

MIAMI VALLEY



FAIR HOUSING

Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.

21-23 East Babbitt Street

Dayton, OH 45405

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Jim McCarthy, President/CEO

NEWS RELEASE

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FURTHER INFORMATION:

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September 26, 2011, Dayton, OH. The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center (MVFHC) announced that Saturday October 1, 2011 will be its first *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service*. On that Saturday morning from 9:30 am to Noon, a group of volunteers will walk Trotwood neighborhoods distributing information about where and how homeowners having mortgage trouble can get help. The day of service honors Dr. King because he was a great proponent of fighting poverty through increasing the dream of homeownership. Trotwood is an area hard hit with foreclosures and loss of homeownership. Many homeowners are behind on payments due to job loss, an unforeseen medical crisis or an unaffordable predatory loan. Some of these homeowners later become prey to a mortgage rescue scammers who give them false promises of a loan modification for a large upfront fee, and then, they never hear from the scammer again. To stop these terrible practices, the Predatory Lending and Foreclosure Solutions Project, a project of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center in collaboration with the HomeOwnership Center of Greater Dayton, have created the *MLK Day of Service* to highlight the services that each organization gives to homeowners struggling to stay in their homes. Additionally, members of the Greater Dayton Realtists Association (GDRA) have volunteered to assist in distributing the important information. “Realtists” are the oldest African American Real Estate Trade Association in the Miami Valley and the United States. Annually the Fair Housing Center plans to pick a Montgomery County neighborhood and conduct direct outreach. This event has been made possible by assistance from Dayton RTA who is providing a driver and one of the RTA Wright Flyer’s to transport volunteers to selected areas in Trotwood. For information, visit www.mvfairhousing.com and www.homeownershipdayton.org.