



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Campaign to End Discrimination Based on Source of Income

What is the purpose of the Campaign?

To end housing discrimination against housing voucher holders and persons with other sources of income via a statewide public education campaign to increase the knowledge of housing consumers and housing providers about the provisions of Colorado state law HB20-1332 banning such discrimination.

Why is the Campaign needed?

Amidst Colorado's soaring housing cost crisis, many of the 27,000+ Coloradans who are housing voucher holders and others face outright discrimination by landlords who refuse to accept vouchers in clear violation of Colorado law. Effective January 1, 2021, HB20-1223 banned discrimination based on a person's source of income. Housing voucher holders also report landlords who illegally:

- refuse to count the value of their vouchers when determining whether they meet the landlord's rent-to-income ratio requirement, or
- steer voucher holders away from the apartment they wish to live in and toward another building where the landlord clusters housing voucher holders.

These violations of the law affect some of the most vulnerable Coloradans. Two examples: 82% of households receiving vouchers through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs include a person with a disability. For a person transitioning out of homelessness, a landlord's refusal to accept a housing voucher can crush plans to move to stable housing.

All Coloradans gain when tenants know their rights and landlords follow the law.

What are the key Campaign activities?

In collaboration with the Denver Metro Fair Housing Center, the campaign's Endorsing Organizations will educate landlords and tenants throughout Colorado via a series of in-person and online education sessions, community forums, social media outreach, website posts, as well as newspaper, radio, and TV publicity.

What role will the video “A Place Called Better” play in the campaign?

“A Place Called Better” is a powerful mini documentary that communicates both the human impact of Source of Income discrimination and the need to enforce the law. Produced by Denver Metro Fair Housing Center with funding from the Denver Foundation’s Community Grants Program, the five-minute video serves as a key educational component to increase community awareness and to empower victims of discrimination to assert their rights.

What is the role of the Campaign’s Endorsing Organizations?

Each Endorsing Organization pledges to 1) Co-sponsor at least one Education Forum (virtual or in-person) with DMFHC to reach housing consumers and providers in their communities, 2) Post the educational video “A Place Called Better” on the organization’s website, calling attention to the campaign, and 3) Publicize their organization’s commitment to the Campaign goal.

Who are the Endorsing Organizations?

As of April 28, the following organizations have signed on to actively support the Campaign:

Association of Colorado Independent Living Centers
Center on Colfax (LGBTQ+ advocacy & services)
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Housing Division
Colorado Poverty Law Project
Community Economic Defense Project / CED Law
Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corporation
Disability Law Colorado
Housing Stability (HOST) Program of the City of Denver
NEWSED Community Development Corporation
Northeast Denver Housing Center

When will the Campaign begin and end?

The Campaign launched on April 25, 2023 at the DMFHC Fair Housing Conference and will end November 20, 2023, at which time the collaborating organizations will meet to assess its impact and plan further action. Endorsing organizations will receive monthly campaign progress updates.

How can I get more information about the Campaign?

Join the growing list of Campaign supporters, make a financial contribution, or volunteer your time. Contact John Paul Marosy, Outreach and Education Coordinator at DMFHC at jpmarosy@dmfhc.org or call (720) 279 4291, extension 3.

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