



METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION

P.O. Box 4533 • Louisville, KY • 40204
(502) 584-6858 • www.metropolitanhousing.org



Greetings!

2017 Annual Meeting, Save the Date!

When: Tuesday, May 30th
5:15 p.m. - Networking; 6:15 p.m. - Dinner & Program

Where: The Olmsted
3701 Frankfort Ave
Louisville, KY 40206

Keynote Speaker: Mayor Greg Fischer

We are excited to once again host our Annual Meeting at the Olmsted with keynote speaker and are thrilled to announce Mayor Greg Fischer as our keynote speaker.

Please mark the date in your calendars as next newsletter we will have more information available such as: sponsorship flyers and ticket info. If you are interested in volunteering for the Annual Meeting or helping with the Annual Meeting planning committee please email Michael at michael@metropolitanhousing.org or call at 502.584.6858.

We hope to see you there!

Affordable Housing Rally

On Thursday, February 23, KFTC of Jefferson County held a Rally for Affordable Housing at Metro Hall to urge Metro Council and Mayor Fischer Council to prioritize affordable housing by allocating \$10 million to the Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The rally was a huge success, and we would like to share LAHTF Executive Director, Christie McCravy's speech from the rally which is below. Following her speech, the next section is a template for contacting your council member or Mayor Fischer to advocate for funding LAHTF.

MHC needs YOU!
Your membership
advances safe, fair, and
affordable housing for our
community!

**Join MHC or Renew Your
Membership Today!**

Each new member and every
donation makes possible MHC's
critical work 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 Michael Kolodziej at
michael@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.



Langston Hughes wrote, " What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up, like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore....and then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat
Or crust and sugar over, like a syrupy sweet?
Maybe it just sags like a heavy load
Or does it explode?
We are witnessing the explosion of dreams deferred!

Many studies show there is a direct correlation between affordable housing and public safety. The Justice Policy Institute finds that states that invest in affordable housing have lower incarceration rates and improved educational attainment. One need only to google "vacant housing and criminal activity" to find a plethora of studies and research on the subject.

We have begun to see the effects of the explosion of having more than 5,000 vacant properties in our community. It was just two weekends ago when a homeless man lost his life seeking shelter in vacant property. Neighbors were concerned about questionable activity.....the police were called.....anxieties were high.....and a homeless man ends up dead. Whatever your opinion on this situation, we all can agree that the situation was tragic.

Vacant properties are catalyst - catalysts for decreasing home values, catalysts for criminal activity, and yes, even catalysts for homeless persons seeking shelter. Even though shelter is a basic right, decent shelter is at a premium in our community. A \$10 million investment in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund could go a long way in addressing some of these problems.

By funding the Trust Fund, priority can be given to projects targeting the adaptive re-use of vacant properties. More units can be created and more families can feel safe in housing that is both decent and affordable.

I agree that we have a public safety issue in this community. But I ask that you not only look upon solving the problem by increasing support to law enforcement, but you start to think about addressing the roots of the problem, one of which is affordable housing. Family shelter is one of the most basic human needs.

More than 60,000 low income families in our community have had their

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 Tuesday at Shelby
Park Community Center
600 E. Oak St.**

**Community Financial
Empowerment Certification
program**

Reading Credit Reports
*A bank expert will demonstrate
how to read credit reports and
spot issues, plus discuss the
impact bad credit or no credit can
have on access to employment,
housing, and other aspects of
your clients' lives.*

**Wednesday, February 22
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
2900 W. Broadway
NIA Center, 1st floor
conference room**

*To register for this class, click
[here](#)*

**Jessica Gordon Nembhard:
Collective Courage
A History of African American
Cooperative Economic
Thought & Practice
Presented by he University of
Louisville Brandeis Law School,**

dreams deferred. Last year's investment of \$2.5 million will turn the dreams of 326 households into reality. Just imagine how many more could be served with a \$10 million investment?

