

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

STRATEGY
February 2010

CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA

**Housing and Neighborhood
Development**

SERVE THE CUSTOMER

Strengthen
Neighborhoods

- CRC opened 1 fair housing case as follows:
 - Complainant alleges discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on national origin (Hispanic)
- CRC closed 3 fair housing cases as follows:
 - Complaint that alleged discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on national origin (Hispanic) was closed due to a no cause finding.
 - Complaint that alleged discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on sex (Female) was waived to HUD due to a conflict of interest (Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte)
 - Complaint that alleged discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on race (African American) was waived to HUD due to a conflict of interest (Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte)
- CRC staff provided 4 fair housing training sessions to the following organizations: Job Bank Participants (2 sessions), Habitat for Humanity and Professional Resource Options. A total of 50 persons were trained.

RUN THE BUSINESS

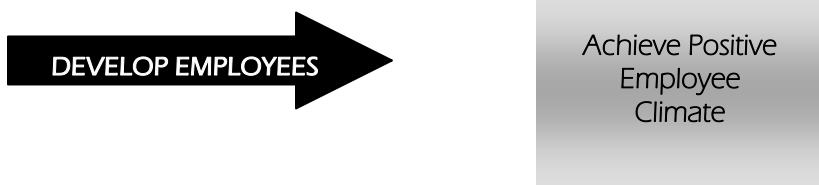
Develop
Collaborative
Solutions

Enhance
Customer
Service

- CRC staff attended 8 police chain of command review hearings as a voting member of the process.

- CRC Executive Director met with Mayor Anthony Foxx and County Commission Chair Jennifer Roberts to talk about appointment of Chair of the Community Relations Committee.
- CRC Executive Director continues to meet with the Men's Empowerment Coalition in our work to address issues impacting young black males in our community.
- CRC Executive Director, in conjunction with Ledger Morrisette, facilitated a conciliation session between the North Carolina NAACP and Myers Park HOA.
- CRC Executive Director attended several planning and development meetings during the month with Diane English of Community Building Initiative and Maria Handlin of Mecklenburg Ministries to plan for a Community Dialogue on jobs, unemployment, retraining and retaining Mecklenburg County's workforce.
- CRC Executive Director and staff facilitated diversity and conflict resolution training for 15 participants of Habitat for Humanity's Homeowner's in Progress Program.
- CRC Executive Director continues to meet with Gang Prevention Coalition to address gangs in Charlotte Mecklenburg and has been appointed to be a member of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Gang Steering Committee. This committee will oversee the work of creating a Gang Reentry and Intervention Team (GRIT) which will be composed of professionals from the field of juvenile justice, law enforcement and education who will work together to case manage youth to reduce gang involvement and criminality. Case Managers for the program will be hired and supervised by Gang of One.
- CRC Executive Director attended the Male Summit for Young Men at West Charlotte High School. The Summit was entitled, "Man Up".
- CRC Executive Director continues to work with District Court Judge Rickeye McKoy Mitchell and a group of community volunteers to address plans for mentoring for adjudicated youth in Charlotte Mecklenburg and met with Kevin Monroe, Assistant to Mayor Anthony Foxx, about the possibility of involving Mayor's office in this work.
- CRC Executive Director helped facilitate a CMPD/Gang of One and Gang Prevention Coalition RFP information session and assisted in making a PowerPoint presentation on gangs in Charlotte Mecklenburg.
- CRC Executive Director attended 2010 Partners in Eliminating Health Disparities Think Tank at Johnson C. Smith University.
- CRC Executive Director finalized a report for City Council's Restructuring Government Committee with recommendations to improve the Citizens Stakeholder Process and presented the report with recommendations to the Committee and Council members on February 25, 2010.
- CRC Executive Director and staff facilitated a meeting in the Foxridge Community to discuss their needs, interests and concerns and share ideas for improving their community.

- CRC Executive Director attended Mecklenburg Ministries Food for Thought session to discuss ways we might help congregations serve aging populations in Charlotte Mecklenburg.
- As a Board Member, CRC Executive Director, attended an event sponsored by Council on Aging regarding The Legislative Agenda on Aging 2010.
- CRC facilitated 2 Diversity trainings for the staff of US Airways at Douglas International Airport as a part of their Black History Month program and presentation. A total of 105 persons were trained.
- CRC Executive Director attended the performance of “Blood Done Signed My Name” at Imaginon Theatre. The performance was a special theatrical adaptation of the bestselling memoir that explores a racially charged incident in Oxford, NC in 1970. The performance was followed by a special audience “talk back” with the plays actor, Mike Wiley, and the book’s author, Tim Tyson.
- CRC Executive Director had several conversations with staff of City’s Manager’s Office and City Attorney’s Office regarding a business advertisement on city owned property that some have found to be racially offensive and has spoken with the owner of the business and plans to have additional conversations regarding this matter.
- The Dispute Settlement Program (DSP) mediated 48 cases and conciliated 30 worthless check cases saving 156 criminal justice hours and \$15,600 in taxpayer dollars. \$6,243.76 was recovered for area merchants. \$1,740 in reduced court fees were collected for the state.
- The Dispute Settlement Program (DSP) surveys clients in an effort to maintain and improve service delivery. Prior to mediation, 80% of clients believed going to court was their only option for resolving their dispute, 0% of clients believed their only option was to ignore their problem and 20% of clients believed their dispute could have been resolved by talking with the other party. After mediation, 20% of clients stated they would choose to go to court if they were involved in a future dispute and 0% of clients stated they would ignore future problems while 80% stated they would utilize mediation or talking to solve their problems.



- CRC staff has participated in 448.5 hours of career development during this fiscal year.