

**Ohio Civil Rights Commission**

**G. Michael Payton**  
Executive Director

**Governor Bob Taft**

**Pastor Aaron Wheeler, Sr.**  
Chairman



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 29, 2005

Contact: Christia Alou White  
(614) 466-2785/Rosario Martinez  
(614) 466-8333

**OCRC AND OCHLA ANNOUNCE "PROMOTING GOOD CREDIT AND HOMEOWNERSHIP" WORKSHOPS TO OHIO HISPANICS**

**Columbus, OH** – The Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) and The Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA) announced today that they will host a series of community trainings for Ohio's Hispanic/Latino leaders and service providers, entitled "Promoting Good Credit and Homeownership." The trainings will begin in April, during National Fair Housing Month, and run through May in Columbus, Cleveland, Lorain, Youngstown, Toledo and Dayton.

"The trainings will focus on fair housing rights, understanding credit and debt, and preparing for homeownership," said OCRC Executive Director, G. Michael Payton. "Predatory lending is a problem that plagues Ohio, especially its minority communities. Our collaboration with the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs will get those heavily-relied-upon community supports some vital information and resources to assist their customers and constituents."

The half-day training will be conducted by local consumer credit counseling organizations, and fair housing advocacy groups, as well as OCRC and OCHLA.

"We have established a network of Hispanic and Latino leadership, the Agenda Latina, that serves as the states' forum for agenda setting in the Latino/Hispanic communities statewide," said OCHLA Executive Director, Ezra Escudero. "The Agenda Latina is already working with Hispanic leadership in areas such as education and health, so we are pleased to address housing issues and financial preparation for our state's ever-growing Hispanic and Latino population."

For more information about this initiative and others please contact The Ohio Civil Rights Commission at (888) 278-7101 or [crc.ohio.gov](http://crc.ohio.gov) or the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs at (614) 466-8333.

#

Ohio Civil Rights Commission  
Commissioners: Grace Ramos, Nirmal Sinha, Charlie Winburn, Jeanine Donaldson  
1111 East Broad Street, Suite 301, Columbus, Ohio 43205  
phone • 888-278-7101, fax • 614-644-8776, internet • [www.crc.ohio.gov](http://www.crc.ohio.gov)