

BOWLING GREEN **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Volume 2 Issue 2

APRIL IS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A 13 member board of commissioners, who are appointed by the mayor, governs the agency.

The staff is comprised of an Executive Director Alice Gatewood Waddell and Administrative Coordinator/Fair Housing Outreach Education Coordinator Chiquita Sparks

FAIR HOUSING NEWSLETTER FY-20

The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission is a non-profit agency committed to serving the community through advocating for the rights of the protected classes which includes: race, color, religion, national origin, age (over 40) sex, disability and familiar status (in housing). Created by the City of Bowling Green ordinance in 1966, the commission also investigates only three areas of jurisdiction allegations of discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. The commission overall efforts focuses on education, assistance and promoting fair treatment and positive human relations within the community.

The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission would like to inform our supportive community partners, clients etc. that due to the safety for our staff and the Community of the Coronavirus Pandemic our agency will not be hosting a Fair Housing event in April.



Our office is open but not to the public. If you think you have been discriminated and would like to file a complaint with our office you are welcome to call our office at (270) 782-7900 we will respond back to you. You are welcome to e-mail the office at the following address:

bghumanrightscomm@gmail.com



“KEEPERS OF THE DREAM”

Contact Us:

BOWLING GREEN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

491 Double Springs Road
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
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270.782.7900

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“HIGHLIGHTS IN THE MONTH OF APRIL NEWSLETTER”

- Housing and Urban Development Statement on Fair Housing And COVID-19
- HUD COVID-19 Resources and Fact Sheets
- KY Housing Resources/COVID-19

“In this month fair housing newsletter issue please stay home and stay safe” We will get through this together!!

“Every year, April is the time we honor history’s fair housing heroes and Celebrate our nation’s Civil Rights progress. Though our national attention is now fiercely focused on overcoming the public health threat of COVID-19, the principle and promise of Fair Housing for ALL must still guide us. “There’s a Fair Housing hero in all of us in the kindness and care toward a vulnerable neighbor, in the compassion and empathy for those who have contracted the virus, in the celebration of the tireless caregivers serving on the front line of the disease, and in the simple sacrifice made by the rest of us to stay home, stay safe and slow the spread.”

During this national emergency, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development wants to remind housing providers and the public at large of important Federal Fair Housing laws that protect persons from discrimination, including harrassment and intimidation, in housing and related services on the basics of race, color, religion, national origin, sex meaning gender, familiar status, and disability. The Fair Housing Act and other Federal State, and local laws collectively prohibit discrimination in nealy all housing transactions and residential settings across the nation, including rental housing, nursing homes, permanent shelters, and other places where people live and receive services together. Now, as always, HUD is here to enforce Federal Fair Housing laws and to ensure that housing and services are available free from discrimination.

As the CDC has said, viruses do not target specific racial or ethnic groups. Be aware that the Fair Housing Act and other Federal laws prohibit the eviction, turning away or harrassment of a person in housing because they are profiled, on the basics race, national origin or other protected class, to be associated with COVID-19. The Fair Housing Act also prohibits retaliation and intimidation against persons who report acts of discrimination they have witnessed to law enforcement authorities, like HUD, or who aid someone who has been the victim of discrimination.

There is much still to learn about COVID-19. We know, however, that persons with disabilities, including those who are older and have underlying medical conditions, are vulnerable and at high risk for a severe, life-threatening response to the virus. Housing and Urban Development recognizes that these persons may face unique Fair Housing and Civil Rights issues in their housing and related services. Housing providers are required to make reasonable accommodations that may be necessary to deliver housing and services to

This will allow households who have an FHA-insured mortgage to meet the challenges of COVID-19 without fear of losing their homes, and help steady market concerns. The health and safety of the American people is of the utmost importance to the department, and halting of all foreclosure actions and evictions for the next 60 days will provide homeowners with some peace of mind during these trying times.

The guidance issued today applies to homeowners with FHA-insured Title II Single Family Forward and Home Equity Conversion (reverse) mortgages, directs mortgage services to:

- Halt all new foreclosure actions and suspend all foreclosure actions in current process; and
- Cease all evictions of persons from FHA-insured single family properties.

This is an uncertain time for many Americans, particularly those who could experience loss of income. We want to provide FHA borrower households with some immediate relief given the current circumstances. FHA continues to encourage services to offer its suite of loss mitigation options to distressed borrowers – including those that could be impacted by the Coronavirus – help prevent them from going into foreclosure. These include short and long-term forbearance options, mortgage modifications, and other mortgage payment relief options available based upon the borrower's individual circumstances.

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all.

[COVID – 19 RESOURCES](#)



Mortgage Borrowers KHC

- Online loan payments (MyAcct/Pages/Make-a-Payment.aspx)
- Payments by phone: 502-564-7630, ext.216
- Loan Servicing Customer Service: 502-605-1317

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Participants

- HVC Customer Service: 502-564-9946
- Email: hvcustomerservice@kyhousing.org
- Mailto: hvcustomerservice@kyhousing.org

Multifamily Programs

Guidance to Multifamily Developers, Owners, and Property Management Companies

(/Development/Multifamily/Documents/KHC%20COVID19%Interim%20Multifamily%Policies%20%Procedures_Mar27_2020.pdf)

- Suspension of most Physical Inspections
(/Development/DocumentsCOVID%2019%20Inspection%20%20Compliance%20Policies%20Mar25_2020.pdf)
- Guidance on treatment of Stimulus and Additional Unemployment Payments
(/Development/Multifamily/Documents/KHC%20COVID19%Multifamily%20Guidance%20Stimulus%Payments_Apr20_2020.pdf)

Homeless Programs



- COVID-19 HCA Help Desk (<https://kyhmis.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/3600003305234-Coronavirus-COVID-19information>)
- Case Management & Supportive Service Resources (<http://kyhmis.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/sections/360007831634-Case-Management-Supportive-Resources>)

Helpful Links

- **Kentucky's COVID-19 website** (<http://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/Covid-19.aspx>)
- **Governor Beshear's daily briefings** (<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UChRbM-FLeKV4tKUwIMf6XNg>)
- **Kentucky COVID-19 Hotline: (800) 722-5725**
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoVindex.html>)
- **HUD Coronavirus website** (<http://www.hud.gov/coronavirus>)
- **Governor Beshear's Executive Order Suspending Evictions** (http://governor.ky.gov/attachments/20200325_Executive-Order_2020-257_Healthy-at-Home.pdf)







The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS have a lot of community partners that we are so grateful for. Our agency is so appyears. We couldn't do all of this work with out all of you!!

If you feel as if you have been discriminated against please don't hesitate to contact our office at 270-782-7900 or e-mail our office at bghumanrightscom@gmail.com. During these challenging times our office isn't open to the public therefore we can't we can't accommodate walk- ins at this time.