



# MIAMI VALLEY FAIR HOUSING CENTER NEWSLETTER

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JIM MCCARTHY, PRESIDENT/CEO

## Join us in April for Fair Housing Month

This coming April marks the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act. The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center will celebrate the passage of this landmark federal law on Thursday, April 5, 2018 with workshops and a luncheon at Sinclair Community College. Keynote speaker is Nikole Hannah-Jones.

Investigative journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones covers racial injustice for The New York Times Magazine, and has spent years chronicling the way official policy has created—and maintains—racial segregation in housing and schools. She was named a 2017 MacArthur Genius Grant Fellow for “reshaping national conversations around education reform.” But this is simply the latest honor in a growing list: she’s won a George Polk Award, a Peabody, and a National Magazine Award. She has written extensively on the history of racism and inequality, school resegregation and the disarray of hundreds of desegregation orders, and the decades-long failure of the federal government to enforce the landmark 1968 Fair Housing Act. She is currently writing a book on school segregation called *The Problem We All Live With*, to be published on the One World imprint of Penguin/Random House.



*Nikole Hannah-Jones*

There will also be a photo exhibit at Sinclair Community College beginning April 5, 2018 and running through April 28, 2018. The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center has secured 60 photographs taken by Bernard Kleina. This collection of rare, historic photographs was taken during marches in Chicago's Southside Marquette Park neighborhood, the site of the most violent reaction by local white residents towards open housing; at an address to a crowd of more than 50,000 at Soldier Field; during a march from Soldier Field to Chicago City Hall, led by Dr. King; and an earlier demonstration at Chicago City Hall in 1965, also led by Dr. King.

Additional workshop information and registration will be available in the coming months.

## Meet Your Miami Valley Fair Housing Center Board Members

*Each issue we will introduce a member of the MVFHC Board of Directors*

Paul Bradley is currently in the middle of his first term as a member of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Board. He currently lives in the Oregon District in downtown Dayton with his wife, Caitlin Jacob and his cat, Peyton. Paul and Caitlin were married this past October in Michigan and are both very proud alumni of the University of Dayton. Paul is a member of Dayton Rotary and an executive board member for the Montgomery County Democratic Party.

Paul has lived in Dayton since 2005 and is currently the Director of Government Relations and Advancement for Antioch University. Prior to working for Antioch, he served as Senator Sherrod Brown's regional representative in Southwest Ohio for almost seven years. It was through this work that he gained such an appreciation for the challenges the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center faces and the incredible work they do in safeguarding fair housing rights for the entire region.



*Paul Bradley  
MVFHC Board Member*

## Fair Housing Updates

### Requirements for New Buildings

In buildings that are ready for first occupancy after March 13, 1991 and have an elevator and four or more units:

- Public and common areas must be accessible to persons with disabilities
- Doors and hallways must be wide enough for wheelchairs
- All units must have:
  - ✓ An accessible route into and through the unit
  - ✓ Accessible light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats and other environmental controls
  - ✓ Reinforced bathroom walls to allow later installation of grab bars and
  - ✓ Kitchens and bathrooms that can be used by people in wheelchairs

If a building with four or more units has no elevator and will be ready for first occupancy after March 13, 1991, these standards apply to ground floor units.

These requirements for new buildings do not replace any more stringent standards in State or local law.



### Housing Opportunities for Families

Unless a building or community qualifies as housing for older persons, it may not discriminate based on familial status. That is, it may not discriminate against families in which one or more children under 18 live with:

- A parent
- A person who has legal custody of the child or children or
- The designee of the parent or legal custodian, with the parent or custodian's written permission

Familial status protection also applies to pregnant women and anyone securing legal custody of a child under 18.

Exemption: Housing for older persons is exempt from the prohibition against familial status discrimination if:

- The HUD Secretary has determined that it is specifically designed for and occupied by elderly persons under a Federal, State or local government program or
- It is occupied solely by persons who are 62 or older or
- It houses at least one person who is 55 or older in at least 80 percent of the occupied units, and adheres to a policy that demonstrates an intent to house persons who are 55 or older

A transition period permits residents on or before September 13, 1988 to continue living in the housing, regardless of their age, without interfering with the exemption.

*The information in these articles was collected by John Zimmerman, Vice-President of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center from resources from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). To view more information go to <https://portal.hud.gov> and use these search words: "Fair Housing-It's Your Right"*



## Need Continuing Education Credits? Sign up for a Webinar!

Miami Valley Fair Housing, in partnership with the [Greater Dayton Apartment Association](#) will offer one-hour fair housing webinars featuring MVFHC vice president John Zimmerman. Each class qualifies for Continuing Education Credit (CEC) from the National Apartment Association.

The cost of each webinar is \$10, payable via PayPal once you have registered online. [Click here for more webinar information and registration.](#)

### - 2018 Webinars -

- January 10 Fair Housing and the New Anti-Harassment Rule of 2016
- March 14 Fair housing Hot Topics: Service Animals, Reserved Parking, Harassment and Domestic Violence
- May 9 Fair Housing and Online Marketing
- July 11 Fair Housing and Welcoming Immigrants
- September 12 Fair Housing and Welcoming Families with Children
- November 7 Fair Housing and the Issue of Hoarding

**Need a gift idea for the Holidays? Consider giving a MVFHC membership**

Memberships are a great gift idea and help the fair housing center in its mission to eliminate housing discrimination. [Click here for online membership registration.](#)

### The Video Corner



[Click here](#) for a short video produced by the Asian Real Estate Association of America commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act. It addresses Black Lives Matter, immigration, housing and lending discrimination.



- January 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 14 MVFHC Annual Meeting
- March 16 thru March 18 Dayton Home and Garden Show
- April 5 Fair Housing Month Celebration commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the passing of the Fair Housing Act.

#### 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, the State of Ohio, and nationally.

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 persons 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 our region, the State of Ohio, and nationally.

#### 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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