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Contact: Amy Nelson, Executive Director

Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana

Phone: 317-644-0673 x1001 Email: anelson@fhcci.org

FAIR HOUSING LAWSUIT AGAINST HOUSING AUTHORITY SETTLES

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) and two Anderson residents announce a \$230,000 settlement with the Anderson Housing Authority of Anderson, Indiana to resolve allegations the Authority discriminated in its ownership and management of its multifamily public housing dwellings on the basis of race, gender, and disability in violation of the federal Fair Housing Act. The Anderson Housing Authority denied all material allegations in the filed complaint, except for subject matter jurisdiction.

"We are pleased to have this case resolve and look forward to working with the Anderson Housing Authority in the future to ensure equal housing opportunity for their current and future tenants," stated Amy Nelson, Executive Director of the FHCCI.

In the settlement, the Anderson Housing Authority also agreed: to adopt a Reasonable Accommodation and Modification Policy, an Anti-Harassment Policy, a Non-Discrimination in Maintenance Policy, and a Pre-Occupancy Inspection Policy and provide such policies to all tenants; to provide employee training of the policies; to inspect and repair common area doors and lights; provide fair housing training for employees and board members over a period of three years; and other forms of affirmative relief.

The Plaintiffs were represented by Christopher E. Clark Goodin Abernathy, LLP and Christopher Brancart of Brancart & Brancart. A copy of this press release and the consent decree can be found on the <u>FHCCI's</u> News Page and Advocacy Page.

A <u>separate complaint</u> filed and settled between the U.S. Department of Justice and the Anderson Housing Authority was resolved for \$70,000 to compensate an additional seven victims of discrimination identified by the Department.

The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) is a private, non-profit fair housing organization founded in 2011 and based in Indianapolis, Indiana. Its mission is to ensure equal housing opportunities by eliminating housing discrimination through advocacy, enforcement, education and outreach. For more information, visit: www.fhcci.org