## METROPOLITAN INTERFAITH COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

"Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8



#### Fair Housing: Making the Dream a Reality



Rev. Dr. Arthur Agnew, Vice President at Annual Meeting



Yende, Board Treasurer



Rozz, Accessibility Staff

On June 19th, over 100 MICAH supporters celebrated our work together in our community to ensure everyone without exception has a decent, safe, accessible and affordable home. We recognized 10 new Community Heroes for their work in the community (see insert). We heard passionate messages from Rev. Dr. Arthur Agnew, Rosalind Sampson, Yende Anderson, Gary Kwong, and Amanda Kappes about their struggles with racial, ethnic, economic and accessibility issues in obtaining housing in a community of their choice, and where equitable opportunities were available.

Praise God, three of MICAH's four Fair Housing complaints were settled with Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the MSP Board with Voluntary Compliance Agreements. We look forward to working with our regional leaders as we address impediments to Fair Housing, Choice, and Opportunity throughout our Metro Region.

## Faith & Family Night with MICAH at the Lynx

On July 9th, MICAH was the recognized nonprofit for Faith and Family Night at the Lynx basketball game. 75 MICAH supporters joined us in a night of family fun, received the autographed game ball, celebrated a great win by the Lynx, watched an incredible PSA by Seimone Augustus and heard faith reflections by players and friends of the Lynx. Please see pictures and the PSA that was on the big screen at the arena on MICAH's Facebook page, or by going to the MICAH website www.micah.org. Please plan to join us next season for Faith and Family Night with MICAH at the Lynx!



Autographed Lynx Game Ball Presentation



MICAH Supporters before the Lynx Game





Ticiea & Family with Lynx Game Ball

## **2016 Legislative Update**



**MICAH Lead Bill** 



Rep. Hausman



**Domestic Violence Funding** 

MICAH, with our many partners, supported \$35 Million in new funding to address disparities, \$1.5 Million for HOME Law activities (assisting people of color to become homeowners through longer term homeownership training). Increased funding for homeless youth services and housing,

And outreach services for Somali youth.

We supported an increase in funding for the Human

Rights Department, which will open an additional office in St. Cloud. Working with the All Parks Alliance for Change (APAC), we ensured that manufactured home owners have enough resources to move their homes, if necessary. We and our partners are continuing our planning and work to secure the housing and transportation bonding bills and increased funding to both prevent people from becoming homeless and for affordable housing.





**Build Wealth MN.** 



**MICAH & Equity Bill** 

**MICAH South – Dakota, Scott, and Carver Counties** 



**MICAH South Legislative Breakfast** 

MICAH South continues to educate the community and our policy makers through our annual bi-partisan Legislative Breakfast (57 attended) and our bus tour of the great affordable housing and homeless services in Dakota County. Legislators, three Mayors, a city council member, four County Commissioners, Dakota County CDA Ex. Director, Heading Home Dakota, and Director of Dakota County Human Services and staff joined with faith leaders on the tour. MICAH held a training this Spring to educate community members on how to be involved in their City's Comprehensive Plans, due in 2018.MICAH was proud to celebrate with Eagan, which has done an incredible job of creating a wide variety affordable housing opportunities throughout the community, as they were nationally recognized as the 5th best City to live in the U.S. "We all do better when we all do better." (Senator Paul Wellstone).



**MICAH Comprehensive Plan Training** 



**MICAH at Equity Committee Hearing** 

#### **MICAH Northeast – Ramsey and Washington Counties**

MICAH NE Chapter has doubled in size this last year! We continue to educate the community and policy makers through our bus tour and legislative breakfast. MICAH also held two trainings this Spring on how to be involved in Comprehensive Plans, due in 2018.

Please plan to join us on October 18 for our next bus tour at 11:15 AM at St. Andrew's Resource Center in Mahtomedi and November 29th for our next Legislative Breakfast at 8:30AM at White Bear Lake City Hall. More information will be posted on MICAH's website, Facebook, and in later communications.







