

NEWS RELEASE

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Cincinnati Human Relations Commission Kicks off Human Relations Month campaign

Campaign to utilize social media to increase outreach

Cincinnati, OH – The Cincinnati Human Relations Commission (CHRC) will begin its annual celebration of Human Relations Month on March 1. Traditionally, the celebration was a one-time event that honored community members for their service. This year CHRC will undertake a month-long campaign that seeks to highlight the history, current events and the future of human relations both in Cincinnati and throughout the nation.

“We began dedicating March as Cincinnati Human Relations Month in 2007 as an opportunity to educate, inform and receive feedback from residents and neighbors on issues that would build a more harmonious and cohesive community,” stated Cheryl Meadows, CHRC Executive Director. “That is part of our mission to help our community overcome prejudice and discrimination, build mutual respect and understanding. We are the second oldest established organization in the country to hold such a mission, and we provide a valuable service to our community.”

The decision to use social media to raise awareness was an easy one. “It’s going to allow us to have a continual conversation with people. We won’t have to wait for a one-time event to discuss human relations issues,” says Courtney Mims, community outreach consultant. “And the discussion won’t be one-sided because community members will be able to throw their own voice into the conversations.”

The campaign will first focus on sharing the history of CHRC and current projects. The second piece will identify what exactly human relations issues are and how they affect communities. Some topics to be covered include fair housing, equal pay, historical roots of Cincinnati neighborhoods and bullying. The third piece will focus on how CHRC and community members can promote peace and mutual understanding with the final wrap-up highlighting how citizens can participate in various activities throughout the city.

Additionally, CHRC will co-sponsor events throughout March that add to the dialogue of human relations. One such event takes place on March 10, 2011 with guest speaker Naomi Tutu. The event is the 2011 National Speaker Forum for the Women’s City Club of Cincinnati at the Millennium Hotel at 7:30 p.m.

For more information about the programs and services of the CHRC, contact Courtney Mims at Courtney.mims@cincinnati-oh.gov or by calling 513.352.3237. Visit the CHRC website at www.chrc.us and follow the human relations conversations at Twitter.com/chrc and Facebook: Cincinnati Human Relations.

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