The National Crime Prevention Council calls for the construction of affordable housing to reduce crime because "neighborhood cohesion and economic stability are enhanced in areas where the continuing supply of dispersed, affordable housing is assured."

If the experts support it, I hope that you will as well. Thank you.

Template for calling local government to encourage support of funding LAHTF

Message Mayor Fischer (502.574.2003)

"I'm calling to ask the mayor to allocate \$10 million to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in this year's budget."

[Share your personal experience with affordable housing. See below.]

"Affordable housing is the best investment we can make in public safety, and I support leaders who make housing a top priority."

Message to Metro Council Member (502.574.1100 or to directly reach your Council Member enter your district # instead of 00)

"I'm calling to ask Councilman/Councilwoman _____ to strongly advocate that Mayor Fischer allocate \$10 million to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in this year's budget."

[Share your personal story with affordable housing. See below]

"Affordable housing is the best investment we can make in public safety, and I support leaders who make housing a top priority."

Some other key points you can note:

* Funding the Trust Fund leverages millions in outside investments, creates jobs, provides homes to children and helps them succeed, and makes our neighborhoods safer. It's the best investment we can make.

* Especially as federal funding may decline and 3,100 currently subsidized units are set to expire, I expect my city to step up.

* 65,000 Louisville families need a home, which means that we have a \$1.95 billion housing deficit. The time is now!

* Let's follow in the footsteps of peer cities like Nashville and Lexington, who have already put significant funds in their Trust Funds.

* Notes about your personal story: It does not need to be dramatic! If you are living in your parent's basement, have relatives living with you, are trying to save up for a home, are trying to save for assisted living, living in a neighborhood where you worry about your safety, are paying over 30% of your income for housing, are living in proximity to vacant properties or crime, or have friends/family in that position, tell them that!

the Office of the Vice Provost of Diversity & International Affairs, & the Louisville free Public Library. Also with support from The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice, Louisville Food Co-op, Sowers of Justice Network, Louisville Urban League, Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice

Sunday, March 5

2 pm

Main Library, 301 York St.
The event is free but tickets are required: LFPL.org or 502.574.1644

[Click here for a flyer](#)

Start Fresh

Bank on Louisville's Start Fresh is a FREE workshop for people with negative (non-fraud) banking histories, are in ChexSystems, or are banking for the 1st time. It will help you gain new info & tools to use 2nd-chance or new checking accounts. This workshop will help you think about your relationship with money and plan how you will make mainstream financial services work for you. Upon completion, you will get a certificate you can use to open a new account with Bank on Louisville's bank or credit union partners.

There are two locations for the workshops:

Louisville Urban League hosts the workshop from 5:30-7:30 pm on the following Thursdays:

February 9

May 11th

August 10th

November 9th

NIA Center hosts the workshop from 10am-12pm

on the following Tuesdays:

March 14th

April 11th

June 13th

July 11th

September 12th

October 10th

December 12th

To register for any of these workshops or get more info, call Bank on Louisville at 574.5156.

April Fair Housing Month Forum: The tension between Revitalization and Gentrification

Be on the lookout, in April, we will be hosting our annual Fair Housing month forum, and this year's topic will be on the tension between Revitalization and Gentrification which is timely considering the recent announcement of the major \$29.5 million HUD grant rewarded to the Russell neighborhood. We will confirm a date in the near future and provide more details everyone via e-blasts, social media, and our newsletter.

Redlining Louisville: The History of Race, Class, & Real Estate

On Tuesday, February 14th, Louisville Forward released an interactive map "examining the historical impacts of redline policies and recent trends in segregation, wealth creation, property abandonment, and development." Louisville Metro government along with community partners will be holding three community dialogues. The purpose of the dialogues is to analyze how redlining still impacts current Louisville residents and how local government can alleviate these problems. The dates for the upcoming meetings are:

Tuesday, March 28th 5:30 - 7:00 pm
New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty St.