**MICAH NE Legislative Breakfast** 



**MICAH NE Comprehensive Plan Training** 

**MICAH Northwest & Housing For All (HFA) - Hennepin County** 



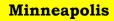
#### MICAH, HFA & City Prior to Approval

**Cornerstone Village-St Michael** 

Balsam Lane

MICAH, Housing For All and the City of Dayton educated policy makers and community members about affordable housing on a bus tour of the Sand Company's St. Michael units and at community meetings. In May, the Dayton City Council approved a 49-unit multi-family housing project to be built on 2.5 acres on Balsam Lane. The property (above right picture) was tax forfeited two years ago. MICAH is excited to see communities throughout the Metro area recognizing and approving more affordable opportunities in their community. Please join us for our next Bus Tour on September 20th, starting at CROSS in Rogers (see insert). MICAH held a training this Spring to educate community members on how to be involved in their City's Comprehensive Plans which are due in 2018





MICAH partnered with One Family One Community to train over 15 people with limited income and/or experiencing homelessness to speak for themselves and to be decision makers in the community on planning Boards and Commissions. Queen, One Family's Executive Director (top photo), is talking about the housing needs with HUD Secretary Castro at a Fair Housing meeting with Regional Leaders.



Carl Eller, former Viking player (on left), is meeting with Alissa Pier, MICAH Board Member and PPL staff to discuss affordable housing possibilities for property that Carl owns on the Near North side of Minneapolis.



#### **MICAH Board Members 2016-17**

Board President: B. Aaron Parker, AIA Adath Jeshurun Congregation Vice President: Rev. Dr. Arthur Agnew Bethesda Missionary Baptist Secretary: Gary Kwong New Brighton UCC Treasurer: Yende Anderson New Am. Alliance for Development Ex. Director: Sue Watlov Phillips Elim Church, Hope Avenue Daisy Barton CROSS George Gorbatenko St John in the Wilderness Episcopal Abdullah Kiatamba African Immigrant Svcs (AIS) Jean MacFarland Mary Mother of the Church **Donna Neste** University Lutheran Church of Hope Alissa Pier, AIA ADL Pier Design, Inc. Farhio Khalif Voice of East African Women Jean Lee Children's Hope International Jerry Daily All Saints Catholic Church Suado Abdi Mpls. City Planner **Devin Hogan** 

DFL Fundraiser



Sheila Crowley

**MICAH Award** 



MICAH & International Change Makers



Sen. Al Franken, Kimberly, Chip, Mpls Public Housing



Kimberly Carpenter & HUD Secretary Castro



& Farhio Khalif

SWLRT Gary Kwong



SWLRT La Shella Sims

Testifying

Women's Equity Bill 2016

JRLC Day on Hill, MICAH South & NE Members

MICAH is supported by: Congregations, Organizations, and Individuals, Hugh J. Andersen Foundation, IBM, and Integrated Community Solutions

MICAH 463 Maria Avenue St Paul, MN 55106 PLACE STAMP HERE

Give us a call at 651-646-0612 Visit us online at micah.org Email info@micah.org Facebook: /MICAH twin cities



# MICAH UPCOMING EVENTS 2016-2017

## September 20<sup>th</sup>

MICAH and Housing For All Bus Tour 5:30PM at CROSS in Rogers (flyer on other side)

## October 18<sup>th</sup>

MICAH NE Chapter Bus Tour at 11:15 AM. St. Andrew's Resource Center, Mahtomedi.

## November 17th

Give to the MAX - MICAH. Help support MICAH!

**Third week of November- Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week**- watch for sites for MICAH's interactive play on the History of Homelessness.

## November 29<sup>th</sup>

MICAH NE Legislative Breakfast 8:30AM at White Bear Lake City Hall

## February 26, 2017

*Monroe Crossing-* MICAH Benefit Concert at 2PM Adath Jeshurun Congregation, Minnetonka

## Summer 2017

Faith and Family Night with MICAH at the Lynx

## Please check our Facebook and website often for more details and additional events!

## MICAH monthly Regional/Chapter Meetings

MICAH NE- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month 8AM-9:30AM we rotate locations between Mahtomedi and White Bear Lake City Halls

MICAH South- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:15PM -7:15PM at Presbyterian Church of the Apostles in Burnsville.

