

the Common Path

Next Delegates Council: Dayton's Plan to Welcome Immigrants

Join with delegates on Wednesday, January 11th to learn about Dayton's city-wide efforts to welcome immigrants. Synod Hall, St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral downtown, 12pm. ☒

Second Chances for a Place to Call Home

OTR Community Housing Offers Chances to Rebuild Rental History

Many of our judicatory members are seeing an increase in the number of people who are struggling with issues of employment and housing. The challenge to find a safe and affordable place to live can seem even more out of reach to those with negative rental histories. The 2nd Chance Program from Over-the-Rhine Community Housing is aimed at helping those who find themselves in this situation. The program offers affordable housing starting at \$225/mo. To qualify, you must have barriers on your rental history, such as failure to pay rent on time, breaking a lease, owing outstanding rent, moving without proper notice and eviction. Those who work temporary agency jobs or have multiple civil judgments against them are also eligible. Participants in the program must register for the Direct Rent Program at the Free Store Food Bank and pay a full month's rent plus deposit. For more information, call Alicia Woods, Leasing Manager for OTR Community Housing at 513-381-1171, extension103 ☒

homelessness/affordable housing >>>

Anna Louise Inn Can Co-exist With Western & Southern

Built in 1909, the Anna Louise Inn continues to provide safe and affordable housing for women in downtown Cincinnati Lytle Park District for 102 years. Historically the Inn's mission and the women it serves has been no stranger to development in the neighborhood. In fact, Western & Southern Financial Group has been their neighbor for many years. But like all good neighbors, Cincinnati Union Bethel felt it wanted to renovate its historic building in order to improve the quality of space it offers to its residents.

Here is some background. Cincinnati Union Bethel, the non-profit owner of the Inn, looked at potential buyers from 2005-2009. During that time Western & Southern made two offers to purchase their property, \$1.75 and \$1.8 million. Cincinnati Union Bethel, as property owner, thought it over and decided to seek outside funding to renovate the Inn. They were awarded \$10 million in tax credits from a federal program that grants funds to affordable housing

projects. Keep in mind that tax credits themselves open up economic opportunity for investment by local corporations.

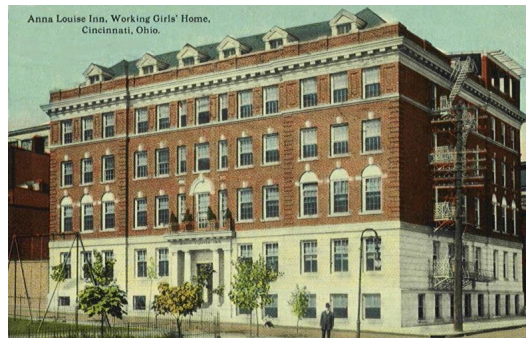
In addition to the tax credit funding, Cincinnati Union Bethel increased their funding by applying and being awarded \$2.6 million of HOME Loan Funding, a HUD program that brings money into the City of Cincinnati requiring a small match from the City. This was voted on by City Council January 21 of this year. At this City Council

meeting MARCC read and submitted its Statement of Support for Federal Funding for the Inn, an affordable housing project. Now the Inn has \$12.6 million and still raising money to

renovate its historic site to serve women in need of safe and affordable housing.

Western & Southern filed a complaint in Hamilton County Common Pleas Court against

(cont.)



Anna Louise Inn, Working Girls' Home, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Built in 1909, the Anna Louise Inn continues to provide safe and affordable housing for women in downtown Cincinnati Lytle Park District for 102 years.

DON PROUT ARCHIVE [HTTP://WWW.CINCINNATIVES.NET/](http://www.cincinnativiews.net/)

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- Association of Unity Churches
- Baptist Ministers Conference of Cincinnati and Vicinity
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- Miami Association - American Baptists
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Anna Louise Inn, cont.

Cincinnati Union Bethel, the Inn and the City of Cincinnati over the planned renovation on May 27, 2011, calling for a restraining order and injunctions. The key issues involved are the zoning review process and proper use of the zoned area. Two points made in the complaint were that the City did not follow proper procedure when considering and issuing construction permits for the Inn, and that Cincinnati Union Bethel programs, specifically Off the Streets, a transitional housing program for women recovering from prostitution, violate permitted uses in the neighborhoods zoning code. Legal counsel for CUB argues the programs fall under permitted use under DD-B zoning, therefore there are no valid restrictions on the Inn's services.

Cincinnati Union Bethel filed a counter claim accusing Western & Southern of inappropriately using the courts as part of a strategy to delay Cincinnati Union Bethel from using its time-sensitive funding to begin the renovation. Residents of the Inn

soon after filed a complaint in Federal Court against Western & Southern for defamation of character, among several other issues. On June 21st MARCC signed a resolution in support of The Anna Louise Inn's renovation project and encouraged other judicatories and their congregations to do the same.

Housing History:

Located next to Lytle Park at 3rd and Pike the building was constructed in 1909 as a residence for young working women. When it was first opened no girl was allowed to live there if they earned more than \$10 a week. The price of room and board varied from \$2.75 to \$4.50 a week depending on the room's location and how much the girl made a week.

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On August 10th an interfaith prayer vigil, organized by Presbyterian urban ministers and MARCC, was held prior to the Western & Southern complaint hearing in the Court of Common Pleas by Judge Norbert Nadel.

Judge Nadel dismissed some parts of the complaint and decided to continue the case. The next court date for the local complaint is Thursday, December 15 at 10am in Room 560 of the Hamilton County Court House. A date has yet to be set for the suit filed in Federal Court by the Inn's residents. ☒

Save the Date

marcc's 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Speaker:
 Cincinnati Police Chief
 James E. Craig

Knox Presbyterian Church
 3400 Michigan Ave 45208
 5:30-9:00pm • Registration starts January

Feb 21 2012