Wednesday, April 26th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
YouthBuild Louisville, 800 S Preston St.

Below, after the images, is a link to a PDF version of the flyer (which includes active links). Also below is a link to the website for the interactive redlining map.

REDLINING LOUISVILLE

The History of Race, Class & Real Estate:

A data-driven interactive story map examining the historical impacts of redline policies and recent trends in segregation, wealth creation, property abandonment and development.

[Click here to explore the map!](#)

Join us for a series of Community Dialogues

February 23, 2017 - Louisville Urban League, 1535 W Broadway - 5:30p to 7:00p
March 28, 2017 - New Directions Housing Corporation, 1000 E Liberty Street - 5:30p to 7:00p
April 26, 2017 - YouthBuild Louisville, 800 S Preston Street - 5:30p to 7:00p

Endorse the Joint Statement of Purpose:

We acknowledge the intentional impact of historical and systematic redlining, beneficial for some and adverse for many. We strive to identify policies and implement programs that protect and enable our collective ability to attain economic equity for everyone.

#erasethelines



REDLINING LOUISVILLE

Race, Class & Real Estate

redline:

or red-line, redlined, redlining. [verb red-lahyn; noun red-lahyn]

1. to refuse a loan to because of the presumed risks involved.
2. to treat by redlining (an area or neighborhood).
3. to restrict people's access to goods or services on the basis of the area in which they live.
4. to engage in redlining.

Become an Ambassador

- Explore the story map for its relevance to residents and professionals;
- Gain a working knowledge of the story map's interactive features;
- Seek out live demonstration opportunities throughout our community; and
- Invite organizations and individuals to endorse our Joint Statement of Purpose!

#erasethelines



HOW TO EXPLORE THE MAP

> Home Page

Click on the survey areas to open the area-wide assessments from 1937.

> About

Learn about the origins of redline policies.

> Timeline

Revisit public policies that have impacted quality of life and quality of place over the years.

> Neighborhoods

Compare current neighborhood boundaries to the original survey areas.

> Current Trends

Compare recent data on people, places and development trends.

[Visit us online at the Office of Redevelopment Strategies](#)

[Redlining Flyer](#)

[Redlining Louisville: The History of Race, Class, and Real Estate interactive map](#)

[Comprehensive Plan: Meeting in a Box](#)



Cathy reminding to advocate for equity in the Comprehensive Plan!

By law, Louisville must have a 20 year plan for the built environment. Our current plan, Cornerstone 2020, is expiring. Cornerstone 2020 did not pay attention to good growth, only to growth. It has left us a legacy of a reduction of our tree canopy, urban heat islands, single occupancy vehicle focus, endangered waterways, housing segregation, and a lack of affordable housing for workers and people on fixed incomes.

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. You can be a part of making sure our next 20 years of growth are healthy for everyone.

You can still join a work group (visit [here](#). If you're unable to attend nightly meetings, your group or organization can give input into the plan in as little as 20 minutes. Approved by Metro government, MHC has a Meeting in a Box. MHC can meet with your group and facilitate the Meeting in a Box. It is a quick and easy way for your group to get engaged with the Comprehensive Plan!

For more information and to schedule call 584-6858.

***Don't forget to take our 2017
Supporter Survey on Survey Monkey.
Let us know how we're doing so we
can better identify our priorities***

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JS6VNRQ>



Earn money for MHC just by shopping Kroger

Have a Kroger card in your wallet or keychain?

Then you're *almost* ready to help support MHC!

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 or re-enroll:

For those who **DO** have a Kroger Plus card, go to www.kroger.com

If you already HAVE a Kroger.com account:

- 1) At the top of the main webpage, find & click on "Community" on the top right of the screen, just below the "Sign In" box.
- 2) On 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".
- 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 the "Register" button at the top right of Kroger.com. Simply follow the instructions on the website to set up your account & then follow the above instructions.

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 michael@metropolitanhousing.org

to find out how you and your organization can learn more and get active.



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.