



Volume 3 Issue 3

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BOWLING GREEN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION FAIR HOUSING NEWSLETTER

APRIL IS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission is non-profit agency committed to serving the community through advocacy for the rights of the protected classes which include: race, color, religion, national origin, age (over 40) sex (meaning gender) disability, and familiar status (in housing). Created by the City of Bowling Green ordinance in 1966. The commission also investigates only three areas of jurisdiction allegations of discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodation. The commission overall efforts focuses on education, assistance and promoting fair treatment and positive human relations within the community.

HISTORY OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

ON APRIL 11, 1968, PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON SIGNED THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1968, WHICH WAS MEANT AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964. THE 1968 ACT ON PREVIOUS ACTS AND PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATION CONCERNING THE SALE, RENTAL, AND FINANCING OF HOUSING BASED ON RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, (AND AS AMENDED) HANDICAP AND FAMILY STATUS.

TITLE VI OF THE ACT IS KNOWN AS THE FAIR HOUSING ACT (1968). THE ENACTMENT OF THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT ON APRIL 11, 1968 CAME ONLY AFTER A LONG JOURNEY. HOWEVER, WHEN REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WAS ASSASSINATED ON APRIL 04, 1968, PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON UTILIZED THIS NATIONAL TRAGEDY TO URGE FOR THE BILL'S SPEEDY CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. SINCE THE 1966 OPEN HOUSING MARCHES IN CHICAGO, DR. KING'S NAME HAD BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FAIR HOUSING LEGISLATION. PRESIDENT JOHNSON VIEWED THE ACT AS A FITTING MEMORIAL TO THE MAN'S WORK, AND WISHED TO HAVE THE ACT PASSED PRIOR TO DR. KING'S FUNERAL IN ATLANTA. ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUE DURING THIS TIME PERIOD WAS GROWING CASUALTY LIST FROM VIETNAM. THE DEATHS IN VIETNAM FELL HEAVIEST UPON YOUNG, POOR AFRICAN - AMERICAN AND HISPANIC INFANTRYMEN. HOWEVER, ON THE HOME FRONT, THESE MEN'S FAMILIES COULD NOT PURCHASE OR RENT HOMES IN CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR RACE OR NATIONAL ORIGIN



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Rights Commission Contact
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FAIR HOUSING EVENT, UNITY IN FAIR HOUSING

The guest speakers for the event will be Carrie Lewis, KY Fair Housing Council, and Kara Smith, KY Commission on Human Rights

**The event is free and open to the public on
Thursday, April 30th, 12:00 am ~ 2:30 p.m. at the
Carroll Knicely Conference Center
2355 Nashville Road**

**The event is paid for by the Community
Development Block Grant**



KARA IS A GRADUATE OF EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AND CURRENTLY SERVES AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST AT THE KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SHE WORKS WITHIN THE INTAKE UNIT, SPECIALIZING IN HOUSING, AND IS ALSO ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS. IN THIS ROLE, SHE ENGAGES WITH THE PUBLIC TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE KENTUCKY CIVIL RIGHTS ACT. KARA IS DEDICATED TO PROTECTING INDIVIDUALS FROM DISCRIMINATION AND PROMOTING EQUALITY ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY.



**The event will include
Food
Door Prizes and Valuable
Information**



CARRIE LEWIS IS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AT THE KENTUCKY FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL (KFHC). SHE OVERSEES KFHC'S FAIR HOUSING DISCRIMINATION TESTING PROGRAM, COORDINATING INVESTIGATIONS THAT IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS UNEQUAL HOUSING PRACTICES. CARRIE WORKS CLOSELY WITH LANDLORDS, TENANTS, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO PROMOTE COMPLIANCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF FAIR HOUSING LAWS. A GRADUATE OF JAMES A. RHODES STATE COLLEGE IN OHIO WITH AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN APPLIED SCIENCE, CARRIE IS COMMITTED TO ADVANCING FAIR HOUSING POLICY AND PRACTICE THROUGH EDUCATION, ENFORCEMENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.