



**MHC's 2012 Annual Meeting
Keynote Speaker is Dory Rand of the
Woodstock Institute-**

***"Preserving Communities in the
Wake of the Foreclosure Crisis"***

Tuesday, June 26

**Kentucky Center for African American Heritage
1701 West Muhammad Ali Boulevard**

Join us for the 23rd MHC Annual Meeting! Keynote speaker Dory Rand will focus on the disproportionate impact of foreclosures on minority communities and the way the foreclosure crisis and the vacant property crisis are entwined. And, of course, she will posit strategies for addressing these issues on the local level.

Dory Rand is President of Woodstock Institute, a leading nonprofit research and policy organization based in Chicago. She has nearly 30 years' experience in Chicago's legal and nonprofit community, including legal positions with the Community Investment Unit at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, and the ACLU of Illinois. She serves on the Board of Directors of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition and the State Banking Board of Illinois. She previously served on the Federal Reserve Board's Consumer Advisory Council and the Community Development Financial Institution Coalition board. She has published and presented extensively and appeared in national and local media.

Woodstock Institute is a leading non-profit research and policy organization in the areas of fair lending, wealth creation, and financial systems reform. Most of Woodstock's recent research relates to the foreclosure crisis, its impact on communities of color, and its relationship to vacant properties. For example, *Struggling to Stay Afloat* documents the extent of negative home equity in the Chicago region and how it is much more pervasive in communities of color. Another recent report, *Left Behind*, documents the extent of mortgage servicers walking away from foreclosure actions in Chicago, leaving vacant abandoned properties in limbo and causing neighborhood blight. Go to www.woodstockinst.org to see these reports and learn more about their work.

Reserve your tickets for the 2012 MHC Annual Meeting by returning the form on page 4 or by going to www.metropolitanhousing.org, where you can also find more information about the event. Event sponsorships and scholarship tickets are still available. If you are interested in becoming a n Annual Meeting sponsor or would like to be considered for a scholarship ticket, call Curtis Stauffer at 584-6858 or email curtisstauffer@metropolitanhousing.org.

**Three LOKL Clinics Will Provide
Homeowners with Free Legal Help to
Address Unpaid Property Taxes**

Local Options for Kentucky Liens (LOKL) is a coalition of community-based organizations advocating for policies that will help Louisville Metro restore our vacant and abandoned properties with a best practices approach to land banking, tax-delinquent properties, and tax foreclosure.

In partnership with the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, LOKL will be hosting three clinics that will help homeowners address their unpaid property taxes before they are offered to sale to third-party speculators on July 18. At the clinics, homeowners will be able to talk with the County Attorney about their delinquent property taxes. The County Attorney can enter homeowners into a payment plan where they can pay off the balance of their taxes over a 5-month period. By doing this, they will avoid having their bills sold to a tax lien speculator. Also, the clinics will offer a variety of resources to help homeowners with Homestead or Disability Exemptions, past delinquent taxes, job searches, information about repairs to homes, and many other programs and services.

The clinics will be held on:

- June 7 at Presbyterian Community Center, 701. S. Hancock Street, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- June 14 at Shively Community Center, 1902 Park Road (off Dixie Highway), 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- July 5 at Northwest Neighborhood Place, Shawnee High School, 4018 W. Market Street, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

If a homeowner is interested in attending, please bring all relevant documents. For more information, call George Eklund at 618-5892.

Help Build the LOKL Coalition! LOKL supports comprehensive legislative reform that will: 1) allow local governments to retain control over the future of taxable properties; 2) modernize tax foreclosure in the state to allow local government to seize abandoned properties; and 3) update the land bank statutes in Kentucky in order to allow those governments to efficiently return tax-delinquent properties to productive use. These reforms will give local governments the 21st-century tools they need to effectively fight the 21st-century problem of vacant and abandoned property while protecting vulnerable homeowners from the high costs of tax lien sales and foreclosure.

