

## What is the Fair Housing Justice Center?

The Fair Housing Justice Center (FHJC), a nonprofit civil rights organization, is dedicated to eliminating housing discrimination; promoting policies that foster open, accessible, and inclusive communities; and strengthening enforcement of fair housing laws in the New York City region.

## Why does fair housing matter in New York?

Housing discrimination does immense harm to entire communities. Housing discrimination not only restricts housing choice, but it can be a painful, humiliating, and costly experience for any individual or family. And housing discrimination limits access to important life opportunities and reinforces residential racial segregation.

Housing discrimination and residential segregation are not just a national problem; they are a problem in New York. New York City is the 3rd most segregated city in the United States for African Americans, and the 2nd most segregated city for Latinos and Asian Americans.\* The Fair Housing Justice Center is working to make the New York City region more open, accessible, and inclusive for all New Yorkers.

## How do we work to achieve our mission?

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, “For as long as there is residential segregation, there will be a de facto segregation in every area of life. So the challenge is here to develop an action program.” The Fair Housing Justice Center has developed an action program to systematically eliminate housing discrimination in the New York City region.

The Fair Housing Justice Center:

- Assists individuals and organizations with housing discrimination complaints and to exercise their fair housing rights;
- Initiates investigations to identify, document, and eliminate systemic housing discrimination;
- Advocates for programs and policies that create more open, accessible, and inclusive communities;
- Engages in outreach and educational activities to increase public awareness about fair housing rights;
- Provides technical assistance, training and other tools to upgrade and strengthen fair housing law enforcement.

The Fair Housing Justice Center’s counseling and investigative services are provided to the general public free of charge without regard to household income.

## What impact have we had?

In the past decade, the Fair Housing Justice Center established itself as a leader in fair housing. The FHJC’s investigations have led to legal challenges that opened up tens of thousands of housing units to populations previously excluded. Beyond changing housing practices, the FHJC has influenced local, state, and federal housing policies, increased public awareness about fair housing rights, and improved how fair housing laws are enforced. The FHJC has changed lives by empowering people to exercise their fair housing rights.

**Learn more at [www.fairhousingjustice.org](http://www.fairhousingjustice.org).**

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\*Statistic comes from study by John R. Logan and Brian J. Stults, “The Persistence of Segregation in the Metropolis: New Findings from the 2010 Census,” published March 24, 2011.