



## News Release

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### Cleveland Libraries Invite Community to New “Living Room Discussions”

*Living Room: “A place where friends and family gather to share, discuss, debate, and exchange ideas in the comfort of a home.”*

During the month of March, the **Cleveland Public Library** and **The Center for Community Solutions** will host four “Living Room Discussions” at libraries around the city. These sessions are opportunities for neighbors to gather, obtain information, and discuss important issues affecting their families and communities.

Living Room Discussions will be held:

- **Thursday, March 18, 2 p.m.** at the South Brooklyn Branch (4303 Pearl Road)
- **Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m.** at the Lorain Branch (8216 Lorain Ave)
- **Thursday, March 25, 3:30 p.m.** at the Glenville Branch (11900 St. Clair Ave.)
- **Friday, March 26, 10 a.m.** at the Memorial Nottingham Branch (17109 Lakeshore)

The **South Brooklyn** (3/18) and **Glenville** (3/25) branch discussions will focus on **healthy relationships**. These sessions will explore the challenges of healthy male-female relationships and serve as a stepping stone to encourage and demonstrate how single, engaged, and married couples can build their relationships. Examples of common relationship destroyers will be provided, and attendees will have an opportunity to develop solutions together. This program is offered in partnership with the **Olivet Housing and Community Development Corp.**--Building Healthy Relationship program.

The **Lorain** (3/20) and **Memorial Nottingham** (3/26) branch discussions will explore the current health care debates by examining **health issues in our community and state**, including insurance and related issues. These programs will provide information, based on the most recent Ohio Family Health Survey, about who has and doesn't have health insurance, how the situation has changed over the years, what causes it to change, and how these conditions are reflected in current policy debates. These sessions are offered in partnership with the **Northern Ohio Data and Information Service (NODIS) in the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University**.

“Just as the living room is considered the gathering place of the home, the library can be the gathering place of a neighborhood,” said **Janice Ridgeway**, community outreach and public affairs director, Cleveland Public Library. “We invite and encourage neighbors to gather in their community’s ‘living room’ – their local library – and join in the community conversation.”

These Living Room Discussions are offered with the generous support of **Kaiser Permanente**. For more information about these programs, contact **George E. Coulter** at 216-781-2944 ext. 450.

*The Center for Community Solutions is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization focused on policy and system reform. It provides strategic leadership to improve targeted health, social, and economic conditions. Established in 1913, it is a United Way agency.*

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