Building a strong, grassroots, statewide coalition is essential for legislative success. Go to www.loklcoalition.org to learn more about LOKL's efforts to provide Kentucky's communities with the tools they need to fight the blight. Help build LOKL's strength by adding your organization to the coalition through the online form or by joining as an individual.

KIPDA Connecting Kentuckiana Metropolitan Transportation Plan Workshops

The Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA) is hosting Connecting Kentuckiana public hearings as it updates the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. KIPDA is the metropolitan planning organization that serves the Louisville-Southern Indiana area, which includes Jefferson, Bullitt and Oldham counties in Kentucky and Clark and Floyd counties in Indiana. These hearings are your chance to affect our region's long-term transportation planning and funding- including roads and public transportation. The Connecting Kentuckiana Initiative seeks to provide residents with the opportunity to share the challenges they face every day as they travel throughout the region and their priorities for future funding.

KIPDA has scheduled 25 workshops, beginning May 14, where residents can provide KIPDA staff with their input. Once the data is collected, the information will be compiled and used to create a set of solutions that will also be subject to public review. Written comments may be sent to KIPDA by e-mail at kipda.trans@ky.gov, by fax at (502) 266-5047 or by mail to Connecting Kentuckiana, KIPDA, 11520 Commonwealth Drive, Louisville, KY 40299. Information is also available at www.connectingkentuckiana.com or by calling Josh Suiter at 266-6084.

The remaining scheduled Connecting Kentuckiana open house workshops are listed below. All will be held from 5:00- 7:00 p.m. and residents can come and go as they need to.

- May 21- Highland Hills Middle School, 3492 Edwards Galena Rd., Georgetown
- May 21- Louisville Science Center, 727 W. Main St.
- May 24- St. Matthews City Hall, 3940 Grandview Ave.
- May 29- Iroquois Library, 601 W. Woodlawn Ave.
- May 31- NIA Center, 2900 W. Broadway
- June 4- Urban Government Center, 810 Barret Ave.
- June 4- 395 Paroquet Springs Center, Shepherdsville
- June 5- Griffin Street Recreation Center, 1140 Griffin St., New Albany
- June 5- City of Mt. Washington Annex Building, 186 Branham Way
- June 7- Republic Bank, 9600 Brownsboro Rd.
- June 7- Southwest Regional Library, 10375 Dixie Highway
- June 11- Newburg Library, 4800 Exeter Ave.
- June 11- Jeffersontown Community Center, 10617 Taylorsville Rd.
- June 12- Charlestown Library, 51 Clark Rd.
- June 12- Fairdale Library, 10620 Manslick Rd.
- June 18- Bon Air Library, 2816 Del Rio Place
- June 19- Fern Creek Library, 6786 Bardstown Rd.
- June 21- Clarksville Town Hall, 2000 Broadway
- June 25- Crescent Hill Library, 2762 Frankfort Ave.
- June 28- Ken Ellis Community Center, 1425 Pennsylvania Ave., Jeffersonville.

Land Development Code Review- Get Involved!

Zoning and the Land Development Code (LDC) have been hot topics at MHC community events. At both the 2012 Fair Housing Month forum, held on April 16, and the May 15 meeting of the Louisville Vacant Properties Campaign (LVPC), Michael Hill from Louisville Metro Planning & Design Services made a presentation providing an overview of laws governing land use in Louisville.

In a recent email, we also encouraged you to contact Metro Council Members to ask that they make changes to LDC only after careful consideration of any impacts created by the changes and with respect to the LDC revision process underway. There are concerns by some Council Members about the density of housing development in certain zones. An "emergency" resolution changing to the LDC was proposed, but it was withdrawn before the vote- in part due to the community response. A tentative administrative resolution is now proposed to address Council members' concerns. Thanks to those who contacted Metro Council!

