

***IT CAN MAKE
A REAL
DIFFERENCE***

***TO YOUR COOPERATIVE
WHEN YOU JOIN US***

***For more information, an
application, and dues
information, contact the
office at 734-955-9516***

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Midwest Association of Housing
Cooperatives



Benefits of MAHC Membership

Look inside for ideas on how to
make your Co-op the very best that
it can be

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A WORD ABOUT MAHC

The Midwest Association of Housing Cooperatives, Inc. is a non profit charitable (501c3) membership organization, devoted to the support and education of housing cooperative members and governing boards. **MAHC** has received national recognition as a leader in the representation, training, development and maintenance of the cooperative way of life.

Our mission statement is, "to support and champion the cause of quality housing through education, legislative actions, partnerships, and advocacy for housing cooperatives." **MAHC** has been committed to this mission for over 40 years.

Among the benefits of Membership in MAHC are:

EDUCATION: **MAHC** is a leader in the development and presentation of quality education programs for those involved in the cooperative community. Boards of Directors, staff, managers, accountants, maintenance personnel and government personnel are among those who benefit from our cooperative training.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Our Annual conference provides an opportunity for our member cooperatives to participate in our annual business meeting as well as attend classes on a variety of subjects, and to network with housing cooperators from other geographical areas. Our Annual Conference is held in the early spring of each year in fun filled locations that allow our attendees to relax after a day of intensive class participation.

NEWSLETTER : The quarterly newsletter provides timely informative articles from the "how to " of problem solving, to analysis of new legislation. Our newsletter regularly features information regarding upcoming events, and answers to member's questions.

GROUP ACTION: With membership exceeding 20,000 units of cooperative housing, **MAHC** represents a growing force of influence on issues, concerns and legislation affecting our cooperative community.

CONSULTATION: MAHC board members, professional advisors, and staff are available to meet with cooperatives to deliver training for members, board members, and staff, to mediate board disputes, or to provide consulting services on a variety of cooperative matters.

TASK FORCE WORKSHOPS: Skill Development Workshops have been designed by MAHC, with the assistance of others including the Organization of Applied Science in Society. These one and two day seminars provide comprehensive coverage of topics including Membership Selection, Financial Management, Evaluating Management, Cooperative Communications, Serving on the Board, Membership Orientation, Introductions to Co-ops, Management Contracts, and many more.

CO-OP HOUSING HANDBOOK: MAHC publishes the Cooperative Housing Handbook (frequently referred to as the "Co-op Bible") This handbook is a must for all those involved in the production, governance, management, or routine operations of a housing cooperative. Originally published through a grant from the Ford Foundation, and revised in 2003.

TELEPHONE SUPPORT: Looking for support? A quick telephone call to the MAHC office can save you hours of research time. Our staff and volunteers are able to answer questions regarding specific cooperative issues or to refer you to the proper source for accurate information.

NETWORKING: MAHC responds to inquiries from individuals seeking to move into a housing cooperative by providing a list of our members in the identified area. Our conferences are attended by cooperators throughout the country, and provide an opportunity to meet and learn from fellow cooperators as well as noted professionals.

Added Benefits...

DISCOUNTS AND SAVINGS:

Membership dues, which provide a significant portion of MAHC's total income, entitles you to a discount rate on the fees charged for conferences, training, and consulting services. If you choose to join the National Association of Housing Cooperatives through MAHC you will receive a discount on your NAHC dues as well. We are working with service and material suppliers to negotiate further savings for our members.

AND MORE: Membership allows you to support the Cooperative community as well as receive support from thousands of Cooperative Communities. Cooperatives have for too long been perceived as the best-kept secret in affordable housing. MAHC is working to share the secret and broaden the availability and influence of Cooperatives.



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