



Lexington– Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission

2006 Fair Housing Annual Report

Mediation Program

Our mediation program is an informal, voluntary process, which provides a forum of discussion of the complaint and the opportunity to enter into an agreement that satisfies the interests of all parties.

The mediation program has many advantages, such as, mediations can be scheduled whenever possible, as long as it is within thirty days from the date the complaint is filed. Mediations can be scheduled at times and places that are convenient to all parties involved and usually last one to three hours. Mediation is not a legal process and does not require the presence of an attorney. Mediation is a confidential process; the proceedings are not recorded or transcribed. Attendance to mediation does not constitute an admission, by the party that the complaint is against, or of any violation of the laws that the Commission enforces.

The majority of cases are successfully mediated in one session. Disputes are resolved more quickly than in the traditional complaint process. Litigation cost and other costs are lower. The parties develop creative solutions themselves, thus resulting in greater satisfaction with the process and the parties. It is a hope of mediators that these sessions can help avoid further complaints as parties learn to better communicate with each other.

Parties involved in mediation are suggested to approach mediation in good faith and an open mind, be willing to listen and consider all aspects of issues, and be active participants in mediation. Parties are encouraged to develop the terms of the settlement agreements with the assistance of the mediators.

In the fiscal year 2006, thirteen cases were referred to mediation; five (5) were conciliations that resulted in monetary benefits of \$11,965. It is the hope of those involved with the mediation process that for the upcoming year that number of cases referred to mediation will increase.

Commissioners :

Gloria Rie
Chair

Andrea Coleman
Vice Chair

Jeff Jones
Treasurer

Rabbi Marc Kline
Secretary

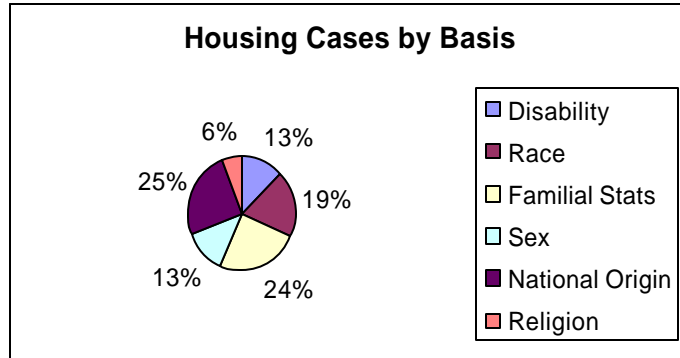
Adela DeLeon
Paul Engel
Gwen Godfrey
Wardell Johnson
Faye Liebermann
Samye Miller
Connie Morton
Mahjabeen Rafiuddin
Luis Wayne Sanchez
Angela Slaton
Jenny Sutton-Amr
Biby Tinajero
Melanie Tyner–Wilson
Russ Williams
Hank Zeitlin



Housing Compliance for Fiscal Year 2006

In fiscal year 2006, there were sixteen (16) housing intakes. They were distributed along the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, familial status and sexual orientation. All sixteen intakes became official cases.

These cases after being processed fell into one of six categories; Administrative closure, no cause, settlement with monetary benefits, settlements without monetary benefits, conciliation, or a public hearing. In FY 2006, zero cases were deemed administrative closures, six (6) cases were considered no cause, eight (8) ended in settlement with monetary benefits, one (1) case settled without monetary benefits, and one (1) went to public hearing. The monetary benefits for all the housing cases totaled \$16,514 in FY06.



