



MIAMI VALLEY FAIR HOUSING CENTER NEWSLETTER

Published by the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.

SUMMER 2021

JIM MCCARTHY, PRESIDENT/CEO

Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to restore Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

On July 12, the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center (MVFHC) joined 74 other local fair housing and community based organizations signed onto comments supporting a HUD interim rule (Click [here](#) to read). In addition, the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA) and 14 other national civil rights organizations (Click [here](#)) also submitted in support of HUD's interim final rule on "Restoring Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Definitions and Certifications." The next day, NFHA issued a news release applauding the Biden-Harris Administration for Advancing Housing Equity. Debby Goldberg, the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA)'s Vice President of Housing Policy, issued the following statement:

"HUD's interim final rule will begin to reverse the Trump Administration's devastating rollback of the Fair Housing Act's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) provision, a critical fair housing protection that has been on the books for more than 50 years.

"By taking this first step toward reinstating the 2015 AFFH regulation, the Biden Administration is putting our country back on track to ending housing discrimination, dismantling housing segregation, and tackling systemic racism, thereby expanding access to opportunity as the Fair Housing Act intended."

In addition to barring housing discrimination, the Fair Housing Act requires HUD and its funding recipients, such as local communities, to take affirmative steps to remedy fair housing issues such as racially segregated neighborhoods, lack of housing choice, and unequal access to housing-related opportunities.

To fulfill this requirement, in 2015, HUD promulgated a rule that compelled each covered funding recipient to undertake a defined fair housing planning process. Funding recipients were required to complete an assessment of

Continued on Page 2 ...

Meet Your Miami Valley Fair Housing Center Board Members

Clyde Corle is Principal Broker of Home Experts Realty. Clyde and his wife, Pat Corle also own Home Experts Realty. They manage a very diverse brokerage with over 300 real estate agents in the Miami Valley. Clyde has been in real estate since 1994 and loves helping home buyers find their dream home. He also enjoys mentoring new real estate agents from diverse backgrounds on how to succeed in real estate and build wealth.

Clyde served in the Air Force for 23 years and got his education while on active duty. He graduated with a bachelor's in computer science from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1975 and a master's in information systems technology from George Washington University in 1984.

Clyde moved to the Dayton area in 1994 after retiring from the Air Force and immediately got his real estate license. He lives with his wife Pat and two dogs. He has been a Miami Valley Fair Housing Center board member for one and a half years. Clyde is extremely passionate about doing everything he can to make the Dayton area more diverse and loves serving as a board member to help achieve that. He strongly believes everyone should have an equal opportunity to own a home without barriers.



*Clyde Corle
MVFHC Board Member*

Efforts to restore AFFH continued from page 1 ...

fair housing issues, identify fair housing priorities and goals, and then commit to meaningful actions to meet those goals and remedy identified issues, with HUD reviewing each assessment.

Unfortunately, the Trump Administration suspended implementation of this rule and eliminated the 2015 rule's procedural requirements, redefining the regulatory AFFH requirement so it was no longer consistent with the actual requirements of the Fair Housing Act.

Under the restored AFFH regulatory definition that was the subject of the comments submitted, municipalities and other HUD funding recipients that must regularly certify compliance with the Fair Housing Act's AFFH requirement will, in doing so, commit to taking steps to remedy their unique fair housing issues.

HUD has already announced that to support compliance with AFFH, it will provide a voluntary process that funding recipients can choose to use to identify the fair housing concerns that exist locally and commit to specific steps to remedy them. HUD will provide technical assistance and support to funding recipients that carry out this voluntary fair housing planning process.

"More than 50 years since the Fair Housing Act's passage, inequities in our communities remain that block

families from moving into neighborhoods with greater opportunities," said Secretary Fudge.

"As a former mayor and Member of Congress, I know firsthand the importance of giving localities the tools they need to ensure their communities have access to safe, affordable housing near quality schools, transportation, and jobs. HUD is taking a critical step to affirm that a child's future should never be limited by the ZIP code where they are born."

"More than 50 years since the Fair Housing Act's passage, inequities in our communities remain that block families from moving into neighborhoods with greater opportunities"

HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge

President Biden's January 26 Memorandum, *Redressing Our Nation's and the Federal Government's History of Discriminatory Housing Practices and Policies*, directed HUD to examine the prior Administration's fair housing rules and take all

steps necessary to implement the Fair Housing Act's requirement that HUD administer its programs in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing. By publishing the interim rule, HUD rescinded the previous Administration's rule (entitled "Preserving Neighborhood and Community Choice," or PCNC) and restored certain definitions and other selected parts from the 2015 AFFH rule. HUD took comments on the interim rule for 30 days, ending on July 12, 2021. The interim final rule goes into effect on July 31, 2021.

National Origin Discrimination Facts from the Justice Department

Federal laws prohibit discrimination based on a person's national origin, race, color, religion, disability, sex, and familial status. Laws prohibiting national origin discrimination make it illegal to discriminate because of a person's birthplace, ancestry, culture or language. This means people cannot be denied equal opportunity

- because they or their family are from another country, because they have a name or accent associated with a national origin group,
- because they participate in certain customs associated with a national origin group, or
- because they are married to or associate with people of a certain national origin.

The Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division is concerned that national origin discrimination may go unreported in the United States because victims of discrimination do not know their legal rights, or may be afraid to complain to the government. To address this problem, the Civil Rights Division has established a National Origin Working Group to help citizens and immigrants better understand and exercise their legal rights. If you think you, or someone you know, has been discriminated against because of national origin and want to learn more about exercising your legal rights, you can get more information at www.justice.gov/crt/legalinfo/natorigin.php. There you can download a brochure that explains the laws prohibiting national origin discrimination in great detail.

If you need more information you can call the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center at 937-223-6035 or visit our website at www.mvfairhousing.com.

Harassment in Housing

On September 13, 2016, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the publication of a final rule formalizing legal standards under the Fair Housing Act for sexual, racial, religious and other forms of harassment in housing.

HUD and courts have long held that harassment in housing or housing-related transactions on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, and familial status is prohibited under the Fair Housing Act. The final rule specifies how HUD will evaluate claims of "hostile environment" and "quid pro quo" harassment in both private and publicly-assisted housing.

Definitions:

- **Quid Pro Quo Harassment** involves subjecting a person to an unwelcome request or demand and making submission to the request or demand a condition related to the person's housing. Literally quid pro quo means "This for that."
- **Hostile Environment Harassment** involves subjecting a person to unwelcome conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive such that it interferes with or deprives the person of the right to use and enjoy the housing.
- **Unwelcome behavior or conduct** is any behavior by other tenants or housing staff that is deemed offensive or unwelcome by an employee. This behavior can include inappropriate remarks or jokes, discriminatory behavior such as taunting or teasing about, for example, a person's gender, disability, race, color, national origin, children, religion or any other protected characteristic, and it might be untoward gestures and unwanted romantic advances. It can be in person or on social media, texts, email, flyers, signage, or any other conduit for communication.

All staff of a housing provider is required to report harassment seen in the workplace. If there is not a conduit for that information, one can call the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center at 937-223-6035 and request confidential guidance on a problem.

The information in this article was collected by John Zimmerman, VP Miami Valley Fair Housing Center from resources from HUD. To view the rule go to <http://www.mvfairhousing.com/HUDPolicies.php>



- August 21 & 22 [African American Cultural Festival](#) will be held at Island MetroPark, 101 E. Helena Street
- August 24 Collaborative 4th Tuesday Lunch and Learn. See flier on page 4.
- September 15 Fair Housing Class presented by MVFHC and the City of Kettering. See flier on page 5.
- September 18 [20th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival](#) at RiverScape MetroPark

MVFHC Mission Statement

The mission of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center (MVFHC) is to eliminate housing discrimination and ensure equal housing opportunity for all people in our region, the State of Ohio, and nationally.

Specifically, the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center seeks to eliminate housing discrimination against all persons because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, or any other characteristic protected under state or local laws. In furthering this goal, MVFHC engages in activities designed to encourage fair housing practices through educational efforts; assists person who believe they have been victims of housing discrimination; identifies barriers to fair housing in order to help counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices; works with elected and government representatives to protect and improve fair housing laws; and takes all appropriate and necessary action to ensure that fair housing laws are properly and fairly enforced throughout our region, the State of Ohio, and nationally.

MVFHC Vision Statement

The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center recognizes the importance of "home" as a component of the American dream. We envision a country free of housing discrimination where every individual, group and community enjoys equal housing opportunity and access in a bias-free and open housing market. We envision a country where integrated neighborhoods are the norm, and private and public sectors guarantee civil rights in an open and barrier-free community committed to healing the history of discrimination in America.

MIAMI VALLEY FAIR HOUSING CENTER, INC.

505 Riverside Drive
Dayton, OH 45405
Phone: 937-223-6035

E-mail: info@mvfairhousing.com

Visit us online

www.mvfairhousing.com  



Copyright 2021 Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.



Miami Valley Fair Housing Collaborative

August 24, 2021
4th Tuesday Lunch and Learn
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Registration for Zoom Session at:
<https://bit.ly/3x70Jnw>

NOTE: You will see lots of New Fields requesting information about your organization - participation is voluntary. When you get to the field "Services Offered" limit the description to 20 words, about 130 characters including spaces. This data will be compiled to share with Collaborative participants and the community.

This meeting will feature:

- Give an overview of Eviction process
- Discuss and hear from Professionals about People of all ages with Mental/Physical Disabilities Having Problems Related to Covid-19

Event Dates:

Collaborative Meeting on 9/21/21 beginning at 10:30 AM

21st Century Fair Housing Issues

September 15, 2021 1 pm - 4 pm
Location: Deeds Room in lower level
Kettering Government Center
3600 Shroyer Rd, Kettering, OH 45429

Instructor: John Zimmerman
Fair Housing Specialist
Miami Valley Fair Housing Center

Workshop on Non-Discriminatory Rental Best Practices including:

- Welcoming People with Disabilities
- Renting to families with minor children
- Update of Fair Housing and COVID-19
- How to avoid steering based on protected class

How to go:

Arrive and find a seat or

Make a reservation if you want 3 hours Real Estate continuing Education (Civil Rights/Fair Housing) credit: email John Zimmerman at john.zimmerman@mvfairhousing.com.

NO FEES

