



METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION

P.O. Box 4533 • Louisville, KY • 40204

(502) 584-6858 • www.metropolitanhousing.org



May, 2016

Greetings!

MHC's 2016 Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 9th
5:15 pm - 7:15 pm
The Olmsted
3701 Frankfort Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206

Featuring Keynote Speaker: Emily Allen



Senior Vice President, Foundation Programs &
Vice President, Income Impact at the **AARP**
Foundation

Individual tickets \$70

For more information, contact
michael@metropolitanhousing.org
or call 502 584-6858.

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

mhc Metropolitan Housing Coalition
2016 Annual Meeting
 Thursday, June 9th at The Clinsited, 3701 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206
 6:15 p.m. Networking, 8:15 p.m. Dinner & Program
 Keynote Speaker: Emily Allen, Senior Vice President, Foundation Programs & Vice President,
 Income Impact - AARP Foundation

<p>Foundation Sponsors - \$3,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 reserved tables at the event (24 sq ft) • Display organizational banner(s) on-stage • Freestanding marketing display w/materials at event • Double full-page ad on 1st pg of program CD, 2pg ad inside • Key sponsor listing in all press releases/advisories • Recognition in six MHC social media posts w/link to your site • Recognition in MHC newsletter, website, and annual State of Metropolitan Housing Report <p>Cornerstone Sponsors - \$2,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 reserved tables at the event (16 sq ft) • Display marketing material on audience tables • Full-page ad in program • Display large banner at event • Recognition in press releases/advisories • Recognition in MHC newsletter, website, & SHHH • Recognition in 4 MHC social media posts w/links to your site 	<p>Keystone Sponsors - \$2,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 reserved tables at the event (16 sq ft) • Full-page ad in program • Display small to medium banner at event • Display organizational material at sign-in table • Recognition in press releases/advisories • Recognition in MHC Newsletter and Website • Recognition in two MHC social media posts w/link to your Web site <p>Groundbreaking Sponsors - \$1,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 reserved table at the event (8 sq ft) • 1/2 page ad in program • Recognition in press releases/advisories • Recognition in MHC Newsletter and Website • Recognition in two MHC social media posts w/link to your Web site <p>Advocate - \$500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/4 table at the event • Recognition in press releases/advisories • 1/2 pg ad in program <p>Advertise in our Event Program!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-page - \$500 - 1/2-page - \$300 - 1/4-page - \$175
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Yes, we will sponsor MHC's 2016 Annual Meeting!

<input type="checkbox"/> Foundation Sponsor - \$3,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Groundbreaking Sponsor - \$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Cornerstone Sponsor - \$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate - \$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Keystone Sponsor - \$2,000	

I would like to donate _____ sponsorship tickets that MHC can provide to low-income attendees (\$70 each).

I cannot sponsor, but will purchase _____ tickets (\$70 each).

I would like an ad in the Annual Meeting program: _____ Full page (\$500) _____ 1/2 page (\$300) _____ 1/4 page (\$175)

Contact name _____ Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Total Amount \$ _____ Method of Payment (check one): Check Visa MC Amex Discover

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date (month/year) _____

Please mail form with payment (by check or credit card for full amount) to MHC, P.O. Box 4533, Louisville, Kentucky 40204-4533.
 For more information please call (502) 584-6858 or email michael@metropolitanhousing.org
 Please respond by Friday, May 20th, if you wish to become a sponsor or purchase a program ad.

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

Affordable Housing Committee meets QUARTERLY 12pm, 3rd Wednesday

Education and Advocacy Committee meets QUARTERLY 3:30pm, 2nd TUE at New Directions Housing Corp., 1000 E. Liberty

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 April 26 - June 28 (Except Derby Week May 3)
Legal Aid Society Office
416 W Muhammad Ali Blvd
RSVP at 502 584-1254

Tenants' Rights Clinic: What you should know about your

Click form above for full 2016 Annual Meeting Sponsorship Info
or: call 502 584-6858
or: email michael@metropolitanhousing.org

*****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*****
If you're willing to volunteer for the 2016 Annual Meeting, please email michael@metropolitanhousing.org

Volunteers needed for check-in, raffle ticket sales, and other tasks the day of the event.

MHC Busy at Work: Analyzing plans and proposals of local governments by Cathy Hinko

In the last two months, MHC has read and commented on several proposals or plans by local governments that include a focus on affordable and fair housing. Here is the list of proposals and plans, and one suggestion from each comment. If you want the full comments, please contact MHC:

Louisville Metro Community Development Block Grant and HOME plan (May 3): A basic function of government is to clear housing that is dangerous, yet \$900,000 of CDBG funding is diverted into clearance. MHC does not dispute the need for a vigorous program as part of neighborhood revitalization, but

diverting CDBG funding to perform basic governmental functions is not what the program is supposed to do.

