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Contact: Amy Nelson, Executive Director  
Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana  
Phone: 317-644-0673 x1001  
Email: [anelson@fhcci.org](mailto:anelson@fhcci.org)

### **FAIR HOUSING LAWSUIT FILED ALLEGING DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION AGAINST 38 PROPERTIES NATIONWIDE**

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – Today, the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI), along with six fellow fair housing organizations across the United States (“Plaintiffs”), announces a federal lawsuit against Clover Group and its related entities (“Defendants”), alleging violations of fair housing laws against persons with disabilities. The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York Syracuse Division.

During the investigations, Plaintiffs uncovered widespread violations of the federal Fair Housing Act’s accessibility requirements at 38 of the Defendants’ properties in Indiana, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Inaccessible items of concern include, but are not limited to, inaccessible parking spaces, mailboxes, bathrooms, and routes to units and public common use areas. All properties are advertised for individuals 55 years and older.

Properties in Indiana include Gardens on Gateway Senior Apartments (McCordsville, IN); Pleasant Run Senior Apartments (Indianapolis, IN); and Wynbrooke Senior Apartments (Indianapolis, IN).

With Congress’s passing of the federal Fair Housing Amendment Act’s design and construction accessibility requirements in 1988, all multi-family housing, with four or more units, built for first occupancy on or after March 13, 1991 must be accessible. These include [seven technical requirements](#) to ensure compliance.

“Even with the passing of the fair housing accessibility amendments over 30 years ago, we still see blatant violations of disability discrimination throughout Indiana,” stated Brady Ripperger, FHCCI Deputy Director of Administration & Advocacy. “Persons with disabilities deserve basic, accessible housing, free from inaccessibility and discrimination.”

Having uncovered several violations of design and construction violations in recent years, the FHCCI released an educational video in 2020 to educate the public on accessibility requirements under fair housing laws. [This video can be viewed here.](#)

“According to the 2020 US Census data, approximately 13.7% of Hoosiers have some form of disability. These numbers are likely underreported and rising as people age and are able to live longer,” explained Amy Nelson, FHCCI Executive Director. “We need to make sure that each housing unit required to meet accessibility requirements does so to ensure people can age in place in the housing of their choice.”

The FHCCI conducted the joint investigation with the Fair Housing Center for Rights & Research, Inc. (Cleveland, OH); Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Greater Cincinnati, Inc. (Cincinnati, OH); Toledo Fair Housing Center (Toledo, OH); CNY Fair Housing Council, Inc. (Syracuse, NY); Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Buffalo, Inc. (Buffalo, NY); and the Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA).

The Plaintiffs are represented by Conor Kirchner and Casey Weissman-Vermeulen of CNY Fair Housing, Inc. and Reed Colfax, Sara Pratt, and Soohyun Choi of Relman Colfax PLLC. A copy of the filed complaint can be found on the [FHCCI's Advocacy Page](#) or its [News Page](#).

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The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) is a private, nonprofit fair housing organization 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](http://www.fhcci.org)

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