

# COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

*STRATEGY*  
*March 2010*

## CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA

**Housing and Neighborhood  
Development**

**SERVE THE CUSTOMER**

Strengthen  
Neighborhoods

- CRC opened 4 fair housing case as follows:
  - Complainant alleges discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on national origin (Hispanic)
  - Complainant alleges discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on family status.
  - Complainant alleges discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on family status.
  - Complainant alleges discriminatory financing based on race, Caucasian.
- CRC closed 2 fair housing cases as follows:
  - Complaint that alleged discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on national origin (Hispanic) was withdrawn with resolution.
  - Complaint that alleged discrimination in terms and conditions of rental based on religion (Judaism) was closed due to complainant's failure to cooperate.
- CRC staff provided 4 fair housing training sessions to the following organizations: Job Bank Participants (2 sessions), Participants in a "Buying a Home Workshop", and participants at the Parent University Event/Achieving Success. A total of 271 persons were trained.

**RUN THE BUSINESS**

Develop  
Collaborative  
Solutions

Enhance  
Customer  
Service

- CRC staff attended 6 police chain of command review hearings as a voting member of the process.
- CRC Executive Director continues to meet with the Men's Empowerment Coalition several times per month to develop a conference for incarcerated youth at Mecklenburg Jail North. The group will be asking community leaders to speak to young men on the skills needed in fatherhood and what it means to be a real man.
- CRC Executive Director, in conjunction with Mecklenburg Ministries and the Community Building Initiative held a community dialogue about Jobs at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. 200 persons were in attendance.
- CRC Executive Director attended several meetings during the month with Diane English of Community Building Initiative and Maria Handlin of Mecklenburg Ministries to make plans to conduct 3 community dialogues on affordable housing and the City's location policy.
- CRC Executive Director was a presenter at a Haitian Relief effort which was sponsored by the Center for the African Diaspora.
- CRC Executive Director and Fran Cook of the Gang Prevention Coalition presented the Gang Prevention Coalition's PowerPoint presentation to the Juvenile Justice Subcommittee at the Stancil Center.
- CRC Executive Director volunteered at the Young Black Males (YBM) Leadership Conference. Approximately 400 persons were in attendance. Those in attendance received an inspirational speech regarding young adult responsibility and accountability by Mayor Anthony Foxx.
- CRC Executive Director continues to work with District Court Judge Rickeye McKoy Mitchell and the Youth Violence Mentoring Committee to address mentoring for adjudicated youth in Charlotte- Mecklenburg.
- CRC Executive Director served as a spokesperson for getting people out to complete their Census forms at the Complete Count Census Committee's 12:00 Rally held at the Square in Uptown Charlotte.
- CRC Executive Director attended the Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. The purpose of the conference was to learn about violence prevention strategies for young people.
- CRC Executive Director presented the list of final recommendations for improving the City of Charlotte's Stakeholder Group process to the members of the City Council's Restructuring Government Committee. These recommendations were unanimously approved by the members of the committee and recommended by approval of City Council.
- CRC Executive Director continues to work with the Council on Aging and has been recently assigned to a subcommittee charged with developing an action plan for making local businesses more senior friendly.
- CRC staffed an interactive booth on fair housing issues and conflict resolution skills for approximately 200 children at the Parent University Event/Achieving Success.

- CRC Executive Director worked in conjunction with Area Mental Health for a premiere viewing of the movie, “Fat Boy Chronicles” which dealt with issues of self-esteem and being overweight with young people.
- CRC Executive Director spoke to 60 middle school students at Barringer Academic Center on the importance of education, good grades, going to college and being responsible adults when they grow up.
- The Dispute Settlement Program (DSP) mediated 78 cases and conciliated 15 worthless check cases saving 186 criminal justice hours and \$18,600 in taxpayer dollars. \$1,324.61 was recovered for area merchants. \$1,020 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, 67% of clients believed going to court was their only option for resolving their dispute, 22% of clients believed their only option was to ignore their problem and 11% of clients believed their dispute could have been resolved by talking with the other party. After mediation, 27% 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 73% stated they would utilize mediation or talking to solve their problems.



Achieve Positive  
Employee  
Climate

- CRC staff has participated in 471.5 hours of career development during this fiscal year.