The LDC is currently under review. Louisville Metro has appointed a 14-member LDC Improvement Committee consisting of Louisville Metro Government staff, representatives from the development industry, and some representatives from neighborhood groups. Round 2 of the LDC review begins on May 22 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at 444 S. 5th Street. Round 2 will focus on more controversial issues than the minor Round 1 edits completed in January. This stage of the LDC revision will provide an opportunity to advocate for changes to the code that can further fair housing choice and facilitate infill re-development of our urban neighborhoods. Go to <http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PlanningDesign/Land+Development+Code+Improvement+Committee.htm> for more information. If you have questions about the LDC review or would like to make comment, please contact Michael Hill at 574-6230 or michael.hill@louisvilleky.gov.

Get involved with the LDC review if you care about fair housing, affordable housing, and sustainability!

Rachel Hurst Named Executive Director of Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund

It has been a long journey- and it is not over- to getting a viable local Affordable Housing Trust Fund. But LAHTF Executive Director Rachel Hurst will be working with all of you as the LAHTF moves forward. Rachel has worked with local and state organizations on a range of social justice issues- from refugee resettlement to civil rights for the LGBT community. Many of us know her from her work with the Coalition for the Homeless, particularly on the issue of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The office is just getting organized, but you send can send your congratulations to Rachel at 1469 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40208.

Schedule of Events

June 12- Fair Housing Coalition Meeting. New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty Street, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

June 19- Louisville Vacant Properties Campaign George Eklund of the Network Center for Community Change will be teaching a seminar to show how you can use online resources to learn more about problem properties- including ownership and liens. Join us for this very important meeting of the LVPC. Space is limited, so please RSVP in advance by emailing info@metropolitanhousing.org. New Directions, 1000 E. Liberty Street, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

June 26- 2012 MHC Annual Meeting. Features Dory Rand, President of the Woodstock Institute, as Keynote Speaker. For more information, refer to the form on page 4 or go to www.metropolitanhousing.org. Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, 170 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd. Social Hour- 5:15 p.m. Dinner and Presentation 6:15 p.m.

June 7, June 14, & July 5- LOKL Clinics Provide Free Legal Help for Homeowners with Unpaid Property Taxes. For more information, refer to the article on page 1. **June 7-** Presbyterian Community Center, 701. S. Hancock Street, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **June 14** -Shively Community Center, 1902 Park Road (off Dixie Highway), 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. **July 5** - Northwest Neighborhood Place, Shawnee High School, 4018 W. Market Street, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

May 24 & 31- Bank On Louisville Adult Financial Education Classes. If income-eligible Jefferson County residents attend three workshops, they will earn a \$50 savings account. To RSVP or for more information, call 574-5156 or email BankOnLouisville@louisvilleky.gov. All classes at Baxter Community Center, 1125 Cedar Court. May 24: Budgeting & Direct Deposit, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. May 31 Building & Maintaining Good Credit, 11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Start Fresh, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

May 26- Preservation Louisville's 2012 Top 10 Endangered Places, and Preservation Successes. An ice cream social at the Comfy Cow-one of the preservation successes. For more information email director@preservationlouisville.org or call 540-5146. 2221 Frankfort Avenue, 2:00 p.m.

May 29- NC3 "Take A Look at Housing in the Shawnee Community. The Network Center for Community Change (NC3) is hosting a forum to discuss their community mapping project in Shawnee. Discussion will focus on ideas about how the community can take action on vacant properties in the area. For more information, call 583-1426 or email jpotish@makechangetogether.org. Shawnee Public Library, 3912 W. Broadway, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

June 1- Center for Neighborhoods Grassroots Gala. The authentic celebration of all Louisville neighborhoods- where they showcase their individual character and unique assets. Features food trucks, a raffle and a meet and greet with the authors of *Two Centuries of Black Louisville*. For more information, call 589.0343 or email lisad@centerforneighborhoods.org. Gala: S. 4th Street between Chestnut & Broadway, 4:00- 10:00 p.m. Author Meet & Greet: Henry Clay Building 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

