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FAIR HOUSING CENTER OF CENTRAL INDIANA CELEBRATES FAIR HOUSING MONTH WITH CONFERENCE

INDIANAPOLIS – Each year, April is celebrated around the country as Fair Housing Month. This year, the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) celebrates the month with our annual conference. The FHCCI's 4th Annual Fair Housing Conference, entitled *Fair Housing: Putting the Pieces Together*, will be held at the Wyndham West Hotel in Indianapolis from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Thursday, April 14, 2016.

The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, **Gustavo F. Velasquez**, will open and keynote the FHCCI's conference this year. Gustavo Velasquez was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the United States Senate as the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2014. Prior to his nomination, Velasquez was Executive Director of the Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC), a non-for-profit organization based in Washington, DC dedicated to serve thousands of Latinos and other immigrants and underserved populations gain the necessary skills and capital to start and maintain their own



Gustavo Velasquez



Beverly Gooden

businesses. We believe this will be the first visit to Indiana by a HUD Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

This year's conference will also include **Beverly Gooden** as our luncheon keynote speaker. Ms. Gooden is a domestic violence survivor, victim's rights advocate, and creator of the viral social media movement, #WhyIStayed. She now speaks about domestic

violence sensitivity, social justice, and the power of storytelling. She originally hails from our neighboring Ohio.

Along with the keynote speakers noted above, the conference will also feature eight workshop options for attendees to choose from based on rental, sales, and lending fair housing topics. These fair housing workshops will review:

- Fair Housing 101
- Fair Housing Disability Case Law Update
- Understanding the Disparate Impact Ruling on Affordable Housing
- How Religious Bias is Impacting Fair Housing Choice
- Understanding HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Regulation
- An Update on Fair Lending Actions
- Indiana Public Policy Update
- Gender Bias in Housing

The conference will also feature three Indianapolis based spoken word artists providing powerful performances as it relates to civil rights and housing.

We are also delighted to announce **Jon Seward**, Deputy Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section of the Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), is confirmed as a featured panelist for the "Update on Fair Lending Actions." He will update attendees on recent work by the DOJ to address discrimination in lending.

Continuing education for attorneys, social workers, and real estate have been approved. The registration cost for this all-day event is only \$50/person.

This conference is presented with the generous support of the following community sponsors:*

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*Other Sponsors Pending.

For more information, including how to register, visit the FHCCI's Events Page at:
<http://www.fhcci.org/events/>

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

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