Russell NRSA plan (May 5): Create an Individual Development Account for new owners to be able to afford repair or make future improvements. A \$10 per month contribution by the buyer is matched by Metro Government 3:1 for two years. This would create a \$1,000 account for repairs and/or improvements.

Louisville Metro Community Services Block Grant plan (May 2): Of the \$1.5 million, only \$83,000 is going to housing assistance in any form. There seems to be an extraordinary leverage of this small allocation of money considering that will help 80 families with rental assistance AND security deposits for 30 homeless veterans and/or families AND 9 months of rent assistance for 35 households applying for Social Security AND 115 families getting rent assistance AND permanent housing for 400 AND case manage 180 households!

New Albany Community Development Block Grant plan (April 11): A recently completed study by MHC, funded through HUD, showed the deleterious effect of homelessness on the educational outcome of children. This should be a focus of the Action Plan. While it is a stated goal to prevent homelessness, there does not seem to be a related program to this specific problem.

Louisville Metro Housing Authority Moving to Work Plan (March 22): No one brings home gross earnings. Kentucky does not have an Earned Income Tax Credit. So we actually financially punish people who work by using gross wages. We want to encourage work, so I suggest an Earned Income deduction of some percent, at least to do a pilot with Family Self Sufficiency households. If this works, extend it to all.

Proposed rules of Short Term Rentals (such as AirBnB), (April 14): Parity between zoning classes: one of the issues is the ease with which a unit can be converted - and without neighborhood approval. But we just got through an extensive rewrite on boarding homes which took away the "by right" ability for them to exist and put in a rather intrusive system of reporting. That is 8 people maximum. We now demand a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process, but short-term rentals, which can have MANY more people in the unit, does not require a CUP if it is the primary residence. I see a potential disparity of treatment because- and if you review the hearing on the boarding homes you will see the references to whom we expect to live in them - of race.

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 April 28 - June 30 (Except Thursday, May 5)

**Legal Aid Society Office
416 W Muhammad Ali Blvd
RSVP at 502 584-1254**

Expungement Clinic

Attorneys will be on hand to discuss the expungement process & provide 1-on-1 expungement consultations. Attendees are encouraged to bring an unofficial copy of their criminal record that shows the disposition of each case. A copy of the record may be obtained from Court Archives located in the Old Jail Building at 514 W. Liberty St.

**Thursday, June 9 at 1:00 pm
Louisville Free Public Library
Main Branch, 301 York St.
RSVP not required**

Divorce Clinic

Clients will receive assistance from attorneys in filling out all of the necessary paperwork to file for a divorce.

**Friday, June 10 at 9:30 am
Legal Aid Society
416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
RSVP at 502 584-1254**

Small Claims Clinic

Clients are provided with the forms necessary to file a claim, and an attorney will review completed claims.

**Wednesday, June 15 at 1pm
Legal Aid Society
416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
RSVP at 502 584-1254**

Debt Collection Defense Clinic

Presenter will talk about what one can do if he or she is



**KENTUCKIANS FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH**
34 YEARS OF ACTION FOR JUSTICE

Share your vision for a bright energy future in Kentucky

by **Lisa Abbott, Kentuckians for the
Commonwealth**

Right now, Kentuckians have the opportunity to shape a just transition to a clean energy economy - one that is good for all of us. And it is important for low-income families, people of color, renters, and advocates to have a seat at the table as decisions are made that will affect our health, economic security, and climate.

The US Environmental Protection Agency has asked each state to write a plan to reduce carbon pollution from power plants. This new rule - called the Clean Power Plan - gives states time and flexibility to comply. The rule is temporarily on hold until legal challenges are resolved, but many states and utilities are preparing to move forward.

If a state chooses not to comply, the EPA will impose additional costs directly on its utilities. At the moment, that's the direction Kentucky appears to be headed. If so, our ratepayers can expect to pay more without getting the benefits of reduced pollution, energy saving programs, or clean energy jobs.

Kentuckians For The Commonwealth seeks your vision and ideas about these important issues. **Please complete a brief 4-question survey at www.empowerkentucky.org/survey-landing.**

The input we receive will inform the Empower Kentucky Plan, featuring the best ideas we've gathered to create jobs, improve health, and address racial and economic inequality while also doing our part to protect the climate.

To learn more about this project, please visit www.empowerkentucky.org or contact lisa@kftc.org

AG Beshear, Partners Launch 'Scam Alerts' to Protect Consumers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Press release from May 19, 2016) - Today, Attorney General Andy Beshear joined Kroger, AARP and over 25 other partner organizations to launch Scam Alerts - a text messaging service that notifies consumers when con artists are on

contacted or sued by a debt collector. The presentation will also cover the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

Wed, June 15 at 3:00 pm
Legal Aid Society
416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd
No RSVP required

**Entrepreneur Fair Hosted by
Louisville Free Public Library**
Local organizations that assist first-time and up-and-running entrepreneurs will be on-hand to answer questions and explain their services. The Fair will also include workshops on using the Library's business research tools, how to advertise, and more.

