* Date\_01/05/2015 Location City of Dayton Human Relations Council, 371 W\_ Second St., Dayton\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Name: Focus Group: Board of Trustees of City of Dayton Human Relations Council
* **Recap of session:**
* The Human Relations Council works to promote and ensure a culture of fair treatment and equal access to opportunities for all who live, work, play, and gather in the City of Dayton. This group is made up of the board of directors for the City of Dayton Human Relations Council, 12 females and 8 males. There are 11 African Americans and 9 Caucasians in which the majority earn $31,651 to $79,125. The ages in this group range from 26 – 65.

**Top 3 areas of Discrimination**

**Most Common:**

40% Identified Race/Color as #1.

40 % Identified Race/Color as #2.

25% Identified Familial Status as #3.

* 20% Evenly identified Race/Color, Disability and Sexual Orientation as #3.
* **Noteworthy stats:**

Of the 10 that did not view race/color as the top area of discrimination, eight felt race/color was the second highest area of discrimination.

**I know someone who was discriminated against.**

14, or 70%, of the individuals stated they knew of instances of discrimination in housing in their non-professional experiences.

* **Disability:**
* There were 5 participants with disabilities in their households.
* **Current housing is accessible.**
* Only 3 of the 20 stated their housing was accessible even though 5 stated that they had a member in the house with a disability. It was stated that 2 of the disabilities were not related to mobility impairment.
* **Opinion/thoughts about how willing landlords will help people with disabilities.**
* Very willing – 20%
* Hesitant – 70%
* Unwilling – 10%
* **Have you ever asked for a reasonable accommodation or modification?**

1 stated yes

19 stated no

* Tell us about your neighborhood.   
  Does it or doesn’t it have:
  + Good Schools?

Two individuals stated that there were no elementary schools in the west side neighborhood.

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

4 individuals stated that there are few grocery stores and the restaurants are closing on the West side of Dayton. One individual stated the grocery stores are usually Mom and Pop stores and have limited selections.

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

No comments.

* + Community Center?

Maintaining current Community Centers was mentioned by 4 individuals.

* + **Affordable** housing opportunities?

2 individuals stated the low income housing was positioned in the high crime areas in the West side of Dayton.

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

One individual stated that the North West side of Dayton has areas with no sidewalks. This makes it difficult to access public transportation especially for the mobility impaired.

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

Two individuals stated that neighborhood associations are important tool for preventing blight in the West side.

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

No comments other than the lack of sidewalks in the North West side of Dayton.

* + What else is important?
* Public safety on West side of Dayton is important to 3 individuals. Maintaining parks on
* West side of Dayton is important to one individual. One individual stated that full service
* banks are moving out of the West side of Dayton.
* Let’s Talk About Your Housing:
  + Rental or Ownership?

The majority were home owners.

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

One stated that it was difficult to find a home in her price range that was in a safe neighborhood.

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

Some nice areas are becoming spotted with blighted homes on the West side of Dayton.

Services are leaving the West side of Dayton.

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

Two individuals stated that there is discrimination by landlords in the rental homes

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

One individual stated there may be some red lining when potential home buyers are entering the market on the West side of Dayton.

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 stated he was told that after 3 attempts that the landlord was not going to rent anything to him due to him and his friend being gay.

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

No comments.

* + 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?

Not personally.

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

Two stated that immigrants often have no documented leases, utilities, and are often targeted by slum landlords. These immigrants are fearful of reprisal if they complain.

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

Race/Color, Disability, National Origin, Familial, Three stated that felons that have a clean

record after 10 years should be given more protection as to their choice in housing.

* + Adjourn -