

THE FAIR HOUSING PROGRAM



HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL

Fair Housing is a right protected by federal and state laws. Fair housing means you may freely choose a place to live without regard to your race, color, religion, sex, national origin or because you are disabled or have children in your family.

FAIR HOUSING OPENS DOORS

...but only with your help. Learn to recognize the signs of discrimination in rental, sales, lending and insurance.

HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE DISCRIMINATION?

Housing discrimination is rarely blatant. It is often disguised with a handshake and a smile. Your fair housing rights are violated when you are prevented from doing the following because of your race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or family status - Viewing or renting an apartment - Viewing or purchasing a home Applying for or securing a home loan - Purchasing homeowners or renters insurance.

FAIR HOUSING IS YOUR RIGHT

IS HERE TO HELP YOU BY - answering your housing questions, assisting you in finding the right answers, providing education on your rights and responsibilities, assisting you in filing a fair housing complaint. The Fair Housing Program offers assistance to everyone and there is no fee for this service.

IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY - The Fair Housing Act protects people with mental retardation, mental illness, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, visual and hearing impairments, AIDS and those who use walkers, wheelchairs, companion animals or a personal care attendant.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN - You cannot be denied housing simply because you have children. The law protects pregnant women, families with children, adults serving as guardians for children, and those in the process of obtaining legal custody of children.

IF YOU ARE HARASSED - If you are being threatened, coerced, harassed, or intimidated because of your race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or family status or because of the race of your relatives or visitors, call your local F.B.I. , police and the local Fair Housing Office.

BREAK THE BARRIER OF HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

FOR FAIR HOUSING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS CALL:

**WAYNE COUNTY
FAIR HOUSING OFFICE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH**



330-621-8038

Community Legal Aid

330-983-2528

FAIR HOUSING...

Fair Housing for all is the law. It is unlawful to deny people the opportunity to live where they want and can afford. If you feel you are being treated unfairly, take the following steps:

1. Keep a record of any meetings and phone calls with the landlord, the property manager, real estate agent, loan officer or insurance agent. Include the person's name, title, the meeting date and time.
2. Write down what happened and what was said by all participants. Save all receipts, applications, leases, business cards, brochures, or other documents that you were given.

3. Call your local Fair Housing Program

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT FAIR HOUSING

Support your local fair housing group. Refer those with housing questions to the housing program for assistance. Hold your elected officials and other officers accountable for supporting fair housing. Let your City, County, State and National Officials know you support fair housing. Encourage your friends and neighbors to support fair housing.



HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE DISCRIMINATION?

- Be suspicious when you hear statements like.... "I rented that apartment after you called."
- "I don't really want all those changes, a ramp, grab bars - that's too much."
- "This building is for adults only."
- "We can't have mentally retarded people living here. Who will take care of them? It will make the neighbors uncomfortable."
- "Do you think you can afford this neighborhood?"
- "The owner just took the house off the market."
- "We just can't seem to get an appointment to show you the house."
- "There is a problem with the appraisal."
- "We have a minimum mortgage amount; we don't make loans under \$30,000."
- "We can rent the apartment to two adults but it's too small for a child and an adult."
- "A two bedroom apt/home is too small for two children."



A COMMUNITY GUIDE TO FAIR HOUSING

WAYNE COUNTY FAIR HOUSING OFFICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

