

# Fair Housing is for Everyone

## Know Your Rights

The Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to discriminate in housing based on:

- ⇒ Race or Color
- ⇒ Religion
- ⇒ National Origin
- ⇒ Sex
- ⇒ Disability
- ⇒ Familial Status (including families with children under the age of 18, people who have custody of or are securing custody of children under 18, and pregnant women)



## Additional Protection for the Disabled

If you (or someone associated with you) has a mental or physical disability, such as

- ◆ Mobility, hearing, and/or visual impairments,
  - ◆ Cancer, HIV/AIDS, or other medical maladies,
  - ◆ Chronic mental illness,
  - ◆ Intellectual and/or developmental disabilities;
- has a record of a disability; or are regarded as having a disability — it is unlawful for a housing provider to:
- ◇ Refuse reasonable modifications, at your expense, in order to fully use the housing (which can include an agreement to restore the property to the original condition, where reasonable)
  - ◇ Refuse reasonable accommodations in services, practices, policies, or rules in order to use the housing on an equal basis

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City Kansas Department of Human Services ensures equal access to human rights for all citizens in the areas of housing, employment, and public accommodation through compliance with local, state and federal civil rights laws.

In addition the services and assistance offered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), you may also choose to reach out to the Advisory Commission on Human Relations and Disability Issues.

The Commission on Human Relations and Disability Issues believes that all people have the right to equal access to opportunities that can assist them in achieving their full potential.

This advisory commission meets on the first Monday of every month at 6pm. Any Wyandotte County resident may request to appear to bring any issues of concern to this commission.

Requests to appear should be made with the Department of Human Services. Please provide your name, address, contact number, email, and the reason you wish to be on the agenda.

Please send requests by mail, fax, or email to:

### Department of Human Services Commission on Human Relations and Disability Issues

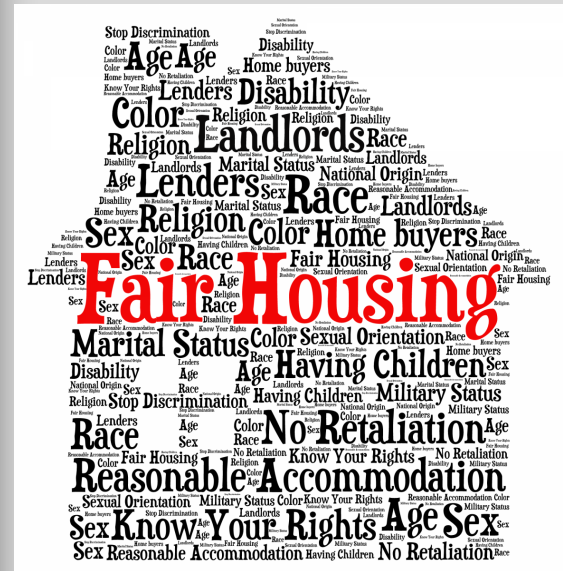
701 N. 7th Street  
City Hall, Room 346  
Kansas City, KS 66101

Phone: 913-573-5460  
Fax: 913-573-5511  
E-mail: [humanservices@wycokck.org](mailto:humanservices@wycokck.org)

Website: [www.wycokck.org/humanservices](http://www.wycokck.org/humanservices)  
Click on the link for Human Relations



## Fair Housing: Explaining your rights



**Fair Housing is not optional — it's the law**

# Understanding Housing Discrimination

It is against the law to discriminate against anyone who wants to rent or own housing.

## Illegal Actions:

The Fair Housing Act prohibits:

- Refusal to lease, rent, sell, or exchange real estate
- Only showing homes or apartments in certain neighborhoods
- Setting different conditions, terms, or privileges for the rental or sale of a dwelling
- Having different housing facilities or services
- Advertising a preference for one person or group over another
- Threatening, intimidating, coercing, or interfering with a person's enjoyment of their housing
- Refusal to provide information on mortgage loans, impose different terms/conditions on mortgage loans, or deny a mortgage loan
- Denying property insurance
- Discriminatory conduct during property appraisals
- Failure to have an accessible design and/or construct to the housing
- Harassment, intimidation, coercion, or interference with anyone exercising their right to fair housing or anyone assisting someone with their right to fair housing

Where you live is your choice.



## Fair Housing is Your Right

If you feel that your rights have been violated or if you feel you've been discriminated against as you seek housing options — report it.

- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- You can file a claim by mail or electronically at [www.hud.gov/fairhousing](http://www.hud.gov/fairhousing)
- You can also call the HUD hotline at [1-800-669-9777](tel:1-800-669-9777)  
[TTY: 1-800-877-8339](tel:1-800-877-8339)
- HUD will need
  - ⇒ Your name and address
  - ⇒ A description of what happened to you and how you were discriminated against
  - ⇒ Why you think you have been a victim of housing discrimination
  - ⇒ The name and address of the person or party you are filing a complaint against
  - ⇒ Date(s) that the discrimination occurred on

**Please note that you only have one year from the date of the alleged discrimination to file a complaint.**

- After you submit your information, a local fair housing agency will get in touch with you to discuss your concerns
- Please allow 3 weeks from the date you mailed/submitted your complaint to HUD before contacting them to follow up on your complaint

## Fair Housing is The Law

To inquire about your claim or for further information and/or assistance, contact:

Kansas City Regional Office

Fair Housing Office

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

Gateway Tower II

400 State Ave.

Room 200,

4th Floor

Kansas City, KS 66101



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

Telephone: (913) 551-6958 or 1-800-743-5323

Fax: (913) 551-6856 \* TTY: (913) 551-6972

Email: [Complaints\\_office\\_07@hud.gov](mailto:Complaints_office_07@hud.gov)

Website: [www.hud.gov/fairhousing](http://www.hud.gov/fairhousing)

With few exemptions, most housing is covered by the Fair Housing Act.

Additional information on fair housing can be found online at [www.hud.gov/fairhousing](http://www.hud.gov/fairhousing)

Information in this brochure was taken from fair housing resources made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

Information provided is used for educational purposes and is not intended to be a substitute for legal counsel.