

## **FAIR HOUSING**

### ***City of Racine Fair Housing January 2019 Activity Report***

\*TOTAL # OF INTAKES: 2

\*CALL-INS / WALK-INS: 21

ASSESSED / REFERRED: 30

Dept. of Ag. Trade & Cons. Prot.	1
Dept. of Regulation & Licensing	0
Environmental Health Department	5
Building Department	2
Clerk of Courts (Small Claims)	0
Housing Authority	0
Legal Action of Wisconsin	6
Tenant Resource Center	4
Misc.	12
AA/HRC Complaint Racine	0
HUD <b>Discrimination</b> Referral	0
HUD <b>Nondiscrimination</b> Referral	0
Discrimination ERD Referral	0
Investigated	2
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:**

- Affirmative Action Human Rights Commission mentioned Drivers licenses for undocumented immigrants gains more support in Racine. – January 11, 2019 [https://journaltimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/driver-s-licenses-for-undocumented-immigrants-gains-more-support-in/article\\_4bc61da6-aa66-5339-b192-34bfb1002c98.html](https://journaltimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/driver-s-licenses-for-undocumented-immigrants-gains-more-support-in/article_4bc61da6-aa66-5339-b192-34bfb1002c98.html)
- Quoted in Racine Homelessness alliance to focus on eviction, stereotypes. – January 28, 2019 [https://journaltimes.com/news/local/racine-homelessness-alliance-to-focus-on-evictions-stereotypes/article\\_246538a4-0ef6-516e-aab7-f59c9f279529.html](https://journaltimes.com/news/local/racine-homelessness-alliance-to-focus-on-evictions-stereotypes/article_246538a4-0ef6-516e-aab7-f59c9f279529.html)

**PRESENTATION:**

- Continuum of Care Strategic Plan Update. Staff have been participating in the now Homelessness and Housing Alliance's strategic planning. On January 18, 2019 the strategic plan was revealed to member groups. The plan focuses on three parts:
  - 1) Breaking the cycle of evictions
  - 2) Overcoming stereotypes and misconceptions about homelessness
  - 3) Maximizing the impact of available housing

All topics will be examined and executed through a racial equity lens, meaning that race is a critical issue when it comes to homelessness and all work to be done in solving the homeless crisis must focus on racial equity as a tool toward the solution.

**Investigations Conducted:**

- Caller is a single, elderly, Hispanic female with a disability. She had received a 30 day notice to not renew her lease and felt it was because she had trouble with parking. Staff worked with the caller to find out she had a disability which may qualify her for a reserved spot. Staff also found out the caller had multiple rule violations at the property. Legal Action Wisconsin is working with the caller.
- Caller is a single, elderly, White female with a disability and is a veteran. Caller was having trouble with parking spot being cleared, she has mobility issues and needs the spot to be cleared. Caller had been parking in public disability spot. Staff is working with the caller to request a reserved parking spot with truncated lines to allow her the ability to get in and out of her spot. Staff is also working with the caller to make sure the spot is properly cleared after snow fall.

**FILED (Alleged) COMPLAINT (S) w/HUD or ERD:**

None

**COMPLAINT UPDATE:**

- CP lives at Mitchell Wagon Lofts and new management has taken over. Tenant and other neighbors received five day notices for not paying the full rent amount. The rent on the property was subsidized via Low Income Housing Tax Credits which expired just prior to the sale of the building. Tenants had to argue that they had a set rent in their lease and it should not be changed during the term. The caller called the former owners and received documentation about rent calculation and rent amount. The caller presented this to the manager and the amount owed was dropped. The caller is now educating fellow tenants about how to do this in order to prevent evictions.
- A fair housing case based on the reserving of a space for a person with a disability was referred to the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council after the management company did not respond to a request for reasonable accommodation. MMFHC has worked with the complainant to file a case via Housing and Urban Development Equal Rights Division.

**COMPLAINTS RESOLVED/CLOSED:**

None

**Fair Housing Test Conducted:**

None

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

Staff is looking for groups to speak with about Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. Please share potential contacts with staff.