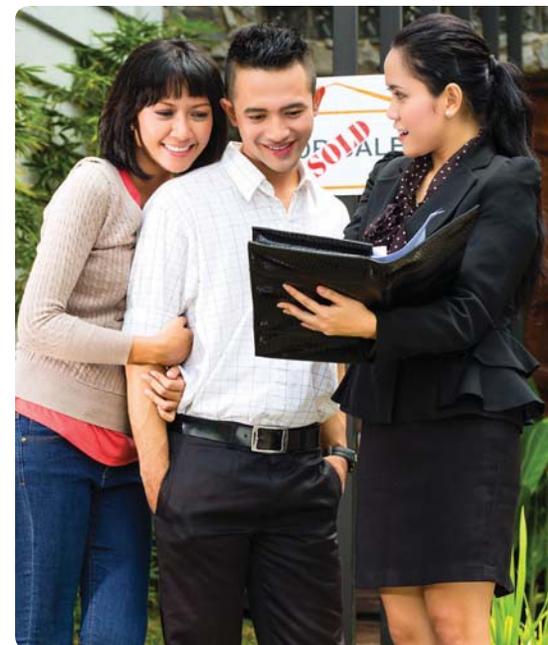


FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE

AT FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE, WE BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE DESERVES TO LIVE IN THE SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING OF THEIR CHOICE.



FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE

FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE STRIVES TO PREVENT AND ELIMINATE HOUSING DISCRIMINATION AND TO PROMOTE EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.



FHCS provides the following services FREE of charge:

- Tenant/Landlord Counseling
- Assistance with Housing Discrimination Issues
- Comprehensive Housing Counseling
- Educational Training Seminars

Prohibits discrimination on the basis of:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Race/Color | Sex |
| National Origin | Disability |
| Religion | Familial Status |

Additional protections in Ohio include:

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| Ancestry | Military Status |
|----------|-----------------|

Additional state and local protected classes may apply.

441 Wolf Ledges Parkway
Suite 200
Akron, Ohio 44311

Phone 330.376.6191
Toll Free 1.877.376.6191
Tenant/Landlord Line 330.376.0359
Fax 330.376.8391

www.fairhousingakron.org
info@fairhousingakron.org



This brochure provided with assistance from The Department of Housing and Urban Development.

FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE

WHAT DOES AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING MEAN FOR JURISDICTIONS?



Fair Housing Contact Service, Inc.
...on the path to equality

INTRODUCTION TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING (AFFH)

AFFH BACKGROUND

Federal and state fair housing laws help ensure that all people regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, family status, disability, ancestry or military status can secure the housing they want in a neighborhood of their choice.

All recipients of federal funding are required to take steps to “affirmatively further fair housing.”

AFFH REQUIREMENTS

- Conduct an analysis to identify the impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction
- Take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the analysis
- Maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions taken in this regard

AFFH GOALS

- Analyze and eliminate housing discrimination in the jurisdiction
- Promote fair housing choice for all persons
- Provide opportunities for inclusive patterns of housing occupancy regardless of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, disability and national origin
- Promote housing that is structurally accessible to, and usable by all persons, particularly people with disabilities
- Foster compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions of the Fair Housing Act

HOW CAN JURISDICTIONS HELP ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF AFFH?

- Examine local lending and rental practices, local land use regulations, and local service provision for patterns of discrimination that may hinder housing choice
- Encourage banks and other lending institutions to provide comparable services in underserved areas
- Promote fair housing training and education to financial institutions, real-estate professionals, property managers, and other community members
- Analyze neighborhood demographics to identify unequal housing opportunity
- Advertise available housing and housing assistance programs to populations least likely to utilize them
- Adopt a local fair housing ordinance that addresses local needs and ensures equal housing opportunity
- Host community meetings to discuss fair housing, AFFH and local impediments to fair housing
- Display the Equal Housing Opportunity Logo, Equal Housing Opportunity Statement, Fair Housing Brochures, and Fair Housing Posters
- Distribute literature to increase fair housing awareness
- Ensure the availability of a robust fair housing program
- Monitor the practices of area housing and housing-related service providers to ensure non-discrimination
- Conduct outreach to advocacy groups regarding available housing and housing-assistance programs
- Provide annual fair housing training to all staff members and volunteers
- Encourage participation in the Housing Choice Voucher Program by private housing providers, particularly in neighborhoods of opportunity, to expand housing choice among voucher holders
- Ensure language access by providing interpreters and translators
- Provide fair housing education and literature to area housing providers
- Review, update, and take actions to address identified impediments to fair housing choice