MICAH NW/Housing For All- Fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30AM- 11AM at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church in Maple Grove.

New regional groups are emerging throughout the Metro area- watch for more details at <u>www.micah.org</u>



Village Workforce Housing in St. Michael, MN

# **BUS TOUR: Housing For All**

# Tuesday, September 20th 5:30pm – 7:30pm

## **JOIN US**

For an opportunity to tour workforce housing in our community and dialogue about why it's important.

## **GATHERING 5:30 PM**

Light supper provided at CROSS Services, 12915 Weinand Circle, Rogers, MN 55374

## TOUR LEAVES CROSS SERVICES, 12915 WEINAND CIRCLE AT 6:00 PM & RETURNS AT 7:30 PM

## DETAILS

The Housing For All Bus Tour will take participants on a tour of the Cornerstone Village workforce housing apartment community in St. Michael.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

To RSVP, email Roxanne at rsmith@sjtw.net or call 763-400-7208.

**HOUSING FOR ALL** advocates for stable housing for people of moderate and low incomes in the northwest suburbs of Hennepin County.









Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing



#### "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens (persons) can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has!" Margaret Mead

## MICAH 2016 Community Heroes

**Discussions that Encounter** For over 10 years generally twice a month, a group of 30-100 people from diverse communities gather to listen, learn, and care about each other.

**Jean MacFarland** – As Board President, Jean provided skillful leadership, passion, during our transition years from 2007-2014. South Chapter Leader and Chair of Heading Home Dakota-Engagement Committee.

**Bill Keatts-** Active leader in Discussions that Encounter, MICAH South Chapter, Brotherhood Brew, CATCH- Coalition for Affordable and Transitional Housing

**Gary Kwong**- MICAH leader on Anti-Racism Committee in early 2008, serves as Secretary of MICAH, conducts Anti-Racism workshops throughout Minnesota for United Church of Christ.

**La Shella Sims**- MICAH Lead organizer, African American Leadership Forum, passionate advocate for people to use their own voice and power, instrumental in development of permanent Met Council Equity Committee and introducing MICAH to One Family One Community.

**One Family One Community**- People who have or are experiencing homelessness and or poverty who are being trained to use their voice and be decision makers on Minneapolis neighborhood groups and commissions.

**Roxanne Smith**- Passionate advocate in the Northwest Suburbs and started Housing for All in 1999, to assist Developers through the zoning and approval process. Former Met Council Commissioner.

**Farhio Khalif**- Executive Director of Voice of East African Women (VEAW). She developed and lobbied for resources for the first Domestic Violence Shelter for Muslim Women.

**Yende Anderson**- Started New American Alliance for Development. Wrote, lobbied and passed legislation to assist New American Doctors to be able to practice in Minnesota. She serves as MICAH's Treasurer.

**Tim Dickinson**- Tech specialist, volunteer for over 2 decades. Encourager, mentor, and genius. Tim is the key to all of MICAH's communication systems

#### Plaques previously awarded to:

Mark Sather- Retired City Manager, White Bear Lake, MICAH NE Chapter.

Brian Rusche- Retired Executive Director, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC).

Sheila Crowley, Retired President and CEO, National Low Income Housing Coalition.

## MICAH 2016 Legislative Success!!!

BILLS supported by MICAH-Thank you for your prayers, phone calls and visits this Session!

#### Equity Bill- \$35 Million Passed MN Housing Finance Agency

- \$250,000 Landlord Guarantee Fund Pilot( Risk Mitigation) in FHPAP
- \$3 million for first-time homebuyer down payment closing cost assistance
- \$500,000 for expansion of Family Stabilization Plan Program- HOME Law Activities (Designated to Build Wealth)\* an organization that receives one time appropriation is not eligible for the competitive grant.- Chair Garafalo.
- \$500,000 FY 2017 \$1million FY2018-19 for homeownership capacity training- HOME Law Activities

#### Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

\$1.5 Million in 2017 Latino Communities United in Service (CLUES) for expansion of culturally tailored programs that address employment and education skills gap. \$1.5 Million 2018-19 Biennium.

