

FAIR HOUSING

City of Racine Fair Housing February 2018 Activity Report

*TOTAL # OF INTAKES: 1

*CALL-INS / WALK-INS: 7

ASSESSED / REFERRED: 9

Dept. of Ag. Trade & Cons. Prot.	2
Dept. of Regulation & Licensing	0
Environmental Health Department	1
Building Department	0
Clerk of Courts (Small Claims)	0
Housing Authority	0
Legal Action of Wisconsin	1
Tenant Resource Center	2
Misc.	2
AA/HRC Complaint Racine	0
HUD Discrimination Referral	1
HUD Nondiscrimination Referral	0
Discrimination ERD Referral	0
Investigated	1
Survey Test	0
Complaint Driven Test	0
Workforce Development Center	0

*All call-ins / walk-ins in the section assessed and referred may be multiple referrals.

*Intakes are specifically related to filing complaints with HUD/ERD.

MEDIA INTERVIEW: None

PRESENTATION:

- The City of Racine and the Housing Authority of Racine County hosted its first Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Meeting with local business and planning groups. The meeting was held on February 13, 2108 at the Visioning a Greater Racine Offices. During the meeting the groups discussed fair housing issues and how they relate to local businesses. The group wants to examine tools which may help move businesses into areas which have previously been disinvested.

This meeting was the first of many meetings throughout 2018 to be held in order to understand public perception of fair housing issues and find creative solutions to issues which may exist within Racine. These meetings are part of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice which is a required part of the five year consolidated plan. The City of Racine and the Housing Authority of Racine are partnering with the National Fair Housing Alliance to complete a public relations campaign to let people know what is happening and how to get involved with the process.

Investigations Conducted:

- The complainant is a single female requesting a reasonable accommodation of a reserved parking spot in the driveway of her unit. The CP had been parking in the driveway with a verbal agreement and got into an argument with the downstairs neighbor, the downstairs neighbor then blocked the CP's access to the driveway. Staff helped draft a reasonable accommodation letter to request a reserved spot in the driveway. During this time the CP also complained about asbestos in the home heating system, staff referred the case to the City Health Department. The landlord has verbally agreed to reserve a space for the CP in the driveway, staff recommended to put the agreement into writing. The CP has also begun working with Disability Rights Wisconsin to enforce her rights.

FILED (Alleged) COMPLAINT (S) w/HUD or ERD: None

COMPLAINT UPDATE:

COMPLAINTS RESOLVED/CLOSED:

Fair Housing Test Conducted: None

SPECIAL NOTES:

Staff is part of a community group to organize a training for landlords and a training for tenants. The group has updated and customized a landlord training manual from Oshkosh, WI. The training for landlords will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at Gateway Technical College from 8:00am – 2:00pm. The tenant training will be in mid-May at Knapp School. If a tenant fully completes the training they may use the certificate as a reference for a landlord.

Landlord Tenant Case:

- 1) A CP's lease stated late fees were \$25 per month, the landlord had been charging \$25 per day. CP did some calculations and found out she was way ahead on her rent and was owed money by her landlord. When the CP confronted the landlord the landlord issued her a five day notice. Staff referred the case to Legal Action and to the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). The CP has decided to move, but a case was not filed and the CP is working with DATCP to receive the money overpaid.