Saturday, June 11
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Louisville Free Public Library
Main Library, 201 York St.,
Auditorium
No RSVP required

Discharge Upgrade Clinic for Veterans

This clinic is for veterans who are interested in trying to amend the nature of the discharge received from military service.

Friday, June 17
1:30 pm
American Legion: Highland
Post 201
2919 Bardstown Rd.
RSVP not required, but
encouraged to call Courtney
Lutz at 502-614-3103

Louisville Urban League
George "G.G." Johnson
Scholarship Golf Scramble

Friday, June 10
11:30 am - Registration,
Silent Auction, & Lunch
1:00 pm - Shotgun Start
[Click here for more info](#)

the attack.

Kentuckians can sign up for Scam Alerts by texting **KYOAG Scam to GOV311 (468311)**. Or, enroll online at ag.ky.gov/scams and select text message or email alert.

"Today we launch a transformational tool in our fight against scams," Beshear said. "For the first time, we are going to be able to directly communicate new or trending scams to the citizens of Kentucky. This new alert system is transforming how Kentucky protects our consumers by warning them the minute my office verifies a reported scam. Our partners from across the state will help us spread the word about the new text alert system so that we can better protect our seniors."

Scam Alerts aim to combat the steep climb in reports of scams targeting Kentuckians by phone, mail and email.

In the past four months Beshear has notified Kentuckians of a [student loan debt relief scam](#), the [Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes](#) scam, a scam targeting victims of [financial fraud](#), [IRS](#) and [federal warrant](#) scams and a [labor law poster scam](#) targeting small-business owners.

Nationally, last year more than 3 million consumers were conned out of \$765 million. Seniors lose nearly \$37 billion a year to elder financial abuse.

Kentucky retailer Kroger hosted the kick-off events today at stores in Louisville and Lexington. As part of Kroger's anti-scam efforts, it requires many money services transactions to be completed at a guest care desk where store associates are trained to identify and assist potential scam victims.

"This partnership will create a flow of information between the Attorney General's office and Kroger," said Janet Neutz, a spokeswoman for Kroger. "When potential scams or fraud is reported we share that information with our associates who are on the front lines helping us ward against scams and fraud for our customers."

AARP Kentucky is also partnering with the AG's office to continue its commitment to help Kentucky seniors sign up for Scam Alerts through its training and outreach programs.

"One of AARP's missions is to help people outsmart con artist before they strike," said Jim Kimbrough, AARP Kentucky state president. "Our goal is to help Kentuckians safeguard against identity theft and scams so they can keep their hard-earned money."

Beshear's announcement came as AARP and the country is honoring Older American's Month, and he offered several tips to help seniors and all Kentuckians stay ahead of scammers.

· **Hang up.** If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, call back to a number you know is genuine. And, avoid robocalls by registering your number on [Kentucky's No Call list](#).

· **Do not pay upfront.** Legitimate businesses and government agencies will not threaten you for upfront payments.

· **Do not wire money or send reloadable credit/gift cards to people you do not know.** Legitimate businesses and government agencies will not require you to use these payment methods.

· **Slow down.** Con artists prey on fear and want to scare you in to taking action very quickly. Before you issue payment or provide your personal information, verify the business by researching it online or calling a family member or neighbor.

· **If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.**

The Office of the Attorney General's Family Branch Unit, which includes the [Office of Consumer Protection](#) and [the Office of Senior Protection](#), is working to make Kentuckians aware of the program and asks those interested in becoming a Scam Alerts partner to call 502-696-5393 or visit ag.ky.gov/scams.

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AG Beshear's press releases are available on his official website at www.ag.ky.gov.

League of Women Voters of Louisville Annual Meeting

Monday, June 6th 2016

**The Louisville Campus of the Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio
Regional Council of Carpenters,
Carpenters Local #175, 1245 Durrett Lane**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Karen Cotton McDaniel

Citizen Award will be presented to former MHC Director Suzy Post.

Dinner is at 6:30 pm. Program is at 7 pm. Business Meeting is at 5 pm.

**Dinner is \$45, Reservations at 895-5218 or
info@lwvlouisville.org**

Dr. McDaniel, a native of Williamsburg, KY, received her PhD in history and Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. Her undergraduate degree is from Berea. She is co-editor of the award-winning Kentucky African American Encyclopedia, 2015. She is author of a forthcoming book on Kentucky's Black club women in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, a work which investigates emale community

activism prior to the modern Civil Rights Movement. She was a tenured full-professor and Director of Libraries when she retired from Kentucky State University.