June 5- Community Action Poverty Simulation. In this hands-on experience, you will come face-to-face with poverty over one simulated month. You will participate in everyday tasks like working, shopping, paying bills, contributing to a family, and navigating a realistic system of service providers. For more information or to register, go to www.cnpe.org, call 315-2673, or email membershiplearning@cnpe.org. George G. Brown Center at Frazier Hall, Bellarmine University, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

June 8-10- 2012 Sustainable + Attainable Home Show. Louisville's first affordable, eco-friendly Home Show featuring ENERGY STAR-rated homes furnished by local designers and furniture stores. Admission is free with a donation of one canned good or \$5 per person. For more information, go to www.WeAreHPI.org or call 814.2725. The Housing Partnership, Inc's Sunset Gardens Community, 3212 South Crums Lane (park at Crums Lane Elementary). June 8: 12:00 - 6:00 p.m., June 9: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., June 10: 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

June 9- Kentucky Habitat for Humanity Tornado Recovery Event. Kentucky Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with Morehead Area HfH, will be hosting an inaugural event for Tornado Recovery with the first 2 families impacted from the March 2 tornados. Join us first in Crockett, KY and then in Frenchburg, KY to begin the celebration of rebuilding hope, homes and lives. We would also welcome any individuals and/or groups who would like to volunteer during the long term recovery of these impacted areas. Contact Mary Shearer at 608-7041 or mary@kyhfh.org to volunteer or for more information.

June 9- New Directions Southern Indiana Repair

June 16- New Directions Louisville Metro Repair Affair. New Directions' Repair Affair mobilizes community-wide resources and volunteers to support the home repair needs of elderly and disabled homeowners of low income in Louisville and Southern Indiana. To volunteer, call 719-7130 or email volunteer@ndhc.org.

June 14-The Housing Partnership, Inc.'s 2012 Annual Dinner The Housing Partnership, Inc. is celebrating 23 years of strengthening the Louisville community through housing opportunities and education. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Terry Stinnett at 814-2711, or tstinnett@WeAreHPI.org. Grand Ballroom at the Galt House East, 140 N. 4th Street. -Reception and photography exhibit, 5:00 p.m. Dinner and Program, 6:00 p.m.

June 27- Urban League Community Career Expo-Jeffersontown. For more information, contact Tina Woods at 566-3371 or ewoods@lul.org. Jeffersontown Community Center, 10617 Taylorsville Road, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Until October 8- Sign Up for 2012 Project Warm Weatherization Blitz. This is a free service for senior citizens or people with disabilities on fixed incomes. Volunteers will install clear, interior window covers on Saturday, November 3 and Saturday, November 10. There's still time and space on the calendar to get on the list for Project Warm's 2012 Blitz. This program depends on volunteers so there's no guarantee that everyone will be served, although every effort will be made to do so. Apply online at www.projectwarm.org. For more information, call Project warm at 636-9276, or email info@projectwarm.org

You're Invited to the 2012 MHC Annual Meeting on June 26!

Social Hour- 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Dinner and Presentation- 6:15 p.m.

Kentucky Center for African American Heritage

1701 W. Muhammad Ali Boulevard

Keynote Speaker: Dory Rand, President of the Woodstock Institute

Topic: Preserving Communities in the Wake of the Foreclosure Crisis

Tickets- \$60

Purchase your tickets online at www.metropolitanhousing.org or
mail this form to MHC, P.O. Box 4533, Louisville, KY 40204-4533.

Scholarships and event sponsorships are still available.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

- I would like _____ individual tickets - \$60 each
- I would like _____ tables of eight - \$500 each
- I would like to donate _____ tickets for low-income attendees - \$60 each
- I cannot attend, but wish to make a contribution of \$ _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____ **Number of Vegan Meals Required** _____

Method of Payment (check one): ___ Check ___ Visa ___ MC ___ Amex ___ Discover

Credit Card Number _____ **Expiration Date (month/year)** _____



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