Meet the Housing Committee



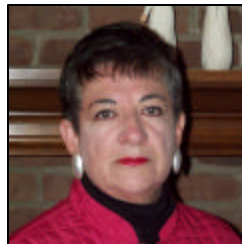
Andrea Coleman
Chair



Rabbi Marc Aaron Kline



Adela DeLeon



Biby Tinajero



Faye Liebermann



Gwen Godfrey



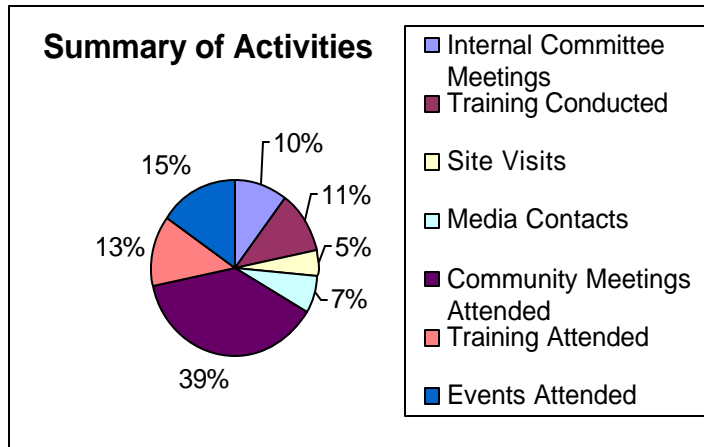
Melanie Tyner-Wilson



Angela Slaton

Community Relations Fiscal Year 2006

In fiscal year 2006 the Human Rights Commission participated in a vast array of activities. The website was updated according to the events of the month, The Enforcer, the Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report and the brochures were all updated and distributed. Research was done on editing the Spanish brochures, new intern recruitment strategies were developed, and research was done



on a funding proposal to conduct a thorough review of the practice of predatory lending and its affects on the local housing market including foreclosure rates.

The Hate & Bias initiative had nine (9) emails sent out to the listserv and continued to report updates on incidents. There was also continued research and updates on making Lexington Hate Free.

The Harrison Elementary Fair Housing and Cultural Diversity Program had the annual coloring contest at the fair housing luncheon.



Vicki Ray, FHEO Program Center Director, HUD Louisville, Field Office, Investigator Raymond Sexton, James Sutton, Director, HUD Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity Region IV, Krista Mills, Field Office Director, HUD Louisville Field Office, and Executive Director William Wharton at the Kentucky Housing Corporation's Annual Fair Housing Event.



The attendees at the Title VI Workshop enjoyed refreshments after the Workshop.

Fair Housing Luncheon & Workshop

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission held its 11th Annual Fair Housing Luncheon on Wednesday, April 12, 2006. The luncheon was held at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington and over 170 people came to celebrate April as Fair Housing Month.

Linda Strite Murnane, the Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights was kind enough to be our guest speaker and shared the experience about her journey to her current position that included her military career in the Air Force judge from enlisted person to Chief of Circuit Military Judge, Eastern Circuit, Bolling Air Force Base, Washington D.C.



Speaker Linda Strite Murnane
Executive Director of the Kentucky
Commission on Human Rights.

Ms. Murnane introduced current staff members of KCHR who were present for the luncheon and shared with those who attended some of the activities that the Commission she has engaged in since she has taken over as Executive Director.

Attendees of the luncheon were addressed by Commission Chair Gloria Rie, Lexington Mayor Teresa Isaac, Krista Mills, Director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Kentucky Office, Brad Sweazy Chief Program Officer Kentucky Housing Corporation, commission member Jenny Sutton-Amr and Rabbi Marc Kline, Secretary of the Commission.

Third grade students from Harrison Elementary School accepted awards for their participation in the fair housing coloring contest as part of the larger Commission program that works to get housing information to the guardians and parents of the students and to expose students to fair housing and diversity information.



Harrison Elementary School winners of the
Fair Housing Coloring Contest.

Over ten agencies participated in the Housing Information Station, which gives agencies an opportunity to share information about their agency with the luncheon participants. A couple of the participating agencies include: the Center for Women, Children and Families, Community Action Council, LFUCG Division of Community Development, Lexington Fair Housing Council, LFUCG Division of Police Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and the Realtor Community Housing Foundation.

WWW.LFUCHRC.ORG

**Log onto the Commission's website for
fair housing information at your fingertips 24 hours a day!**