* Date 2/19/2015 Location East End Community Center, 624 Xenia Ave, Dayton. 45403
* Nam: Minority Focus Group: Members of Latino Connection
* **Recap of session:**
* The Latino Connection consists of numerous community agencies that meet to enhance the quality of life in the Latino community by addressing housing, health care, social services and safety issues. This is a very large group and some of the members had taken the survey at other meetings. Of the 13 taking the survey 9 were women that were Hispanic. The age range was diverse, 25 to 72 years of age. Income status in this group ranged from $9,495 to $94,951 annually with the majority earning over $63,301 annually.

**Top 3 areas of Discrimination**

**Most Common:**

46% Identified Race/Color as #1

42% Identified both Race/Color and Ethnicity as #2

25% Identified Familial Status as #3

* **Noteworthy stats:**
* 31% identified Ethnicity as #1
* **I know someone who was discriminated against.**
* 6 stated yes.
* 6 stated no.
* **Disability:**

2stated a person with disabilities resides in their home.

* **Current housing is accessible.**
* 7 stated yes.
* 5 stated no
* **Opinion/thoughts about how willing landlords will help people with disabilities.**
* Very willing – 2
* Hesitant – 8
* Unwilling – 2
* **Have you ever asked for a reasonable accommodation or modification?**

**0 s**tated yes

13 stated no

Tell us about your neighborhood.   
Does it or doesn’t it have:

* + Good Schools?

12 stated the main consideration when moving into a specific neighborhood they considered the school system first.

* + Groceries and shopping amenities that are plentiful and close?

Four individuals stated that there is no grocery shopping in or near Downtown Dayton, which is inconvenient for individuals living there or considering moving there. Four more individuals mentioned that more retail shopping was needed in Dayton.

* + Health Care – is it close or far away?

Two individuals commented that Children’s Urgent Care is all the way out in Springboro, but one person mentioned that other locations such as Huber Heights are in the process of building other Children’s Urgent Care locations. Eight individuals mentioned that the Montgomery County had several hospitals available within in a reasonable distance.

* + Community Center?

No comments.

* + **Affordable** housing opportunities?

Eight individuals commented that there was a need for more affordable housing in Dayton.

* + Easy **transportation** to everywhere in the county?

No Comments.

* + Is there neighborhood **blight** or problems?

No Comments.

* + Is it accessible to **people with disabilities**

Four individuals said that the problem with a lot of the older homes in Dayton is that they are not currently handicapped accessible and unable to be made completely accessible to individuals with mobility impairments. These four individuals also stated that this made it difficult for people to age in place and force individuals to leave homes they may have fully paid off, and lived in all their lives. Older persons or those who become disabled in Dayton are often forced to move to other areas to find that accessible housing.

* + What else is important?
* One individual mentioned he owned rental property in Dayton and had a lesbian couple feel
* the need to reveal their sexual orientation after viewing a unit. They said a lot of landlords
* had a problem with their sexual orientation so they wanted to be upfront with him. He said
* he was surprised that they felt this need and had been facing problems but he was happy to
* rent to anyone who would make the rental payments and be a good tenant.
* Let’s Talk About Your Housing:
  + Rental or Ownership?

Mix of home owners and renters.

* + Did you meet any obstacles in your search for housing?

One individual who is a Hispanic female with a heavy accent said that she was attempting to purchase a newly constructed house in the Bellbrook area two years ago. She said that she had been pre-approved for a loan over $100,000, and otherwise qualified. She said that when she arrived at the open house, the woman there asked if she was sure she was in the right place, when she asked to see the house. The woman showed her the house, but asked again if she was sure she was looking in the right area and asked if she had any money to buy the home. She said that she told the woman she did, but she felt as if though the woman had no interest in selling to her and ended up purchasing a house in Centerville instead for a lot less money.

* + Have you experienced any drawbacks since you moved in?

No comments.

* + Do you believe housing discrimination is more common when it comes to renting or buying a home?

Three individuals felt that housing discrimination was more common in renting because

private home owners were more particular about what types of people they wanted in their

properties.

* + How are your taxes, insurance rates, and other housing financial obligations?

One individual commented that the properties in the McCook Field Neighborhood in

Dayton has gone down in value as a result of the Chrysler/Behr Toxins leak.

Some Questions for Discussion:

* + Have YOU ever been steered away from a place because of your race, gender, disability or because of having children, etc.?

One individual, who was an African American female, stated that she had been a single mom with 3 young boys and struggled to find housing in the Dayton area because she had children.

* + Were you ever told you were not welcome in a neighborhood or town?

One individual mentioned that he had worked in Lima, Ohio several years ago and had considered moving his family out to Lima. He said he felt very unwelcomed in the area based on his race and treatment he received. He instead found a home outside of the area and commuted several hours to work each day.

* + Did you ever believe you were not welcome somewhere, even though nothing was ever said?
* No comments.
  + Do you know anyone that has filed a housing complaint?

No comments.

* + Do immigrants have problems with discrimination in your neighborhood or town?

One individual who is an immigrants and who works with immigrants said that immigrants are facing employment discrimination every day in Montgomery County. She said that despite the fact that these immigrants are well educated with extensive college degrees, it is their accent that keeps them from being able to get jobs.

* + What groups of people are discriminated against in this County

Five individuals felt that those with a Race/Color, Ethnicity, Disability, and age were the

most discriminated against in Montgomery County.

* + Adjourn -