

Facing Segregation: Building Strategies in Every Neighborhood

2019 Fair Housing Conference

April 12, 2019

8:15 AM - 3:30 PM

Central Baptist Church, 2842 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63103

Draft Agenda

- 7:45 AM **Registration Opens and Continental Breakfast** *Education Center Gymnasium*
- 8:15 AM **Welcome and Opening Remarks** *Sanctuary*
 Will Jordan, Executive Director, Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing and Opportunity Council
 Betty Bottiger, Regional Director, Region VII Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 Master of Ceremonies: **Michael Burns**, President, Northside Community Housing, Inc.
- 8:30 AM **Keynote: Segregation: A Threat to Americans' Shared Goals** *Sanctuary*
 Dr. Molly Metzger, Assistant Professor, Brown School at Washington University in St Louis
 Dr. Molly Metzger will speak to a set of fallacies regarding the causes and effects of residential segregation. She will then highlight three pressing and timely policy issues regarding housing justice in the St. Louis region.
- Featured Panels.** *Sanctuary*
 Each panel will feature an individual who will discuss their contribution to Facing Segregation and highlight the work of local St. Louisans who have developed practical solutions to these policy issues.
- 9:15 AM **Youth Centered Strategies for Community Development** *Sanctuary*
 Equitable investment must include investments in youth. Dr. William Tate will discuss the need for intergenerational investment in “regional brain regimes.” Neal Richardson will discuss an example of holistic youth and community development, “Dream Builders 4 Equity.”
 Dr. William Tate, Dean, The Graduate School, Washington University in St Louis
 Neal Richardson, President and CEO, Dream Builders 4 Equity
- 10:00 AM **Break**
- 10:10 AM **Can We Live Together? The Future of Inclusive Housing** *Sanctuary*
 Dr. Jason Purnell will discuss the vision of creating consciously inclusive communities, ones in which diversity is an asset and community members are advocating and fostering policies and practices that welcome individuals and families from various racial, socioeconomic, and generational backgrounds. Adelaide Lancaster will discuss “We Stories,” a program that fosters a

mindset of inclusion and equity beginning at the youngest ages. Craig Owens will speak to what local cities can do to prioritize inclusive housing policies and practices.

Dr. Jason Purnell, Associate Professor, Washington University; Director, Health Equity Works

Craig Owens, City Manager, City of Clayton

Adelaide Lancaster, Co-Founder, WeStories

10:50 AM

Building Wealth in Concentrated Areas of Poverty

Sanctuary

Decades of discriminatory policies and practices like redlining have stripped wealth from families and communities. John Taylor will discuss the urgencies we are facing as community leaders and activists and what we need to do to change this situation. Nikki Woelfel and Gail Brown will highlight a new collaborative initiative, the “Gateway Neighborhood Mortgage,” that will open up access to credit for families to purchase and renovate homes in neighborhoods with depressed home values and historically omitted from mortgage lending.

John Taylor, President & Founder, National Community Reinvestment Coalition

Nikki Woelfel, Board Member, Metropolitan St. Louis CRA Association; Vice President - Community Development, Carrollton Bank

Gail Brown, President, Brown-Kortkamp Realty, Inc.

11:40 AM

Presentation: Equity Indicators for Housing and Community Development

Sanctuary

Released in January, the City of St. Louis’s first Equity Indicators Report was conducted in response to the Ferguson Commission’s call to action for a racial equity benchmarking process. The 2018 report is a baseline report that quantifies the state of racial equity in St. Louis. Cristina Garmendia will present the process and product of the Equity Indicators report, focusing on the findings related to housing and community development.

Cristina Garmendia, author of the City of St. Louis’s 2018 Equity Indicators Baseline Report

12:15 PM

Lunch.

Education Center Gymnasium

Boxed lunches are provided.

1:15 PM

Breakout Sessions. Concurrent 90-minute sessions will feature panels of local experts discussing solutions and action steps related to overcoming segregation, focusing on different strategies related to different types of neighborhoods.

1. Building Community, Building Wealth.

Education Center Classroom

This session will highlight initiatives working to expand access to credit, increase homeownership, reduce vacancy, and other strategies for investing in distressed neighborhoods.

Moderator: Gail Brown, President, Brown-Kortkamp Realty, Inc.

Clayton Evans, Board Member, Metropolitan St. Louis CRA Association; Senior Vice President, Community Banking & CRA Officer, Simmons Bank

Peter Hoffman, Staff Attorney, Neighborhood Vacancy Initiative, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri

Aaron Williams, Co-Founder, 4theVille

Nikki Woelfel, Board Member, Metropolitan St. Louis CRA Association; Vice President - Community Development, Carrollton Bank

2. What Works For Affordable Housing Trust Funds.

Chapel

This session will focus on ongoing efforts to develop an Affordable Housing Trust Fund in St. Louis County, informed by lessons from the development and use of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City of St. Louis.

Moderator: Molly Metzger, Assistant Professor, Brown School at Washington University in St Louis

April Ford Griffin, Executive Director, City of St. Louis Affordable Housing Commission

Erica Henderson, VP of Community Investment & Real Estate, St. Louis Economic Development Partnership; Executive Director, Promise Zone

Shannon Koenig, Senior Policy Advisory, Office of the County Executive, St Louis County

3. The Right to Remain.

Gymnasium

This session will feature panelists discussing strategies in gentrifying and disinvested neighborhoods to preserve affordable housing and stop displacement.

Moderator: Glenn Burleigh, Community Engagement Specialist, Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing and Opportunity Council

Stephanie Co, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Beyond Housing

Amanda Colón-Smith, Executive Director, Dutchtown South Community Corporation

Alicia Hernández, Organizer, ACLU of Missouri

Dennis Shultz, Organizer, Homes for All St. Louis

4. Before the Tipping Point.

Sanctuary

This session will discuss strategies for stabilizing neighborhoods experiencing increased poverty, or “middle neighborhoods.”

Henry Webber, Executive Vice Chancellor, Washington University in St. Louis

Todd Swanstrom, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Community Collaboration and Public Policy, UMSL

3:00 PM

Closing Remarks: A Path Forward for St. Louis

Sanctuary

Henry Webber will close the conference by providing a path forward toward reducing segregation and challenging us all to contribute to making St. Louis a place where people live together in neighborhoods that are racially and economically diverse.

Henry Webber, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Administrative Officer
Washington University in St. Louis