

## FAIR HOUSING NEWSLETTER

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 include: race, color, religion, national origin, age (over 40), disability and familiar status (in housing). Created by the City of Bowling Green, ordinance in 1966, the commission also investigates allegations of discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodation.

# Fair Housing Civil Rights Act April 11,1966 Fair Housing History

## FEBRUARY 2022 FY-18

### FILE A COMPLANT OF DISCR <u>MINATION</u>

If you feel as though you hove been discriminated against you are welcome to contact our office at 270-782-7900 or the following email addresses

> bghur,anrightscom@gmail.com ckiquitasbghrc@gmail.com.

Current'y, due to Covid-19 recommendations the Bowling Green Human Rights Commission is closed to the public for walk-in service. Discrimination complaints are handled by appointments. Our new location is 413 Gayle Way Phenix Place. This is our temporarily location until March 2022.

On April 11, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which was meant as the following-up to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The 1968 Act on previous acts and prohibited discrimination concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin, sex, (and as amended) handicap and family status. Title V111 of the Act is known as the **Fair Housing Act (1968)**. The enactment of the federal Fair Housing Act on April 11, 1968 came only after a long journey. However, when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 04, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson utilized this national tragedy to urge for the bill's speedy Congressional approval. Since the 1966 open housing marches in Chicago, Dr. King's name had been closely associated with the fair housing legislation. President Johnson viewed the Act as a fitting memorial to the man's work, and wished to have the Act passed prior to Dr. King's funeral in Atlanta. Another significant issue during this time period was growing casualty list from Vietnam. The deaths in Vietnam fell heaviest upon young, poor African -American and Hispanic infantrymen. However, on the home front, these men's families could not purchase or rent homes in certain residential developments on account of their race or national origin.



### WHAT IS HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?

- In sale or rental of housing, it's illegal to:
  - > Refuse to rent or sell to someone based on a status, if protected.
  - Provide different services of facitiies based on a status, if protected.
  - > Falsely deny housing availability based on a status, if protected.
  - > Impose different rules on different people based on a status, if protected.



### Understand the Facts and Know your RIGHTS! In financial transactions, it is illegal for lending institutions

- Refuse to accept mortgage loan applications based on a status
- Refuse to provide loan information based on a status
- Give people different terms/conditions on a loan based on a status
- > Discriminate in the appraiseal of property based on a

### In any aspect of housing, it is illegal for any person to:

- > Threaten, intimidate, or interfere with any person's fair housing rights.
- Advertise any availability of housing that states a preference or limitation based on a person's race, color, gender, national origin, religion disability, familiar status, and in some areas, sexual orientation.



### "EVERY HUMAN HAS RIGHTS"

## GET HELP WITH RENT + UTILITIES! KHC has money for both renters + landlords!

There's Still Rent Assistance Available Are you a homerenter? Are you a landlord? Do you know someone who is? If you're struggling to catch up on rent and/or utility bills know this: There's still assistance available.

#### You can get started at Kentucky Equal Justice Center's KyRenterHelp.org.

#### GET KENTUCKY RENTER HELP!

At KYRenterHelp.org The Kentucky Equal Justice Center maintains this site, which we've designed to help Kentuckians who rent their homes find:

- Rental Assistance
- Legal Help, and
- Information





The federal government has provided states and cities with more than \$ 50 billion (\$50,000,000,000.00) in rental assitance to landlords so that **no Kentuckian needs to be evicted** in an ongoing (now escalating: get vaccinated) pandemic **because they can't pay rent.** 

For people who apply and qualify, **Kentucky's rental assistance programs pay up to 12 months of pastdue rent and 3 months of rent going forward**. (The eligibility criteria are generous: lots of people are going to qualify for rental assistance.) This tool is designed to connect you with the people and organizations in your community who can help renters apply for rental assistance and avoid eviction.

Organizations and state and local officials are working hard to distribute this rental assistance to landlords as fast as possible, but it can be a slow process, sometimes frustrating process.

Some landlords are still filing and prosecuting evictions and some judges are allowing landlords to evict Kentuckians even as rental assistance is available to allow everyone to stay #HealthyAtHome. Working with your landlord to apply for rental assistance and getting connected with your local legal organization is the best way to avoid eviction.



#### 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 Lightfoot

> In Bowling Green Warren County there's two organizations that will give assistance for rent and utilities and has a supply food bank.

Community Action of South Central Kentucky 200 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 Phone number: 270-783-4484 Clients are welcome to call by appointments and the office take the 1<sup>st</sup> 10 walk-ins each morning beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The Bowling Green Welfare Center 429 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 Phone number: 270-843-5340 Office hours are 7:30 a.m. ~ 3:30 p.m. The office take in clients by appointments only.