



MIAMI VALLEY FAIR HOUSING CENTER NEWSLETTER

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JIM MCCARTHY, PRESIDENT/CEO

Miami Valley Fair Housing Center expands into the Columbus area with the opening of the Central Ohio Fair Housing Association, Inc. (COFHA)

The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center (MVFHC) is pleased to announce some exciting news—we are expanding our service delivery area to include Columbus, Franklin, and Delaware counties in Ohio. The Board of Directors voted in April 2013 to authorize the expansion. Since then MVFHC has created a new organization that will be known as the Central Ohio Fair Housing Association (COFHA), and hired the first full-time staff member for COFHA.



Thom Curnutte began training as a Fair Housing Specialist with MVFHC in Dayton on May 19, 2014. Mr. Curnutte holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, with minors in English Literature and Religious Studies from Marshall University in Huntington, WV. As a Fair Housing Specialist working from Columbus, Mr. Curnutte will be conducting outreach throughout Columbus and Franklin County publicizing the

Central Ohio Fair Housing Association and conducting educational workshops on the rights that individuals have under federal and state fair housing laws. One of the first outreach activities for COFHA will be staffing an education and outreach booth at the 2014 LGBT Pride Festival in Goodale Park on Friday, June 20th and Saturday, June 21st.

In addition, MVFHC is working closely with Raphael Davis-Williams, of the Law Office of Spater & Davis-Williams, LLC. Mr. Davis-Williams is committed to representing victims

of housing discrimination and was mentored by civil rights pioneer Sandy Spater before his untimely passing in the fall of 2013. Mr. Davis-Williams will be serving on the Board of Directors of COFHA, and will be recruiting additional Columbus-based individuals to serve as board members.



Please join us on Saturday, August 23 for the 10th Annual Waikiki Party Fundraiser. You won't want to miss this evening of food, drink, live music, fun and lots of great raffle prizes. Raffle tickets are available from any Miami Valley Fair Housing board member or staff member for \$5 each or five (5) for \$20.

When: Saturday, August 23, 2014 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Where: Sinclair Conference Center Great Hall

Cost: \$75 per person. Reserve a table of 8 for \$600

Register: online at www.mvfairhousing.com/waikiki or call our office at (937) 223-6035

A History of the Waikiki Party

The first Waikiki Party, originally called the Tiki Party, was held in the summer of 2005. The venue where it was to be held wasn't quite finished being constructed, so at the last minute it was moved to the home and backyard of MVFHC President/CEO Jim McCarthy and his husband David Dailey. Adding to the stress of notifying over 100 attendees of the location change, the Miami Valley Fair Housing staff also decorated, set up tables and chairs, prepared the food for the evening, did the bar-tending and washed dishes. In subsequent years the event was hosted in other venues. Fast forward 10 years – Waikiki has evolved into a well-organized event in the Sinclair Conference Center Great Hall with over 250 guests, dozens of raffle prizes, live music and Hawaiian food catered by professional banquet staff.





Join the Fun!

Summer PROGRAM



Youth residents of 45417 are eligible to receive a \$75 gift card to the Greater Dayton Recreation Center at Roosevelt Commons



FREE



Gift card enables youth (ages 17 and under) to purchase a combo pass redeemable for use of fitness area, aquatic drop-in, and fitness class participation. Other options available to kids are to redeem for aquatic passes, karate classes, swimming lessons, camp fees, aquatic drop-in, or athletic program registration.

**In person registration for Gift Cards at
Greater Dayton Recreation Center at Roosevelt Commons**

Must present proof of residence in zip code 45417



Made possible by a grant from the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center's Inclusive Community Fund

The Movie Corner



Brick by Brick: A Civil Rights Story
 Produced and Directed by Bill Kavanagh

[Brick by Brick: A Civil Rights Story](#) follows three families in a contemporary American battle for equal opportunity. One city's struggle over racial discrimination and how to redress long-standing institutional housing segregation is the subject of a confrontation that challenges and changes Yonkers, New York. Drawn deeply into the conflict, the people in Brick by Brick: A Civil Rights Story show how contemporary America confronts the issues of race and opportunity. Through their city's crucible, they deal with the meaning of civil rights in a current-day context.

To view the trailer [click here](#)



Congratulations MVFHC !



The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center placed 3rd in the *Dayton Business Journal's* Best Places to Work Award. There were 165 companies nominated this year and only 25 made the final cut.



Mark your calendars
 for these
UPCOMING EVENTS!

- July 12—19 [Franklin County Fair](#)
- August 8—14 [Miami County Fair](#)
- August 16 [Hispanic Heritage Festival](#) from 11 am to 11 pm at RiverScape
- August 23 **10th Annual Waikiki Fundraiser—visit our website for registration and raffle prize info!!**
www.mvfairhousing.com
- August 23 [African American Cultural Festival](#) from noon to 8 pm
- Aug 27—Sep 1 [Montgomery County Fair](#)

MVFHC Mission Statement

The mission of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center (MVFHC) is to eliminate housing discrimination and ensure equal housing opportunity for all people in our region.

Specifically, the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center seeks to eliminate housing discrimination against all persons because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, or any other characteristic protected under state or local laws. In furthering this goal, MVFHC engages in activities designed to encourage fair housing practices through educational efforts; assists person who believe they have been victims of housing discrimination; identifies barriers to fair housing in order to help counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices; works with elected and government representatives to protect and improve fair housing laws; and takes all appropriate and necessary action to ensure that fair housing laws are properly and fairly enforced throughout the Miami Valley.

MVFHC Vision Statement

The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center recognizes the importance of “home” as a component of the American dream. We envision a country free of housing discrimination where every individual, group and community enjoys equal housing opportunity and access in a bias-free and open housing market. We envision a country where integrated neighborhoods are the norm, and private and public sectors guarantee civil rights in an open and barrier-free community committed to healing the history of discrimination in America.

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