



# NEWS FROM HOME

Fall 2009

Elizabeth Brown, Executive Director

Housing Opportunities Made Equal  
2400 Reading Rd., Suite 404  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Ph.: (513) 721-4663  
FAX (513) 721-1642  
[www.cincyfairhousing.com](http://www.cincyfairhousing.com)

## **The New Neighbors Broadcast on CET, Channel 48 Sunday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m.**

“The New Neighbors” is a documentary by Cincinnati film maker Andrea Torrice. It is being aired on PBS stations around the country this fall. Narrated by Ruby Dee, it tells the inspiring story of two ordinary people, one black and one white, who have successfully made racial integration the centerpiece of revitalizing a New Jersey town.

The film will be shown on local PBS Channel 48, CET, on Sunday November 15 at 6:00 p.m. Following the 30 minute film, CET will air a live panel discussion on building stable integrated communities. The panel will include HOME Executive Director Elizabeth Brown.

HOME is organizing watch parties in homes and churches to bring people together to discuss the ideas raised by the film and how they apply in our communities. A discussion guide with tools and resources will be made available at the watch parties. If you are interested in hosting or attending a watch party, please contact HOME at [kendal.schwab@uwgc.org](mailto:kendal.schwab@uwgc.org).

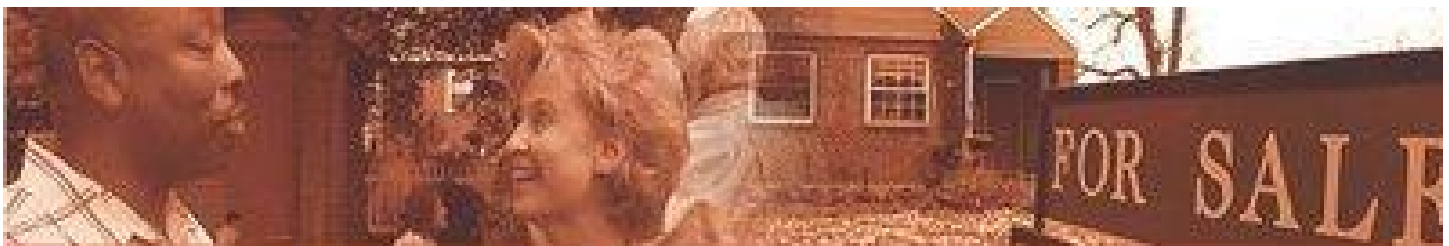
## **Hidden Treasures: A Human Relations Summit Saturday, November 21**

HOME is joining with the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission in sponsoring a half-day Saturday program celebrating Hamilton County’s stable integrated communities.

The event will be held at the Forest Park Senior Center from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be followed immediately by a luncheon honoring the 15 communities in Hamilton County identified by research as being racially integrated for at least 20 years. Forest Park is one of the communities being honored.

The morning program includes a Myth-Busting Panel looking at facts versus perceptions. The documentary film, “The New Neighbors” will be shown followed by a panel of representatives of the honoree communities talking about intentional community building in their neighborhoods.

For more information or to register for the Human Relations Summit e-mail [vanetta.kyle@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:vanetta.kyle@cincinnati-oh.gov).



## **The New Neighbors**

How one town created a vibrant, integrated suburb

## HOME Program Notes

HOME helped a client settle a case in which a Western Hills landlord denied an applicant because of race. Testing by HOME showed a clear pattern of not responding to Black applicants. The monetary settlement was much appreciated by the client who was still looking for affordable housing close to work.

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission found probable cause in three HOME cases against Craigslist based on discriminatory advertising. These cases will now be enforced by the Ohio Attorney General.

HOME helped a client settle a case in which she was denied an apartment in a subsidized development in Clermont County because of her disability. She received a confidential monetary amount. She is very low income and the settlement will allow her to obtain stable housing for her family.

## HOME's Fair Housing Initiative Program Receives A Perfect Score from HUD



HOME's Enforcement staff (left to right) Teresita Lewis, LaTonya Springs, Dickie Lee Padilla, and Carol Coaston, received a 100% rating for the second year in a row for their work on the Fair Housing Initiative Program that is funded by HUD.

## Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority

The HOME Board of Directors adopted the following statement at their September meeting:

“HOME is very concerned about public comments made by the Chairman of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, Arnold Barnett, in response to a fair housing complaint filed against CMHA. While HOME is not a party to the complaint, we strongly support the right of any individual to file a discrimination complaint with HUD without fear of retaliation or intimidation. Mr. Barnett's actions display an insulting attitude toward the residents of CMHA housing and a disregard for fair housing. We ask that he immediately resign from the CMHA Board of Commissioners and that the Court of Common Pleas appoint someone to the position who supports the mission of the organization.”

