

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

ADOPT POLICY—FAIR HOUSING

WHEREAS, Allegan County is committed to providing safe, affordable, decent housing, where people choose to live.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Fair Housing Policy, as attached, effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Department will provide copies of the policy and post it to the website as necessary to inform all employees and citizens.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner VanEck to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes - 11 votes. No - 0 votes. Absent - 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY

 _____, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: June 23, 2011

cc: Admin. - Finance - Human Resources

County of Allegan

Title: FAIR HOUSING POLICY
Document Code: BOC3
Department: Board of Commissioners
Effective Date: January 1, 2011
Approved: June 23, 2011
Type of Action: New Policy

Subject Title: FAIR HOUSING POLICY

1.0 Purpose:

The purpose of the Fair Housing Policy is to declare Allegan County's commitment to the principle of providing fair housing to the individuals and families within its communities through adherence to existing federal and state legislation and to establish procedures and responsibilities for administering the policy.

2.0 Organizations Affected:

- 2.1 Allegan County
- 2.2 ACRDC
- 2.3 Residents of Allegan County

3.0 References:

- 3.1 Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968
- 3.2 Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended

4.0 Definitions:

- 4.1 Fair Housing: all individuals and families should have equal access to housing of their choice wherever it is situated.

5.0 Policies:

- 5.1 Allegan County is committed to the principle of providing safe, affordable, descent housing where people choose to live pursuant to the Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which states, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, gender, physical or mental disabilities or national origin; and the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended, which states, it is illegal to deny the opportunity to obtain housing to any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial

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status, or marital status.

6.0 Procedure:

6.1 **Contact Person:** The Allegan County Resource Development Committee Housing Director is appointed as the Contact Person for Fair Housing issues. The Contact Person will be available to address Fair Housing issues during normal County business hours.

6.2 **Complaint Referral:** The following complaint referral system is implemented:

6.2.1 Persons wishing to file a housing related complaint or concern will be referred to their local Fair Housing Center, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) and HUD. Persons wishing to file a complaint or concern that is employment related will be referred to the Equal Employment Commission and the MDCR.

6.2.2 If the complaint is against the Allegan County Resource Development Committee or an agent of the ACRDC, the Contact Person will immediately advise the County Administrator in writing of the complaint with their proposed recommendation for resolution. If the County Administrator is unable to resolve the issue, final resolution will be the responsibility of the Board Chairman, with appropriate notification to the Board of Commissioners.

6.2.3 The Contact Person will notify MSHDA if a complaint is filed.

7.0 Responsibilities:

7.1 **Records Maintenance:** The Allegan County Resource Development Committee has established a Fair Housing Log. The Fair Housing Log will be maintained by the Allegan County Resource Development Committee Housing Director and will disclose information regarding any and all fair housing concerns and their outcomes. The log will be maintained in the Community Development and Housing Department and available for viewing during normal business hours.

7.2 **Fair Housing Information:** The Allegan County Resource Development Committee will post a Fair Housing poster in a place visible to the public. ACRDC will also secure and distribute Fair Housing Material provided by MSHDA and various other Fair housing agencies and organizations to our applicants, other organizations and at public events. Additionally, "Fair Housing, It's Your Right" brochures will be distributed to all applicants.

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- 7.3 Fair Housing Logo: The Allegan County Resource Development Committee will include the Fair Housing Logo and EEO language in all advertising and printed materials.



- 7.4 Anti-Discrimination: The Allegan County Resource Development Committee will consider all applications and contractors based on qualifications. No applicant or contractor will be denied based on their race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, marital status, familiar status or handicap. Persons raising concerns regarding discrimination will not be retaliated against. Anti-discrimination language of E.O. 11246 will be included in all contracts in excess of \$10,000.
- 7.5 **Accessibility:** The offices for the Allegan County Resource Development Committee are accessible and barrier free. ACRDC will make every attempt to reasonably accommodate all clients.

8.0 Appendices:

None.

9.0 Created: June 2011

Updated: