WELCOME TO OAK PARK:
The Oak Park Regional Housing Center Model

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Fostering Diverse Neighborhoods Panel
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Since 1972 the Oak Park Regional Housing Center has been dedicated to achieving meaningful and lasting racial diversity throughout Oak Park and the region.
OAK PARK DIVERSITY

Oak Park 2000:
- White: 66%
- Black: 22%
- Latino: 5%
- Asian: 4%

Oak Park 2010:
- White: 64%
- Black: 21%
- Latino: 7%
- Asian: 5%
OAK PARK IN THE REGION

Oak Park 2010
- White: 64%
- Black: 21%
- Asian: 5%
- Latino: 7%

7 - County Region 2010
- White: 53%
- Latino: 22%
- Black: 17%
- Asian: 6%
RENTAL COUNSELING & AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING

- Personalized counseling through detailed apartment information
- Affirmative Marketing / Dispelling Stereotypes
- Advertise entire community as a desirable place to live
- Engage in public events both in Oak Park and in other communities
- Targeting a wide audience
LANDLORD & MANAGEMENT TRAINING

• Work directly with landlords
• Emphasize quality building designs and unit features
• Provide effective and fair management techniques
• Consult on screening techniques
• Encourage resident managers
POLICY & ADVOCACY

• Advocate for diverse involvement in institutions & civic life
• Provide regional leadership and advocacy
• Conduct research and provide anecdotal evidence to inform, improve, and verify our efficacy
• Advocate for affirmative public policies at the state and national level
• Advocate to prioritize affirmative furthering in philanthropic communities
COMMUNITY RELATIONS

• Village of Oak Park Cooperation
• Local Real Estate Community
• Other Non-Profits
CHALLENGES

• Non-African Americans are reluctant to make affirmative moves
• Many communities that surround Oak Park are highly segregated
• Misconceptions that we have solved the problem in Oak Park
• The program is labor intensive and can be expensive
FOSTER DIVERSE NEIGHBORHOODS BY....

- Updating Municipal Documents
  - Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
  - Fair Housing Ordinance & Action Plan
  - Diversity Statement

- Collaboration is Key

- Being Proactive NOT Reactive

- Adapting the OPRHC Model to Your Community
  - More effective in communities with decent rental housing stock
  - Can be modified for other housing and demographic mixes
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fair Housing Policy Website
www.oprhc.org

Renter & Landlord Oriented Website
www.liveinoakpark.com