



Springfield Mediation Service
A Peaceful Alternative

The City of
Springfield
Ohio

Community Development Department

Human Relations Division



Springfield Fair Housing
Promoting Equal Opportunity in Housing

FAIR HOUSING / MEDIATION OFFICE 2011: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

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Promoting Fair Housing

The City of Springfield Fair Housing office continued to affirmatively further fair housing during 2011 by addressing impediments to fair housing identified in their 2008 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.

Highlights of the year included providing outreach to consumers on fair housing and landlord-tenant information by partnering with the Clark County Fair Housing Board.

On March 19, a Housing Fair provided classes and vendors to tenants, homeowners and homebuyers, providing a one stop shop to help people learn about their legal rights and responsibilities, good credit building practices and how

to buy a house and avoid foreclosure. Over 85 people attended, including 17 vendors and 11 presenters.

On April 27, fair housing continuing education was provided to over 64 Realtors and property managers.

Housing information and referral was provided for over 383 housing consumers and providers.

Fair Housing outreach booths were provided in July at the Clark County Fair, on September 24 at CultureFest and other community events during the year.

Mediation Promotes Peaceful Solutions

During 2011 as of November 30, the Springfield Mediation provided conflict resolution services to 154 situations, offering problem solving coaching, conciliation, mediation and facilitation.

Conciliation, Facilitation or Mediation was used to resolve 83 cases.

In June, the Mediation Coordinator helped provide peer mediation training to 30 middle school and high school students with the Springfield Peace Center, and also provided mini-lessons for over 300 students and teachers at the Peace Camp.

Basic Mediation Training was provided for 8 persons during eight sessions in October and November.

Global Education 10 Years Old

In 2011, the Global Education and Peace Network concluded their ninth year, with their series: "Why Do They Do That? Asking Questions about Cultural Traditions. which concluded in August. The series continues to draw 30-80 people each month. Cultures covered included: Chinese Culture, African-American Culture, the Nacirema, Russian, Appalachian, Hawaiian and Jewish, as well as a program on Intercultural Dynamics.

The group celebrated their 10th anniversary at their September 2011 program and then held programs on Muslim, Hindu and Mexican cultures to complete the year.

They raised over \$6,000 to publish 4000 copies of their 10th annual calendar in September which highlights their tenth speaker series, "Life Passages: Rituals and Celebrations." The calendars have been distributed through schools and community events.

Celebrating Diversity

CultureFest 2011 kicked off the day with a Children Choir from the Springfield City Schools singing songs of many cultures and then the excitement of the Springfield High School Marching Band marching onto the plaza for the National Anthem and selections accompanied by their dance team. The day continued with a variety of musical and dance groups sharing sounds of Indian, African-American, Irish, English, Cajun, Latin, Japanese, Filipino, Mexican, Egyptians cultures. We would like to thank all the sponsors, vendors, and volunteers who made this a wonderful day, celebrating the diversity of our great city.

Upcoming Events

**February 9. Global Education Program
Life Cycle Observances: Abraham to Mo-
ammed. 6:30 p.m. at Shouvlin, Room 105,
Wittenberg University**

**March 8. Global Education Program.
Life Passages: Catholic Culture
6:30 p.m. at Shouvlin Center, Room 105,
Wittenberg University**

**Saturday, March 31.
Springfield/Clark County Housing Fair
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pitzer Center
—United Senior Services.**

**April 12. Global Education Program
Life Passages in Sikh Culture. 6:30 p.m. at
Shouvlin Center, Room 105. Wittenberg Uni-
versity.**

**Fair Housing Continuing Education for
Housing providers. April, Date TBA.**



**CultureFest
2011**

**Thank You CultureFest 2011
Sponsors!**

Presenting Sponsor: OIC of Clark County

Prime Sponsors: Lead-Safe Springfield, The Springfield Foundation, The Turner Foundation

Underwriters: Community Mercy Health Partners, Security National Bank, Speedway SuperAmerica, LLC

Benefactors: Baker Krizner Financial Planning: CareSource, Clark State Community College's President's Diversity Council, KeyBank, Smoot Construction of Ohio, United Way of Clark, Champaign & Madison Counties, WYSO Partners: Benjamin Steel, Dr. Catherine Crompton and Mr. Ross McGregor, Consolidated Insurance Agency, Warren and Clara Copeland, Lula and Lawrence Cosby, Danis Building Construction Company, John & Karen Detrick, Committee for Guy A. Ferguson, Foreman-Blair, Home City Federal Savings Bank, Shelley & Ed Leinasars, McCall Sharp Architecture, LTD., McGregor Metalworking Co./Morgal Machine, Merchants National Bank, National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch No. 45, Jim & Linda Oliver, Pentaflex, Inc., Sheehan Bros. Vending Services, Inc. Selena Singletary, Richard Spangler, U.A.W.C.A.P. Council, Vince Refuse Service, Inc., Wallace & Turner, Inc., Westwater Supply Corporation- Springfield, Dawn White, Wittenberg University

Friends: Dan & Sally Barksdale, Marilyn & Denny Burchett, Joyce and Paul Chilton, Mary and Michael Crockett, Mary DeGroat, Karen and Ronald Duncan, Nancy Flinchbaugh and Steve Schlather, Marilyn & Kevin Kreider, The Kroger Company, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Leventhal, Martin, Browne, Hull & Harper, P.L.L., Mental Health Services for Clark County, Clark County Recorder, Nancy Pence, Orphus R. S. Taylor, Dr. Richard A. & Darlene T. Umbaugh, Paul Valente, Ruby Wood

Thanks to the following 2011 Global Education Calendar Advertisers and Sponsors:

Underwriting Advertisers: Cardiologists of Clark and Champaign Counties, Lead-Safe Springfield, Community Mercy Health Partners, KeyBank, Springfield Cardiology, Springfield Heart Surgeons, Speedway SuperAmerica, LLC, Office of Community Education--Wittenberg University. **Sponsoring Advertisers:** Acme Electric Company, Samina Ahmed, Clark County Fair Housing Board, Clark County Solid Waste District, Courtyard by Marriott, Honey Creek Urgent Care, Vinita and Ravi Khanna, M. D., Medical Professional Resources, Abdul Rauf, MD, Sikhs of Clark County, Todd Fisher's Body and Collision Repair. **Benefactors:** Sam and Barbara Burcham, Rob and Monica Hohl, Chris Parli and David Horne, Northridge United Methodist Church, Colleen and Stephen Walters and Dawn Henseler White. **Supporters:** Mary and Michael Crockett, Cheryl DeGroat Dover, Nancy Flinchbaugh and Steve Schlather

What is the Fair Housing Law?

The Fair Housing Laws are local, State and Federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of "protected classes." For the federal law, protected classes are race, color, religion, national origin, sex (gender), religion, familial status and handicap status. The State of Ohio has also added ancestry and military status to classes protected.

You should not be discriminated against on the basis of any of these protected classes when renting or buying housing or obtaining housing loans.

If you have questions about your fair housing rights, or want to file a complaint, please contact the City of Springfield Fair Housing office at (937) 324-7696. If you live in Clark County, outside the City, please call (937) 521-2160.



**The Springfield Mediation Service
A Peaceful Alternative**

Mediation is a voluntary process where people resolve disputes through communication and cooperation. **Available for neighbor-to-neighbor disputes and landlord-tenant issues.**

(937) 324-7696.

**Mark your calendars: CultureFest
2012 — Saturday, September 29,
City Hall Plaza, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**