

# Open Doors

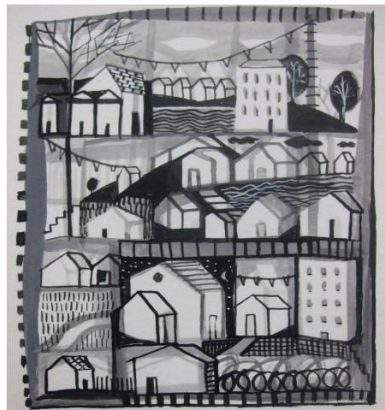
News from the Metropolitan St. Louis  
Equal Housing and Opportunity Council

## Registration Open for EHOc's Fair Housing Conference!

EHOc invites you to the 17th Annual Regional Fair Housing Training  
Conference!

### Breaking Down Barriers to Housing Opportunities: A Community Workshop

#### BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES:



#### A COMMUNITY WORKSHOP



**Friday, April 4, 2014**  
**8:15 AM - 4:30 PM**  
Missouri History Museum  
5700 Lindell Blvd, St Louis, MO 63112

EHOc is excited to announce a packed agenda of speakers and  
workshops for EHOc's 17th Annual Regional Fair Housing Training  
Conference.

The conference will featuring a keynote address by Sara K. Pratt, the  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Programs at the U.S.  
Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing  
and Equal Opportunity (FHEO).

**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**Friday,  
April 4,  
2014**

EHOc's 17th Annual  
Regional Fair  
Housing Training  
Conference

**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

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EHOc is supported  
by a grant through  
the U. S.  
Department of  
Housing & Urban  
Development and  
through grants from  
St. Louis City  
Community  
Development  
Administration, St.  
Louis County and  
from supporters  
like you.

Workshops will focus on three important issues: disparities in health, crime-free housing ordinances, and immigrants. Speakers include doctors and researchers from the [For the Sake of All](#), the director of housing justice at the [Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law](#), and organizers from the [Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates](#).

Registration: \$35, includes continental breakfast, lunch, and Open Door Award Reception.

**[REGISTER ONLINE NOW!](#)**

Online registration through Eventbrite includes a small credit card processing fee. If you wish to register by check, please send check payable to EHOC and enclose [this completed form with your information](#).

Scholarships are available. [Please fill out an online scholarship application here](#). Form must be submitted by February 15 for consideration.

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**Conference AGENDA** (subject to change)

8:15 am - 9:00 am: Registration/Continental Breakfast

9:00 am to 9:15 am: Welcome and Opening Remarks (Lee Auditorium)

9:15 am to 10:15 am: Keynote Speaker (Lee Auditorium)  
**Sara K. Pratt, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO)**

10:15 am to 10:30 am: Break

10:30 am to 11:30 am: **Panel Presentation** (Lee Auditorium)  
 Leaders of afternoon work sessions will define the issues facing each topic area.  
 Dr. Melody Goodman, Assistant Professor, Washington University School of Medicine  
 Kate Walz, Director of Housing Justice, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
 David Nehrt-Flores, Organizer, Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates

11:30 am to 11:45 am: Break

11:45 am to 12:15 pm: **Open Door Awards Presentation** (Lee Auditorium)

12:15 pm to 1:00 pm: Box Lunch--various locations inside and outside Museum

1:00 pm to 2:45 pm: Community Break-out Workshops  
 1 - 2 pm: Presentation  
 2 - 2:45 pm: Action Planning

**A: Disparities in Health**

Speaker: Dr. Jason Purnell, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis  
 This work session will discuss ways to decrease the disparities in health outcomes of African-Americans in the St. Louis and how to increase quality access to health for underserved communities. Research from For the Sake of All, a multi-disciplinary study on the health and well-being of African-Americans in St. Louis, will be presented and the work session will focus on developing an action plan to implement policy recommendations from the research.

**B: Crime-Free Housing Ordinances**

Speaker: Kate Walz, Director, Housing Justice, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
 Recently, many municipalities in the Metro East have enacted crime-free housing ordinances. Crime-free ordinances create barriers for minorities,



**Mission**

The Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing and Opportunity Council (EHOC) works to ensure equal access to housing and places of public accommodation through education, counseling, investigation and enforcement of fair housing laws.

**Services**

**Education** - EHOC provides education about fair housing to consumers as well as to housing providers, real estate agents, local governments, architects and others. If you are a nonprofit organization and would like to set up a workshop, please call 800-555-3951 x7016.

**Fair Housing Complaint Counseling and Investigation** - EHOC assists those who believe they have been discriminated against in housing due to their race, color, religion, national origin, gender, familial status, disability or because of sexual orientation, marital status, age (40+), ancestry, military status, source of income under applicable local laws.

**Tenant Hotline** - EHOC offers a hotline to educate people on Missouri Landlord - Tenant law and to prevent homelessness.

