

Annual Report for Human Relations Commission

The Normal Human Relations Commission is responsible for enforcing the Town's Human Rights Ordinance through education and mediation. The Commission consists of seven appointed volunteer members including a representative of the Student Government Association of Illinois State University. HRC members are of diverse backgrounds and life experience. The Commission works with other social service and human relations organizations in the Bloomington Normal Community to extend its educational reach and bolster efforts to assure compliance with the Town's Human Rights Code prohibiting discrimination in employment, public accommodation, housing and financing on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, marital status, ancestry, national origin, age, disability, matriculation or sexual orientation.



Normal Human Relations Commission Members (from left) front, Chairman Mandava Rao, Sandra Harmon; back, Vice-Chairman William "Terry" Brown, Quincy Cummings, Alberto Espinosa, (Not Pictured – Zach Schaab, ISU SGA Representative)

Staff

The Assistant to the City Manager is responsible for staffing the Human Relations Commission. The Assistant City Manager receives informal discrimination complaints from residents or employees within the community and serves as the Commission's facilitator. With advice and assistance from Town legal staff, efforts are made to resolve complaints through conciliation. The Assistant to the City Manager assists the Commission in educational outreach efforts, recognition events including the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon, and informational booths at public events such as the Sweet Corn Blues Festival in Normal.

2016 Accomplishments

- Two informal complaints (inquiries) were received. Neither was pursued by the complainant through the Town of Normal Human Rights Commission.
- The HRC cosponsored, with Bloomington's Human Relations Commission, the 40th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Luncheon. Applications were solicited, and two Normal citizens were chosen to receive awards for volunteer activities reflecting the legacy of Dr. King.
- The HRC held three meetings with the Bloomington Human Relations Commission to discuss issues of common interest.
- The HRC participated in the Town's annual Sweet Corn Blues Festival.
- The HRC joined the community-wide *Not In Our Town* anti-discrimination effort.
- Commissioners sponsored and/or attended events organized by entities who share a similar mission.

Key Performance Indicators

Year	Complaints	Inquiries	Conciliations	Public Hearings	MLK Attendance
2016	0	5	0	0	470
2015	0	2	0	0	635
2014	0	4	0	0	526
2013	0	5	0	0	253
2012	2	6	0	0	500
2011	0	12	0	0	600