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THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS PREPARES TO CELEBRATE FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Fair Housing Five Children's Book Project Aims to Teach Fair Housing Rights Across Communities & Generations

Baltimore, MD – The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) will begin preparations for Fair Housing Month in April by conducting its first “train the trainer” workshop and webinar on March 13, 2015. Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) will serve as host in their Careers Building (CRSC) Room 200, from 1 to 3 p.m. The Maryland Association of REALTORS® (MAR) is exclusively sponsoring this workshop. Attendance and parking are free and open to the public. Everyone who attends the workshop will receive free copies of the book, discussion resources, and assistance in planning workshops in their region or for their organization. This event will kick off a series of *Fair Housing Five* book discussions in our local communities. Participants for the March 13 workshop can register [here](#).

Written by the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC), *The Fair Housing Five & the Haunted House* is a children's story that allows youth and their families to explore and understand fair housing matters in our society. Sophie Rosen, GNOFHAC Education & Outreach Coordinator, will lead the session on March 13 at AACC. This workshop is ideal for elementary school teachers and staff, librarians, youth and community organizations, civil rights and fair housing advocates to learn to facilitate guided discussions with children in 1st to 5th grades about fair housing, equity, and diversity. More information on *Fair Housing Five* is available at www.fairhousingfive.org.

Support for MCCR's innovative fair housing education initiative has seen a ground swell since the idea's inception. To date, program partners include the Anne Arundel Community College Legal Studies Institute; Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc.; Howard County Housing; MAR; PNC Bank; the Anne Arundel County Human Relations Commission; the Baltimore Regional Fair Housing Group, a committee of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council; the Maryland Department

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of Housing & Community Development; the U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development; and the Y of Central Maryland. MCCR continues to work with a number of organizations and businesses to secure vital sponsorship and support.

Tara Taylor, Director of MCCR's Education & Outreach Unit, is available to answer any and all questions about *Fair Housing Five* workshops, as well as how MCCR can bring this exciting program to your community. Ms. Taylor can be reached at 410-767-6459 or by email at tara.taylor@maryland.gov.

MCCR represents the interest of the State to ensure equal opportunity for all through enforcement of Title 20 of the State Government Article and Title 19 of the State Finance & Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. MCCR investigates complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and state contracts filed by members of protected classes under federal and state law. For additional information, please contact Spencer Dove at 410-767-8576 or by email at spencer.dove@maryland.gov.

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