



METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION

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

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



Greetings!



Landmark Victories on Fair Housing by Cathy Hinko

On August 27th, the Louisville Metro council approved the first step in removing the legal barriers of zoning. The fair housing movement has achieved its first victory, but there are many necessary steps ahead of us. Become part of history and join MHC in our crusade for fair and affordable housing. Let your voices be heard and contact us!

Facebook - www.facebook.com/mhclouisville

Twitter - www.twitter.com/mhclouisville or @mhclouisville

Phone - (502)-584-6858

Email - michael@metropolitanhousing.org or
cathy@metropolitanhousing.org

This above vote is timely because on June 25 of this year, the United States Supreme Court issued an opinion in Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, et al. v. Inclusive Communities Project, Inc., et al., confirming the way disparate-impact fair housing cases can be proved. The original allegation was that the state of Texas allocated federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits in a manner which continued segregated housing in black inner-city areas. The case relied on statistical evidence to establish that there was a negative disparate-impact on a protected class.

Quoting the opinion of the Court, "[t]he underlying dispute in this case concerns where housing for low-income persons should be constructed in Dallas, Texas- that is, whether the housing should be built in the inner city or in the suburbs."

The critical legal point that the Court affirmed is that disparate-

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**

impact claims are cognizable under the Fair Housing Act. The proof may be statistical, and does not require proving motive. The proof must show that the activity causes the fair housing violation and that it has a disparate, negative impact on fair housing protected classes. Once that is established, a second consideration is whether there are other less discriminatory practices that can be used.

Within the Court's opinion are several important points that make Louisville vulnerable to a disparate-impact claim in fair housing: 1) geography matters, 2) where low-income people live can be entwined with racial segregation through statistics, 3) a case can be made without having to prove intent, only impact and causation, and 4) we can look at whether there are other, less discriminatory ways to carry out the activity.

The prevalence of intense segregation is undeniable. The role of zoning in creating small geographic areas where techniques for affordable housing may be used is well proven; conversely, the role of zoning in creating geographic areas where it is impossible to use techniques for affordable housing is equally proven. Zoning practices are a clear cause of the perpetuation of segregation. However, there are definitely other, less discriminatory ways to have residential zoning.

In a second landmark affirmation on the importance of fair housing, HUD released its final regulation on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing and the requirements of jurisdictions to take pro-active steps to "replace segregated living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights fair housing laws." This new regulation mandates that many systems (like transportation, air pollution, public works) be considered together to see if they further fair housing or prevent opportunities. The Louisville Metro Housing Authority will no longer plan separately from Metro government as they do now. Instead, one joint plan will have to be presented to HUD in the future.

Equity for LIHEAP

Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 2:00 PM
Louisville Metro Council's Intergovernmental
Affairs Committee
601 W. Jefferson Street, 3rd Floor

The Louisville Metro Council's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee will review the LIHEAP program for equity for our city on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 2:00, located at 601 W. Jefferson, on the 3rd floor. It is an open meeting.

The federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is one of the most important programs to assist in the

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.

Affordable Housing
Committee meets
QUARTERLY
12pm, 3rd Wednesday,
Upcoming: September 16,
December 16

Education and Advocacy
Committee meets
QUARTERLY
3:30pm, 2nd TUE at New
Directions Housing Corp.,
1000 E. Liberty
Upcoming: August 11,
November 10

FREE Energy Management
Workshop (3 dates)
Learn what you can do to make
your house or apartment more
energy efficient and take home a
weatherization kit.

1:00-2:30pm,
Wednesday August 26
First Neighborhood Place
1503 Rangeland Rd
Register at 502-963-3175

10:00-11:30am,
Saturday, October 17
Cane Run Elementary School
3951 Cane Run Rd 40211
Register at 502-485-8193

payment of utilities during the winter. Federal funds are allocated to the state, and the state has a lot of latitude to design the program. There are two components to LIHEAP: 1) **the subsidy portion** and 2) **the crisis portion**.

MHC has noticed that Jefferson County "could not spend" all its crisis money and was handing LIHEAP funds back to the state. However, there are 4,000 shutoffs per month while LIHEAP is available, and this jumps to 7,000 per month after it is unavailable, there are countless people in our community still in need. What could possibly be the reason that Jefferson County cannot fully distribute utility assistance?

MHC studied Kentucky's policies governing the crisis component. We found that there is a deliberate and systemic bias to syphon off funds for urban areas so extra funds may be redistributed to non-urban areas, therefore undermining the distribution mandated by the federal law.

MHC calls this deliberate because we wrote the state cabinet two years ago, but, although the acknowledged our comments, the state did nothing to address this inequity although other states have radically different programs.

It is depressing to see a program that is structured to fail being renewed without change every year. It is heartbreaking and an injustice because it causes human misery.

One solution is to make LIHEAP a year-round program using best practice of states using these funds year round. It would allow a better service delivery to citizens.

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!

