

ICDHR

Illinois Commission on
Diversity & Human Relations

NEWSLETTER
JUNE ~ OCTOBER 2007
<http://www.icdhr.com>

Informing, Educating & Affecting
Multi-cultural Change

THE ICDHR TO HOLD MAJOR HUMAN RELATIONS BUILDING CONFERENCE

In cooperation with the Human Relations Commission of the City of Elgin, the Village of Streamwood, Clark Consulting Group, Inc., and Sisters of the Living Word, the ICDHR will sponsor a conference for municipal human relations commissions and not-for-profit organizations involved in building and improving human relations across racial and cultural lines of difference. The Conference, to be held on September 20, 2007 will bring more than 500 representatives of such groups together at the Woodfield Hyatt Hotel in Schaumburg, Illinois.

Ms. Carol Adams, Secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services will serve as the keynote speaker. The conference will provide attendees an opportunity to share programs and activities underway to promote positive human relationships. The conference will also address human relations challenges that remain, as well as assessing progress in improving relationships between citizens and community leaders. The conference will also produce the first directory of human relations organization in the north, northwest and western suburbs of Chicago. The theme of the conference is "Building Relationships for Today and Tomorrow." In announcing the conference, ICDHR President and Chief Executive Officer stated "given the rapid diversity, there remains a serious deficit in the inclusion of this diverse population in the affairs of local government. Many are not registered to vote and remain outside the mainstream community. We are concerned that local governments do not adequately represent the citizens that they now serve. It is anticipated that the conference attendees can assist in the development of collective efforts to raise the level of sensitivity regarding the lack of representation in many of our communities.



ICDHR PROVIDES LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING



ICDHR entered into a contract with the City of Aurora to conduct an Employee Attitude Survey and provide cultural competency training for the 400 civilian and sworn members of the Aurora Police Department. Under the leadership of Police Chief Powell, the department has become one of the most proactive departments in the nation. ICDHR created a partnership with not only the police department, but also with Marilyn Clark, President of the Clark Consulting Group, Inc., headquartered in Evanston, Illinois. The ICDHR along with the Clark Consulting Group brought in a number of key professionals to help guide contract provisions. In a recent statement by Officer Jaime A. Williams (FHPD) and a member of the ICDHR Board of Directors, he indicated that "the quality of training was the best that he has seen". The Commission is very thankful to Chief Powell, Deputy Chief Anderson, Lt. Handell, Commander Hoffman and Training Sergeant Weeks for providing the ICDHR the opportunity to contribute to the growth of the department.

Given the acceleration of diversity throughout the United States and the extraordinary growth of the minority population, now 33%, the ICDHR believes that such training is critical to promoting positive police and community relations. To learn more about the training programs of the ICDHR, please contact Reverend Brooks, ICDHR President and Chief Executive Officer via e-mail at info@icdhr.com.

ROBERT MORRIS COLLEGE STUDENTS HELP TO BUILD ICDHR'S NEW E-MAIL MARKETING PROGRAM



Under the leadership of Officer Jaime A. Williams (FHPD), ICDHR Board member, several Robert Morris students enrolled in the Aurora Campus have donated their services to help build this new program, designed by Ain't Rocket Science. The program enhances ICDHR's capability to increase its contacts with the more than 10,000 participants in various ICDHR programs and initiatives. The program will also allow ICDHR with an advanced method of communicating its position on various issues and keeping supporters aware of its programs.

WALT WHITMAN AND THE SOUL CHILDREN OF CHICAGO TO LEAD CELEBRATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR'S 79TH BIRTHDAY IN SCHAUMBURG

The ICDHR will hold the 7th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner and Celebration on Thursday, January 10, 2008 at the Woodfield Hyatt Hotel, 1800 East Golf Road, Schaumburg. It is expected that the attendance will greatly surpass the 400 that attended last year.

Walt Whitman and the Soul Children will perform in concert. They have performed at the White House and throughout the United States. They have also performed in India, Russia, China and are currently on tour in Israel. In announcing the celebration of Dr. King's 79th birthday, Rev. Brooks pointed out that music was extremely important to Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement that he led. A celebration of the life of Dr. King would be incomplete without music. And in the tradition of ICDHR, the best of the best has been secured to insure that the celebration is world class. For information regarding the dinner and celebration, please e-mail the ICDHR at info@icdhr.com.



REVEREND BROOKS, ICDHR PRESEIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER WILL CELEBRATE 40 YEARS IN PROMOTING THE LARGEST ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE OF THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., IN THE MIDWEST REGION ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2008.

The Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner and Celebration will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2008 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, 720 S. Michigan Avenue in Chicago will also be celebrating 40 consecutive years that Rev. Brooks has led this event. With the assistance of his daughter, Michero B. Washington, more than 100,000 representatives of business, religious institutions, government and community sectors have joined together over the 40 years to help keep the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. alive.



The 40th Annual Dinner and Celebration will be led by Gregg Steinberg, President of International Profit Associates and Terry AnCel, President of Hayes Mechanical Company. Under the leadership of Gregg Steinberg, the dinner has grown dramatically over the last few years. Terry AnCel and his company have been supports of the event for more than 20 years. Each year ICDHR presents to an outstanding leader, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Excellence in Leadership Award. Last year, Dr. B. Joseph White, President of the University of Illinois was the honoree and speaker. The ICDHR Board of Directors and a broad Selection Committee are busy reviewing nominations for the honor to be presented on January 12, 2008. Please visit the ICDHR web site (www.icdhr.com) for periodic updates on this extraordinary event.

PICTURE GALLERY OF 2007 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DINNER AND CELEBRATION



John Burgess, Managing Director, International Profit Associates.



Jim Carver - Senior V.P. Mt. Prospect National Bank and wife.



Warner Saunders (NBC-5) and Merri Dee (WGN-9) address dinner attendees.



Rev. Brooks with Arlene Mulder, Mayor of Arlington Heights IL, and Steve Herod, V.P., First Bank.

NEWS AT A GLANCE

- ICDHR launches its 10 year strategic plan development which will be completed by March 1, 2008.
- ICDHR to repeat and expand Diversity Inclusiveness Study of suburban municipalities to determine level of participation of minorities and other cultural groups in municipal and community mainstream activities and opportunities.
- ICDHR will conduct human relations building assessments in 10 Illinois communities outside the City of Chicago, but within the State of Illinois. These communities are being selected.
- ICDHR to initiate Capital Development Program to build new headquarters and multi-cultural center.
- ICDHR begins initiative to recruit and organize one hundred religious leaders for the "Eye on the Sparrow" project; a program to increase the visibility of problems confronting and available to minorities and disadvantaged youth and their families.
- Reverend Brooks electrifies 2000 attendees at the Annual Gathering of Families Assembly in Baltimore on July 22, 2007.