## HOME Staff Update

Kendal Schwab joined HOME in August as a



**Kendal Schwab**  
Public Ally

Fair Housing Outreach Specialist. She is conducting consumer outreach to let people know their housing rights and encourage them to call HOME if they face discrimination. Kendal is a recent graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a B.A. in Marketing and is working

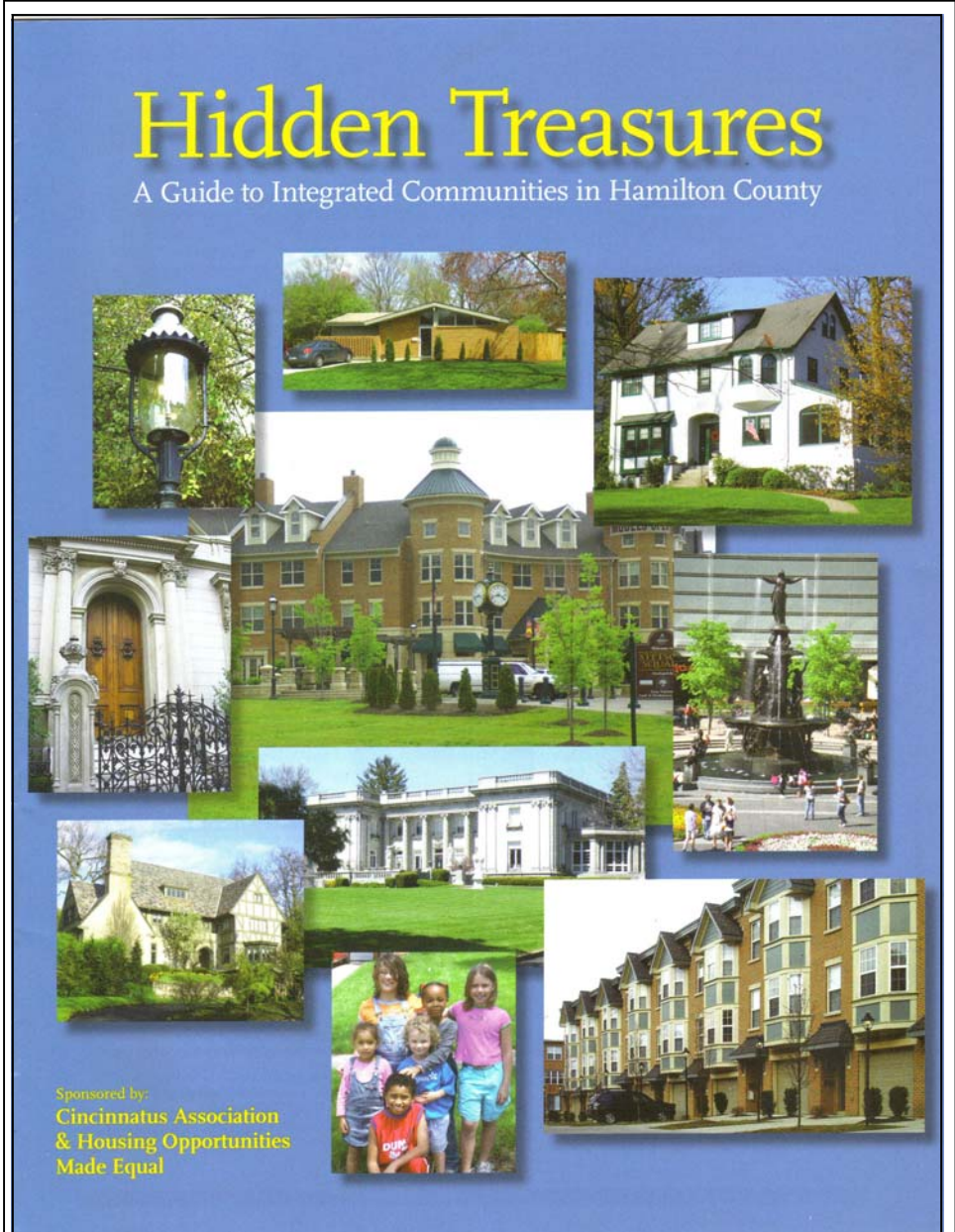
at HOME as an AmeriCorps Public Ally. Call Kendal to arrange a presentation at your church, school, or social service agency.

# New HOME Publication Hidden Treasures: A Guide to Integrated Communities in Hamilton County

HOME and the Cincinnati Association sponsored a new publication called "Hidden Treasures." The bright, graphic neighborhood guide highlights the 15 communities in Hamilton County identified as being racially integrated for over 20 years.

The booklet was written for home buyers. Real estate offices are making the guide available in their offices and relocation packets. As HOME Executive Director Elizabeth Brown says in the introduction, "Families choose a home for numerous highly personal reasons based on the family's current priorities, including schools, closeness to work, type or cost of housing, or a certain type of neighborhood feel. What is too often lacking is good information on which to base the important decision of where to live. Often, I have people tell me, 'This neighborhood is wonderful. I wish I knew about it when I was looking for a house.'"

The fifteen neighborhoods featured in the guide can be the subject of illegal steering by real estate agents who steer White families away from integrated communities. The guide is being used in Fair Housing continuing education classes for Realtors to teach about illegal racial steering and how to avoid the risk.



*Hidden Treasures* is being distributed free of charge. Call the HOME office, 721-4663, to have a single copy mailed. Bulk copies can be picked up at the HOME office or at the Cincinnati Area Board of Realtors.

<b>Hidden Treasure Communities</b>			
<b>GOLD</b> (Integrated since 1970)		<b>SILVER</b> (Integrated since 1980)	
Downtown / Riverfront	College Hill	Heights	Northside
Corryville	CUF	Kennedy Heights	Paddock Hills
Madisonville	East Walnut Hills	Mt. Airy	Pleasant Ridge
	Forest Park	North Avondale	Spring Grove Village

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2400 Reading Road, Ste. 404

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