



# FRIENDS OF FAIR HOUSING

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Quarterly Newsletter for the Friends of Fair Housing

## Toledo Fair Housing Center to Commemorate 40th Anniversaries of Fair Housing Act, Dr. King's Assassination

The year 2008 is a milestone in many ways. It marks the 40th anniversary of the passage of the federal Fair Housing Act, which was signed into law on April 11, 1968, by President Lyndon Johnson, just one week after the tragic assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Civil Rights Act of 1968 was meant as a follow-up to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. While the Civil Rights Act of 1866 prohibited discrimination in housing, there were no federal enforcement provisions. The 1968 act expanded on previous acts and prohibited discrimination concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin, sex, (and as amended in 1988) handicap and family status. It also provided protection for civil rights workers. Title VIII of the Act is also known as the Fair Housing Act (of 1968).

In recognition of these important historical events, the Fair Housing Center will be presenting a Fair Housing Month Luncheon on April 16, 2008, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Toledo. At the ceremony, we will be presenting the Spirit of Fair Housing Awards.

Additionally, we are excited that Illinois artist Bernie Kleina will display his stirring photo exhibition of the Chicago Freedom Movement. The exhibition, which has been on display across the country, features Mr. Kleina's colorful photos that document the 1965-66 Freedom Movement's peaceful demonstrations' call for open housing. The exhibit celebrates the efforts of Dr. King and other civil rights leaders and includes images of Dr. King; Coretta Scott-King; the Rev. Jesse Jackson; former Atlanta Mayor and UN Ambassador, Andrew Young; comedian activist, Dick Gregory; gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson; and former Southern Christian Leadership Council President, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy; as well as thousands of peaceful demonstrators involved in these historic rallies and marches.



© Photos by Bernard J. Kleina



Please RSVP on page 3

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## Founding FHC Board Member Passes

Ethel O. Henderson, 77, passed away on December 16, 2007, at the University of Toledo Medical Center. She was born in Sandusky, Ohio and relocated to Toledo at an early age. She was formerly employed by the Lucas County Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Board. Mrs. Henderson was a life member of Warren A.M.E. Church where she served as the church historian. She sang with the David Smith Symphonic Choir, was also a member of the Lyman Liggins Senior Center and was Docent Emeritus for the Toledo Museum of Art.



*Ethel O. Henderson,  
Founding Board Member*

Shanna L. Smith, the first Executive Director of the Toledo Fair Housing Center and current President & CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance, stated, "Ethel, as a founding board member of the Toledo Fair Housing Center, helped establish the Center. She certainly provided much needed leadership and support and was a mentor to me. I could always count on Ethel to be there. When I started out at the Center, as its first executive director, I was a young woman. It was good to have seasoned professional women like Ethel who could demonstrate what it meant to have a serious career. Ethel is a pioneer in many ways, and the fair housing movement will miss her dedication."

"Ethel was one of the most devoted Board members of both the Fair Housing Center and its affiliate, the Northwest Ohio Development Agency. Even after retirement from her professional career, Ethel continued to be one of the most dedicated and active Board members for both agencies. Ethel chaired the Board Development Committee and personally interviewed almost every single person who has been considered for membership on the Board of Directors. She took her responsibilities to both agencies very seriously and expected every other board member to do the same. Her motto was 'working members only,' and she certainly led by example," stated Lisa Rice, the second Executive Director of the Toledo Fair Housing Center and current Vice President of the National Fair Housing Alliance.

Pamela S. Pullella, FHC's Board President, commented, "The passing of Ethel Henderson is a tremendous loss to our Board. Ethel led by example and, as our Board Development Chair, made sure that prospective and current Board members clearly understood their obligations. She was a passionate individual who helped us to remember how we started and where we came from. She was a priceless resource that cannot be replaced."

Katherine Lawson Broka, the current FHC President & CEO, added, "All the staff at the Center was saddened by the news of Ethel's passing. She was the heart and soul of the Board for over a quarter century, and we will miss her passion and attention to detail. But, most of all, we will miss her warm smile."

# Join Us for Our Fair Housing Month Luncheon April 16th



Featuring Illinois Artist Bernard J. Kleina  
Presentation & Photo Exhibition



© Photos by Bernard J. Kleina

And Presentation of Spirit of  
Fair Housing Awards

## FAIR HOUSING MONTH LUNCHEON – April 16, 2008

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Seagate/Summit Street, Downtown Toledo  
Tickets are \$40 to commemorate 40 Years of the Fair Housing Act

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  Vegetarian Lunch

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Bus. \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Reservations (\$40 per person)

Enclosed is an additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the Fair Housing Center.

I cannot attend, but I have enclosed a voluntary contribution in support of the Fair Housing Center.

I am paying with an enclosed check.

Please charge my  VISA  MasterCard  Discover  AMEX

# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP by April 9, 2008. Donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

\*Handicap Accessible. Please let us know of any special accommodations needed.

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## From the President & CEO



Dear Colleagues,

With all the bad news coming out of the subprime lending market, record foreclosure rates affecting our communities and a sluggish economy, it would be easy to write off 2008 as a disaster in the making. Yet, in spite of all that, I look forward to the coming year and what it holds. There is much hard work ahead of us in housing. It will take everyone in the community pulling together and lending a helping hand to those in need if we are going to weather the storm. But, I have no doubt we **can** and **will** do so.

In April, during Fair Housing Month, the Center will be hosting a luncheon to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose tragic death became the catalyst for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, of which Title VIII (The Fair Housing Act) is a part. We hope that you will join us in this celebration as we all strive to fulfill Dr. King's dream of strong and vibrant communities where people of all races, religions and ideologies can live together in peace. What better time than now!

Yours in Fair Housing,

*Katherine Lawson Broka*

Katherine Lawson Broka  
President and CEO

## Restoring the Dream **PREDATORY LENDING**

### **REMEDATION PROGRAM UPDATE**

- 46 Loans remediated through December 31, 2007
- 24 Loan modifications with current lenders
- 23 Loans refinanced with local lending partners and/or Northwest Ohio Development Agency (NODA)
- Over \$2.37 million in monetary benefits to consumers (average = \$51,555)
- Average reduction in monthly payment = \$231.28