

DEFINING AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING

A fair housing market is one in which no consumer is more burdened in making housing choices than any other consumer. Affirmatively furthering fair housing goes beyond discrimination & affordable housing. It must encompass racial and ethnic integration and include accessibility & housing for larger families. Affirmatively furthering fair housing is accomplished through implementing policies, practices, and development that promotes integration.

“With passage of the Fair Housing Act in 1968, we acknowledged that segregation didn’t happen in spite of government policy – it happened in large part because of it....And we affirmed that government has a role to play in creating integrated, inclusive, diverse communities.”

“Our success is measured by whether HUD is increasing the number of low-poverty, racially-diverse communities in America. That is what we call ‘Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.’ ”

-HUD Secretary, Shaun Donovan



CENTRAL FEDERAL POLICIES & PROGRAMS SUPPORTING FAIR HOUSING

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibits the refusal to sell, finance, rent to, or negotiate with any person on the basis of:



Community Development Block Grant. Any grant under the CDBG program shall be made only if the grantee certifies to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act, and the grantee will affirmatively further fair housing. Grantees must submit certification that they will affirmatively further fair housing by: conducting an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in analysis, and maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions in this regard.

FAIR HOUSING IN ACTION

The importance of fair housing goes beyond a physical structure. Affirmatively furthering fair housing creates a housing market which is open, inclusive, and fulfills the diverse needs of all community residents. Fair housing reconnects neighborhoods by ensuring access to quality housing, regardless of race, gender, religious views, familial status, or disability. All citizens have the opportunity to live in close proximity to achieving schools, employment, transportation, banking services, grocery stores and retail, public services, and public space. Local government spends less on supportive services for households isolated from opportunity and resources, creating savings for households, businesses and the municipality.

For more information:

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