Dr. McDaniel will autograph copies of her book, Kentucky African American Encyclopedia, which will be available for sale by Carmichael's bookstore from 6:15 to 7:00 p.m. and at the close of the meeting.

Legal Aid Network of Kentucky Launches Volunteer Lawyers for Veterans Program from Legal Aid press release

LOUISVILLE-The Legal Aid Network of Kentucky, which includes the state's four legal aid programs, announces the launch of Volunteer Lawyers for Veterans, a program that encourages Kentucky lawyers to volunteer their time and skill to help our state's low-income veterans resolve civil legal problems in the areas of consumer law, family law, government benefits, and housing. The Volunteer Lawyers for Veterans program streamlines pro bono services for veterans in Kentucky by creating a single point of entry by which veterans across the state can access civil legal services.

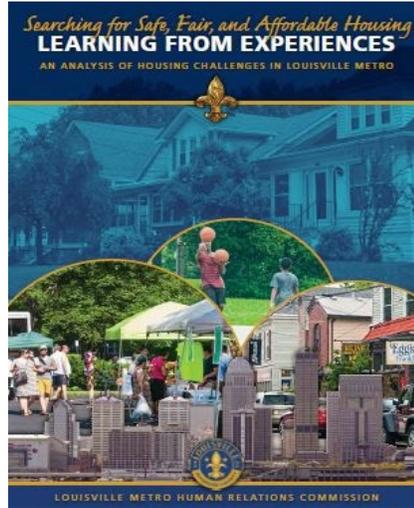
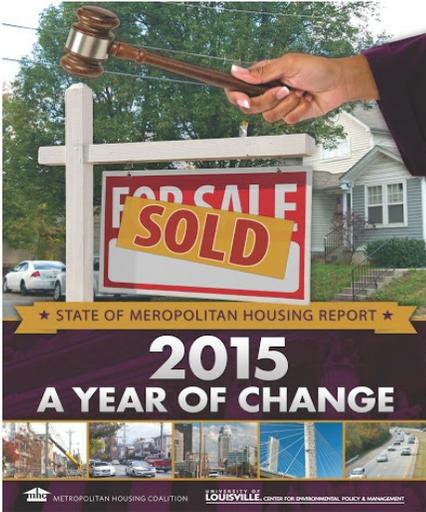
Volunteer Lawyers for Veterans has recently established a statewide toll-free number for veterans who cannot afford an attorney. The toll-free number provides veterans a single point of contact when they face unresolved civil legal issues and need help. The phone number is (844) 268-0VET.

Attorneys interested in serving a veteran should email veterans@laslou.org, or they may directly reach out to their regional legal aid office (Appalachian Research and Development Fund of Kentucky, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, Legal Aid Society, or Kentucky Legal Aid).

The Volunteer Lawyers for Veterans Program is made possible in part through a grant provided by the Legal Services Corporation.

The Legal Aid Society is a non-profit organization that provides civil legal assistance to families and individuals in poverty in 15 counties in Kentucky. It is the only organization in Louisville and the surrounding counties that provides legal services free of charge. Clients turn to Legal Aid for civil legal problems that threaten their physical and economic well-being. Those assisted include the elderly, children, victims of domestic violence, and other vulnerable groups.

Last year, the Legal Aid Society helped over 4,000 people who had nowhere else to turn.



Check Out the 2015 SMHR & LMHRC Reports Online!

Over the past few newsletters, we've highlighted our 2015 State of Metropolitan Housing Report and Louisville Metro Human Relation Commission's report: *Making Louisville Home for Us All: A 20-Year Action Plan for Fair Housing*. Both reports (along with previous SMHR's and other reports) are available online at:

<http://www.metropolitanhousing.org/resources/mhc-reports/>

On behalf of MHC's Board of Directors & Staff, we want to thank 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
Daniel Garvey
Kenneth & Sharon Bohnert
Martha McIntire
Tom Miron
Lisa Osanka
Sally & Richard Johnson
Vision Homes LLC

Bernard & Mary Ellert
Kathryn Hagerty
Mary & James Henry
Jim Mims
New Directions Housing Corporation
Candice Payton
Sandra Riley Bryant
Judie Westmeier

Did you know?

MHC's recent successful advocacy work on

the LG&E/KU meter rate case saved You nearly \$20 on your monthly bill! Almost \$240 a year!

MHC's work to advance safe, fair, and affordable housing in our community positively impacts YOU in many ways. Increase that impact by becoming a member of MHC.

Our members support and guide our work.

Become a part of the coalition or renewing your membership with a donation TODAY!

Donations to MHC may be made via mail at PO Box 4533 Louisville, KY 40204 or via our Web site at metropolitanhousing.org

Thank you for your support!



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 through a new program.



Kroger's Community Giving program makes it easier than ever to support your 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 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.