**Support**

EHOC receives support from the U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD); St. Louis City CDA;

victims of domestic violence, and persons with disabilities. EHOc and the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law are concerned that these ordinances create problems for tenants, landlords, and the entire community. This workshop will discuss in detail the problems created by these ordinances and then strategize how to address currently enacted ordinances.

**C: Welcoming Immigrants**

Speaker: David Nehrt-Flores, Organizer, Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates

Along with federal immigration policy, local policies and practices play an important role in how immigrants can live in our communities. MIRA, along with other partners, have been engaging local municipalities to overcome unnecessary barriers for immigrants to access housing, such as restrictive occupancy permit requirements. Additionally, other campaigns are actively focused on efforts to increase the immigrant population in St. Louis. This work session will focus on the policies and practices that hinder the ability of immigrants to feel welcome in the community and will identify ways of promoting best practices throughout our local governments.

2:45 pm to 3:00 pm: Break

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm: **Community Reporting Plenary Session** (Lee Auditorium) Each workshop will present an overview of their action plan or recommendations.

4:00 pm to 4:15 pm: Final Remarks and Closing (Lee Auditorium)

4:30 pm to 5:30 pm: Open Door Award Reception (off-site)  
\*St. Louis Italian Restaurant & Pizza Company  
310 DeBaliviere Ave., St. Louis, MO;

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Sponsored by: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, St. Louis City Community Development Administration, St. Louis County, State Farm, and the Missouri Commission on Human Rights.

Are you interested in sponsoring? Contact Elisabeth Risch, [erisch@ehoc-stl.org](mailto:erisch@ehoc-stl.org) or 314-534-5800 ext. 7012.

**SLEHCRA Receives 2014 Organization Award!**



**St. Louis Equal Housing & Community Reinvestment Alliance**

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., State Celebration Commission of Missouri has selected the St. Louis Equal Housing and Community Reinvestment Alliance (SLEHCRA) as the recipient of the 2014 Organization Award!

SLEHCRA received the award at the Kick-Off Program on Saturday, January 11, 2014 at Harris-Stowe State University. Nationally syndicated columnist and journalist, Roland Martin was the keynote speaker for the event.

St. Louis County Community Development and through tax-deductible contributions.

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**Website**

[www.ehocstl.org](http://www.ehocstl.org)

**Did you know?**

We celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin



*SLEHCRA members Elisabeth Risch of EHOC, Rose Eichelberger of [Ready! Aim! Advocate Committee](#), and Jackie Hutchinson of [Consumers Council of Missouri](#) display SLEHCRA's MLK Award Statue.*

This award is being given in recognition of SLEHCRA's achievements and continuing efforts to exemplify Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ideals and commitments. This year's theme is "Focusing on Family and Financial Freedom."

For more information about SLEHCRA and our accomplishments, visit our website at [www.slehcra.org](http://www.slehcra.org).

## EHOC Welcomes Spring Interns!

EHOC is excited to be working with five new interns volunteering during the Spring semester. We have three law students from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law and two social work students from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis.

The interns will be working with landlord tenant cases, assisting callers with housing issues, and conducting fair housing education and outreach events in the community. They are also trained to be fair housing testers.

Additionally, the interns work on research projects related to fair housing issues. This semester our interns will be conducting research on responsible banking ordinances, the Violence Against Women Act, housing evictions, and more.

We welcome our interns and thank you for your service to EHOC and our clients!

## More Ways to Support Fair Housing

Have you considered putting the Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing & Opportunity in your will? If you are interested in making a bequest to EHOC to support future fair housing work, please contact Will Jordan at 314-534-5800 ext. 7018

The Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing & Opportunity Council offers four easy ways to support fair housing. Supporters can make a secure credit card donation to EHOC through [Network for Good](#) by clicking [here](#).

Luther King Jr. in January. Dr. King was a vocal advocate for fair housing and ending discriminatory lending practices during the movement in the 1960's.

In a speech in Chicago to the Chicago Freedom Movement Rally on July 10, 1966, Dr. King points out the higher cost of rent for blacks compared to the rent paid by whites for a bigger apartment in a nicer area of town. He calls out redlining and the discriminatory lending policies of banks and mortgage lenders. He also says, "This day we must decide that we will no longer use our dollars to perpetuate segregation and discrimination. We must make clear that we will withdraw our money 'en masse' from any bank that does not have a non-discriminatory lending policy."

We attribute the passage of the Fair Housing Act in April 1968 that makes housing discrimination illegal in large part because of the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

[Read the whole speech at the Chicago Freedom Movement online through the King Center here.](#)

Supporters can also mail in a contribution to Alexia Anderson, EHOC, 1027 South Vandeventer Ave., 6th Floor, Saint Louis, MO 63110.

Supporters can also use [Good Search](#) as your Search Engine and select the Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing & Opportunity Council as the recipient.

You can also contribute to EHOC by shopping online through [iGive.com](#) and select Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing & Opportunity Council as the recipient.

We are grateful for your support!

[Forward email](#)



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