**1:00-2:30pm,
Thursday, November 12
South Central Neighborhood
Place 4255
Hazelwood Ave 40215
Register at 502-485-7135**

**ACLU of Kentucky
Reproductive Freedom
Project's Annual Benefit**

**5:00-8:00pm,
Saturday, September 12
732 East Market St., 40202**

**Tickets: Donations, \$25
suggested minimum
Purchase [online](#)**

**Join Flanagan's Ale House in
supporting
Dona O'Sullivan Fund to Fight
Homelessness**

**Monday, September 14
934 Baxter Avenue 40204
502.585.3700**

**100% of net proceeds from
sales will be contributed**

**Daughters of Greatness,
featuring Dawne Gee**

**8:30-10:00am
Friday, September 18
Muhammad Ali Center
144 North Sixth St 40202**

**Throughout the year, the
Daughters of Greatness
breakfast series invites
prominent women engaged in
social philanthropy, activism
and pursuits of justice to
share their stories with the
Louisville community. The
Daughters of Greatness series
provides a place for dialogue
and discussion on current
issues of justice, community
engagement, and social
movements within the**



Introducing MHC's new Development Director by Michael Kolodziej

Hello, my name is Michael Kolodziej, and I'm MHC's new Development Director! I was born and raised in Northwest Indiana, 20 minutes from Chicago. I received my Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University where I met my wife, Rachel. We decided to move to Louisville, where Rachel was born, for graduate school at U of L. She received a Master's in Social Work & Marriage and Family Therapy, and I received my Master's in Public Administration specializing in Nonprofit Management. While in school, I worked for Metro United Way as a loaned executive and YMCA Safe Place Services as a grant writer.

While attending IU, my parents moved to Gary. Like Louisville, Gary was listed as 1 of the 10 worst cities for concentrated black poverty. On my first visit I saw vacant lots, shuttered businesses, and buildings abandoned for 40 years. Downtown, they have simply painted the facades of abandoned buildings.

I love Louisville as it is my home, where Rachel and I plan to raise a family. Louisville has not faced the plight of Gary, so it's an embarrassment to be on that list. There is so much we can improve in Louisville, and I believe it is imperative that we unite as a community to fight for fair and affordable housing. I am enthralled for this opportunity, and I plan to use my passion and energy to help make Louisville a better place.



Give Local Louisville

On October 1st, MHC is taking part in the biggest day of local giving, Give Local Louisville. Organized by the Community Foundation of Louisville, Give Local Louisville is an opportunity for us and hundreds of other nonprofits in the Greater Louisville area to take part in 24 hours of online charitable giving.

Your generous support of MHC shows your commitment to our work, which is why we are reaching out to you now. During Give Local Louisville, each dollar that we raise will be augmented through proportionate match and prize dollars, giving us a chance

Louisville area and beyond.
To learn more or reserve seating please visit [here](#).
\$20 Ali Center Members
\$25 Non-members
\$15 Students with ID

**Kentucky Heritage Council
Strong Towns Conference**
September 24-25
Thursday, 9am-5:30pm
Friday, 9am-12:30pm
KY Center for the Performing Arts, Bomhard Theater
Explore ways citizens and community leaders in cities, towns and neighborhoods can work together to create common goals that support long-term financial solvency, by looking differently at land, transportation systems, infrastructure and the existing built environment - resources that must be viewed as shared assets.
\$25 Preregistered, good for both days
\$35 at the door

The Fifteenth Annual Nonprofit Conference and Pyramid Awards of Excellence
Tuesday, October 6
Pyramid Awards of Excellence Luncheon 12:30-2:00pm
[Luncheon Registration](#)
2015 Annual Conference, Full Day 7:30am-3:55pm
[Conference Registration](#)
Galt House Hotels & Suites
140 North Fourth Street
Room Location: East Tower

The Annual Kentucky Hispanic, Immigrant, & Refugee Networking Summit

to increase our total support. Give Local Louisville provides us the chance to have an immediate impact on our organization and the community.

Last year, in the first Give Local Louisville, 166 participating nonprofits raised an astounding \$1.89M in 24 hours - with the help of generous donors like you. This year, more than 250 nonprofits will participate. With this many nonprofits participating, we can't help but create significant momentum throughout the community! We hope to use this opportunity to engage supporters of MHC's work, giving us a chance to access the additional prize pool and match dollars.

I'm writing you today because we need your help to make October 1 the biggest day of local giving for our community. Give Local Louisville provides MHC the opportunity to raise a substantial amount of money and to spread awareness about our work throughout Louisville in a single day, which could benefit us greatly. So please mark your calendar, spread the word, and donate online on October 1 at www.givelocallouisville.org!

**Hosted by: the Kentucky
Commission on Human Rights
9:00am - 3:00pm
Thursday, October 8th
Shelby County UK
Cooperative Extension Office
1117 Frankfort Rd. Kentucky
Registration is free**



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.

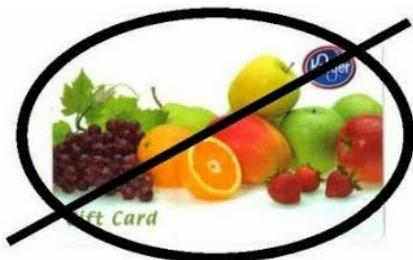
5) When Metropolitan Housing Coalition appears on the list, select us by clicking the circle next to our name. Then click "Save" to save MHC as your designated organization.

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 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.