

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING PLAN

Housing Authority of the City of Bloomington
1007 North Summit Street
Bloomington, IN 47404

NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Bloomington Housing Authority to fully comply with Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964, Title VIII and Section 3 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (as amended), Executive Order 11063, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and any legislation protecting the individual rights of residents, applicants or staff which may be subsequently enacted.

The Housing Authority shall not discriminate because of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, familial status (in non-elderly designated housing), disability, handicap, national origin, or any status protected under federal, state or local law in the leasing, rental, or other disposition of housing or related facilities, including land, included in any development or developments under its jurisdiction.

The Housing Authority shall not take any of the following actions based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, familial status, disability, handicap, national origin, or any status protected under federal, state or local law:

- A. Deny to any family the opportunity to apply for housing, nor deny to any eligible applicant the opportunity to lease housing suitable to its needs;
- B. Provide housing which is different than that provided others;
- C. Subject a person to segregation or disparate treatment;
- D. Restrict a person's access to any benefit enjoyed by others in connection with any program operated by the Housing Authority;
- E. Treat a person differently in determining eligibility or other requirements for admission;
- F. Deny a person access to the same level of services; or,
- G. Deny a person the opportunity to participate in a planning or advisory group which is an integral part of the public housing or tenant-based housing programs.

The Housing Authority shall not automatically deny admission to a particular group or category of otherwise eligible applicants (e.g., families with children born to unmarried parents or pet owner). Each applicant in a particular group or category will be treated on an individual basis in the normal processing routine.

The Housing Authority will seek to identify and eliminate situations or procedures that create a barrier to equal housing opportunity for all. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Housing Authority will make such physical or procedural changes as will reasonably accommodate people with disabilities.

Housing Authority records, with respect to applications for admission, shall indicate for each application the date of receipt, the determination of eligibility or non-eligibility; the preference rating, if any; and the date, location, identification, and circumstances of each vacancy offered and whether that vacancy was accepted or rejected.

AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING

As conditions may require, the Housing Authority will post notices of housing availability in particular neighborhoods or developments to encourage fuller participation. The Housing Authority may issue public announcements of availability to encourage applications for assistance. The Housing Authority may engage in the following marketing efforts depending on the situation:

- A. Send informational spots to local media outlets such as radio stations, cable TV, newspapers or other periodicals for broadcast or publication;
- B. Special outreaches to minorities, persons with disabilities and very low-income families;
- C. Distribute pamphlets and brochures;
- D. Post notices of employment in unemployment offices, welfare offices, post offices, grocery stores, churches, community halls, buses and other public transportation centers; and
- E. Outreach to organizations which assist people with disabilities, the elderly, students, immigrants, homeless people and victims of domestic violence.

The Housing Authority will monitor the benefits received, as a result of the above activities, and will increase or decrease the outreach activities accordingly.

To reach minority groups, it may be necessary to canvas neighborhoods or make mass mailings to areas with a heavy concentration of minority citizens.

OPERATIONS

In order to further the objectives of nondiscrimination the Housing Authority shall:

- A. Include in the admissions briefings for all Housing Authority programs a section on compliance with Civil Rights laws. The briefing shall carefully explain to all participants what should be done if they believe they have been discriminated against.

- B. Prominently display a Fair Housing Poster in every development office owned by the Housing Authority and in the Housing Authority's main office.
 - C. Use the Equal Housing Opportunity logo and/or statement in all advertising and in all marketing publications of the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority shall be particularly conscious of human models used in its publications so as to avoid signaling any sense of discrimination.
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