

FAIR HOUSING

City of Racine Fair Housing November 2020 Activity Report

*TOTAL # OF INTAKES: 1

*CALL-INS / WALK-INS: 6

ASSESSED / REFERRED: 8

Dept. of Ag. Trade & Cons. Prot.	2
Environmental Health Department	0
Building Department	0
Racine Fire Department	0
Clerk of Courts (Small Claims)	0
Housing Authority	0
Legal Action of Wisconsin	2
Tenant Resource Center	0
ELCA Outreach Center	3
WI Bar Association	1
Neighborhood Watch/COP House	0
Housing Resources Inc.	0
HOPES Center	0
St. Vincent De Paul	0
Salvation Army	0
Energy Assistance	0
HALO	0
Affordable Housing Resources List	0
AA/HRC Complaint Racine	0
HUD Discrimination Referral	0
HUD Nondiscrimination Referral	0
Discrimination ERD Referral	0
Investigated	0
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.

OUTSIDE RACINE:

- 0 calls from outside Racine.

MEDIA INTERVIEW:

- None

PRESENTATION/COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Presenter at the Homelessness and Housing Alliance about grants and emphasizing the importance of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity – 22 people attended.
- Presenter at Racine County Resource Networking Event about Fair Housing and Housing Search – 75 people attended
- Presented to Jefferson Lighthouse International Baccalaureate Program (Ms. Harris's class) to speak about homelessness and Fair Housing – 12 people attended

Investigations Conducted:

- Complainant is a white female in a same sex marriage. She has three children and is pregnant. CP moved in with her partner in October 2019, the property owner would not acknowledge the same sex partner and kept saying “friend” while using air quotes. The complainant had her children visit and the property owner became angry with her children, yelling at them, threatening them, etc. The unit has major maintenance issues and the property owner is reluctant to complete repairs. The complainant feels the property owner is being rude and disrespectful because she is in a same sex couple. She wants to file a Fair Housing case, but would like to move out of the unit before filing for fear of retaliation*. The complainant is working with other service providers in Racine and staff will help coordinate all of those efforts.

*Retaliation under the Fair Housing Act is forbidden (Federal, State, and Local).

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

- See above.

COMPLAINT UPDATE:

- The complainant is a single, black, female who had her father move in with her and required a reserved parking space with truncated lines. The property manager threatened to have her towed because she was parking in the designated spots at the front of the building. Staff helped her put a request to have a reserved spot with truncated lines and the management said “parking is at a premium, we can’t reserve them, they are first come first serve. Maybe you need to be more careful about when you leave and return” Staff referred the case to Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council for legal assistance, the case was settled in January 2020.

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.

The City of Racine is seeking input from the general public and local stakeholders on the City’s 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice(AI), which will govern the use of Federal funds that the City receives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) over the next five years. The City welcomes feedback from all residents and community members to inform the plan with key local knowledge.

Staff will be completing special outreach with the AAHRC members and AAHRC will be reviewing the AI Plan before it is submitted to Common Council.