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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 CENTER ANNOUNCES FAIR HOUSING MONTH ACTIVITIES

INDIANAPOLIS – Each year, April is celebrated across the country as Fair Housing Month to honor the passage of the federal Fair Housing Act in April 1968. Today, marks the 55th anniversary of the signing of the Act into law. In honor, the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) has a month of targeted activities in celebration

and recognition of fair housing and the passage of this important civil rights law.

The **FHCCI's 11th Annual Fair Housing Conference**, entitled *Fair Housing: Making Every Zip Code an Opportunity*, will be held virtually from 9:00 AM to 4:45 PM (ET) on Wednesday, April 12, 2023. The conference will offer 15 topical themed workshops on various fair housing issues through three defined tracts. Topics will include fair lending, appraisal discrimination, homeownership barriers, and updates on types of rental based discrimination. A plenary session will welcome Jillian White as the conference keynote speaker. Ms. White is the CEO and Founder of Appraisal Insights. Pre-registration has already surpassed 400 registrants. The conference was also approved for 6.3 CLEs for Indiana practicing attorneys. More information on the conference can be found on the <u>FHCCI Events Page</u>. The conference is presented with the generous support of the following sponsors:



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To further recognize Fair Housing Month, the FHCCI is releasing **two new fair housing videos.** The first video, *Donata's Neighborhood*, is a client-impact story featuring a FHCCI client who experienced extensive and pervasive race-based harassment. The second video, *Community Voices*, explores the impact of neighborhood disinvestment and local programs in place to combat. The videos will premiere at the FHCCI's Conference and will then be available on the FHCCI YouTube Page.

The FHCCI's *Unwelcomed:* A *Fair Housing History of Sales & Lending Discrimination*, an interactive exhibit, educates participants on the systemic barriers that have impacted today's neighborhoods through redlining, racial covenants, steering, neighborhood intimidation, and other forms of housing discrimination. Modern-day forms of housing discrimination in sales and lending are also highlighted. This exhibit has been traveling across Indianapolis over the past year and can be viewed this month at Common Ground Midtown Christian Church. Viewing information can be found here. The exhibit is funded through support by First Merchants Bank.

Fair Housing Month activities continue with the FHCCI partnering with Indy-based <u>Black Worldschoolers Mobile Bookstore</u> to sponsor five of its stops during April to spread the word on fair housing and share the love of reading. **Black Worldschoolers Mobile Bookstore** is a one-of-a-kind bookstore on wheels for all ages celebrating Black life, Black heritage, and Black joy! The partnership will create access and awareness to Black stories around the world while creating excitement and engagement around reading. Not only can you check out the bus for a slideshow on fair housing information with a recommended reading list, but the FHCCI's support allows for the giving away of children's books at each stop. You can learn more about upcoming stops here.

Last week in a kick off to Fair Housing Month, the FHCCI launched a new line of **FHCCI appareI**. Show your fair housing support through this call to action for "Safe, Affordable, Accessible, Discrimination-free, Housing for All." Available in multiple styles, including hoodies, crewneck sweatshirts, t-shirts, and long-sleeve shirts, in various colors. All apparel is available on a suggested donation-basis. Learn more on the FHCCI's Shop Page.

Finally, the FHCCI staff are scheduled to speak at a variety of events across the city and state about the work of the FHCCI and the barriers to fair housing opportunity. April will continue with a new PSA campaign, a new poster and bookmark, a fair housing reading list, and so much more! Follow us on our social media pages to learn more. Happy Fair Housing Month!



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

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