

DreCut

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events. He said he's in talks to have the group 'N3w Era' to wear his stuff.

He said the artist Mighty will also be wearing his stuff when he appears on "106 & Park."

Long involved in music, Andrews said he taught in the music department at Helensview School and was also a part of the Metropolitan Youth Choir as a child.

"I really wanted to take over the bad things about hip hop music and bring in things that are uplifting and empowering," he said. "The clothing line, that's how it got started, with my own music and the oppor-

tunities so far."

For Andrews, the opportunities of life are boundless. He has plans to create a hip hop magazine and also expand his already established business of helping artists with websites, press kits, music videos and distribution.

"I want this to be uplifting, to the youth, to do your dreams. No matter what anyone says, things that you come about in life, to actually go out there and try it,"

'I want this to be uplifting, to the youth, to do your dreams'

-- *Brendrea Andrews*

he said.

Visit DreCut Clothing online at www.drecutclothing.com.

Housing

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market," says Housing Commissioner Nick Fish, who oversees the Portland Housing Bureau. "PHB and FHCO are serious about ending discrimination toward people renting apartments, and these results are an opportunity for us to candidly address some of the problems that racial and ethnic groups face today."

Fish's staff says the Housing Bureau is bringing together a wide swath of stakeholders in the region to look closely at the rental audit results and recommend a plan of action.

Strategies for Improvement

The city says that while the Fair Housing Advisory Committee is looking at a broad spectrum of discrimination occurring throughout the continuum of housing services, among its key priorities is ensuring that people have equitable access to safe, decent, affordable and accessible rental units. Among the committee's

— Provide culturally and linguistically appropriate information regarding rights and resources.

Deborah Imse, executive director of the Metro Multi-Family Housing Association and a member of the Fair Housing Advisory Committee, says the report speaks to the importance of educating landlords and property managers about Fair Housing Law.

"Fair housing education has never been more important," she said in a statement. "Landlords have an obligation to offer the same opportunities and the same policies for the same housing unit. Consistent application and inquiry processes can help keep all landlords from violating fair housing laws, even unintentionally."

Fish says the committee's recommendations are a solid step toward addressing fair housing issues.

"Equitable access to housing is

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draft recommendations include:

— County-wide funding and support to continue and enhance fair housing services, including but not limited to enforcement and education of fair housing laws.

— Create a Fair Housing Advocacy Committee that meets on an at least quarterly basis to focus on fair housing issues and to be a strong advocate voice for Multnomah County.

— Partner with local organizations to ensure frequent and accurate trainings for property managers.

— Modify screening criteria that has inadvertently higher impact on protected classes.

at the forefront of Portland Housing Bureau's mission, and I am personally committed to ensuring that everyone has access to a safe, decent and affordable place to live," he said.

"We will work closely with landlords and others to make sure that leasing agents are well-trained to eliminate bias in their interactions."

Methodology

FHCO sent out white, African-American and Latino testers to apply for rental apartments throughout Multnomah County. Each tester is given a profile that details where they should seek



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MEMBERS OF THE FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Elisa Aguilera, Community Alliance of Tenants
- Donna Childs, Elders in Action
- Andrew Colas, Colas Construction, Inc.
- Alyssa Cudmore, Fair Housing Council of Oregon
- Jeanne Davidson, Portland Youth & Elders Council
- Donita Fry, Portland Youth & Elders Council, NAYA Family Center
- Moloy Good, Fair Housing Council of Oregon
- Cashauna Hill, Oregon Law Center
- Deborah Imse, Metro Multi-Family Housing Association
- Liv Janssen, Multnomah County Dept. of Community Justice
- Ethan Krow, Center for Intercultural Organizing
- Walter Lander, Providence Hospital
- Christine Lau, Asian Health & Service Center
- Ben Loftis, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc.
- Phil Owen, Rental Housing Association of Greater Portland
- Andrew Riley, Center for Intercultural Organizing
- Molly Rogers, Housing Development Center
- Ryan Roser, community member
- Emily S. Ryan, community member
- Neisha Saxena, Disability Rights Oregon
- Lynne Walker, community member
- Jenny Weinstein, Portland State University Institute on Aging
- Bruce Whiting, Key Bank Community Development Banking