\$2 Million FY 2017 split between Youthprise and Somalian Youth Program

#### Jobs and Economic Development Bill

- \$500,000 in FY17 for rental assistance pilot for exploited women and children (SF311)
- \$500,000 in FY17 for housing projects with training centers for jobs in high-growth areas (SF1909)
- \$750,000 in FY17 for workforce and affordable homeownership program (SF3167)
- Changes to FHPAP( Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program)
  - a. Change to FHPAP, under definition of families, raises the age to 24
  - b. Change to FHPAP allowing tribes, or groups of tribes, to apply

#### **Department of Human Rights:**

\$184,000 for creation of an office in Greater MN - St. Cloud. The Federal Government will provide some matching funds and bring the total to about \$525,000.

#### Department of Human Services

Homeless Youth Act, \$ 33,000 in FY17, and \$2.9 million in 2018-19 biennium

Safe Harbor, increases eligibility to age 24, \$33,000 in FY17 and \$1.5million in 18-19 biennium for DHS

#### All Parks Alliance for Change (APAC): Relocation Trust Fund changes passed

This increases the benefits for the homeowner moving their manufactured home or buyout of it to 2016 costs/values. Minnesota has 180,000 manufactured home park residents.

#### HUD ANNOUNCES AGREEMENTS WITH MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL TO FURTHER HOUSING CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TWIN CITIES RESIDENTS

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today announced agreements with the City of Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul to further housing choice and neighborhood opportunities in the two cities and the surrounding region. The agreements will serve as the foundation to promote housing opportunities and comprehensive regional housing planning that address residential integration and segregation within Minneapolis, St. Paul and the Twin Cities metro area. <u>Read the Minneapolis agreement</u>. <u>Read the St. Paul agreement</u>.

"Families deserve real housing choice and increased opportunity to move ahead," said Gustavo Velasquez, HUD Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. "These agreements place Minneapolis and St. Paul at the forefront of city and regional planning that incorporates fair housing as one of its stated goals. We look forward to working with the Twin Cities as they establish their goals and take steps to meet them."

Under the agreements, the city of Minneapolis and the city of St. Paul will move forward on plans to revise a regional fair housing analysis within a year, taking advantage of new tools provided through HUD's *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule*. The cities' analysis will identify barriers that affect the rights of fair housing choice within the cities' jurisdictions and region, including patterns of integration and segregation, racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, and disparities in access to opportunity and disproportionate housing needs, with no admissions of liability.

The agreement with Minneapolis resolves a complaint filed with HUD in 2015 by the **Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing**, the Webber-Camden Neighborhood Organization, the Whittier Alliance, and the Folwell Neighborhood Association. The agreement with St. Paul resolves a complaint filed with HUD in 2015 by the **Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing**. The organizations claimed that the cities, which receive HUD community development and affordable housing funds, failed to comply with all of HUD's civil rights requirements, including the obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. All parties concur that the settlement announced today resolves the complaints.

The parties agreed to participate in a regional fair housing planning process funded in part by HUD and will retain a consultant to conduct the revised fair housing analysis. The process will include the establishment of an advisory committee to help HUD, the cities and other jurisdictions in the region ensure that key stakeholders, including Minneapolis, St. Paul and the complainants, participate in the process.

The cities' revised analysis will be used in Minneapolis' and St. Paul's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plans to demonstrate the cities' commitment to affirmatively further fair housing. The analysis will also be developed as part of a regional analysis in conjunction with other HUD-funded communities in the Twin Cities Region.

People who believe they have experienced housing discrimination may file a complaint by contacting HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at (800) 669-9777 (voice) or (800) 927-9275 (TTY). Housing discrimination complaints may also be filed at <u>www.hud.gov/fairhousing</u> or by downloading HUD's free housing discrimination mobile application, which can be accessed through Apple and Android devices.