coalition,
P.O. Box 4533 Louisville KY 40204 FAX it to 502-452-6718

Call MHC at (502) 584-6858 for additional information.



Earn money for MHC just by shopping Kroger



Have a Kroger card in your wallet or on your keychain?
Then you're *almost* ready to help support MHC through a new program.



Kroger's NEW Community Giving program makes it easier than ever for shoppers to support their favorite community organizations. Use your Kroger Rewards Card when shopping at Kroger, support MHC. It's that simple.

If you don't yet have a Kroger Plus card, just ask a cashier for one on your next trip to Kroger.

Here's how to get started:

**For those who DO have a Kroger Plus card, go to Kroger's Web site:
www.kroger.com**

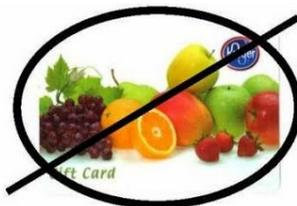
If you already HAVE a Kroger.com account:

- 1) At the top of the main Web page, find and click on the word "Community" on the top right of the screen, just below the "Sign In" box.
- 2) Under the menu at the left side of the Community page, click on "Kroger Community Rewards". This will take you to the Community Rewards page.
- 3) At the bottom of the Kroger Community Rewards page, you will see a box for "ENROLL NOW". Click on the box.
- 4) On the next page, you can find MHC by typing our name, "Metropolitan Housing Coalition", in the search box.
- 5) When Metropolitan Housing Coalition appears on the list, select us by clicking the circle next to our name. Then click "Save" to save MHC as your designated organization.
- 6) Confirm that MHC is selected as your Community Rewards organization by checking your account profile.

That's it! Now every time you shop and use your Kroger Plus card, you'll be earning rewards for MHC.

If you DO NOT have a Kroger.com account, click on the "Register" button at the top right of the Kroger homepage. Then simply follow the instructions on the Web site to set up your account and then follow the above instructions to designate MHC as your Community Rewards organization.

NOTE: Kroger's new Community Rewards program replaces a previous plan that used Kroger Gift Cards.



Want to get involved
but need more knowledge
on the issues?

MHC will come to you!

We're happy to present on the issues and our work to your group, whatever the size and wherever the location.

Contact MHC at (502) 584-6858 or dana@metropolitanhousing.org to find out how you and your organization can learn more and get active.

When do you most often hear about housing issues in local media and conversation?

Usually about the time MHC releases our annual *State of Metropolitan Housing Report*.

The *2014 State of Metropolitan Housing Report* will be released on December 4th, but we need your support today to ensure that MHC is able to raise awareness about and work on the critical housing issues in our community and provide valuable supports to community partners in coming years.

Support MHC's critical work with a donation today!

Get Involved!

Join MHC and our many partners as we work on these fair and affordable housing issues

Annual Meeting Committee

Help MHC organize our 2015 Annual Meeting, to be held in mid-June! Contact dana@metropolitanhousing.org to lend a hand.

Land Development Code

Changes to ensure that fair and affordable housing can occur throughout Jefferson County. Join us in advocating for adoption of the changes recommended by the Fair and Affordable Housing Sub-Committee of the Land Development Review Committee. These proposed changes are posted on MHC's web site at metropolitanhousing.org. For more information, contact MHC at (502) 584-6858.

Vacant & Abandoned Properties

Join the Louisville Vacant Property Campaign, which meets the third Tuesday of each month (except July) from 5:30 to 7:00 at 1229 S. Shelby St., the offices of Access Ventures. Contact MHC to get on the email list for upcoming meetings and events.

Local Options for Kentucky Liens (LOKL)

Join the advocacy group LOKL as we work to change state law to make the Louisville Land Bank more effective in re-use of land, including abandoned properties, and as we seek to keep local control and local ownership of property tax liens so owners can have more opportunity to pay their property tax, and allow re-use of land that is abandoned. Contact MHC to get on the email list for upcoming meetings and events.

Fair Housing Coalition

Join the Fair Housing Coalition, which meets the second Tuesday of each month

(except July) from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at New Directions Housing Corporation, 1000 East Liberty Street, Louisville. This year the FHC was involved with a forum on housing people with behavioral and/or mental health disabilities.

For more information on how you can positively impact your community or to join any of these efforts, contact MHC at (502) 584-6858 or email info@metropolitanhousing.org.

Please visit our web site at www.metropolitanhousing.org to see our reports.

We are also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mhclouisville>) and Twitter ([@mhclouisville](https://twitter.com/mhclouisville)).



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.