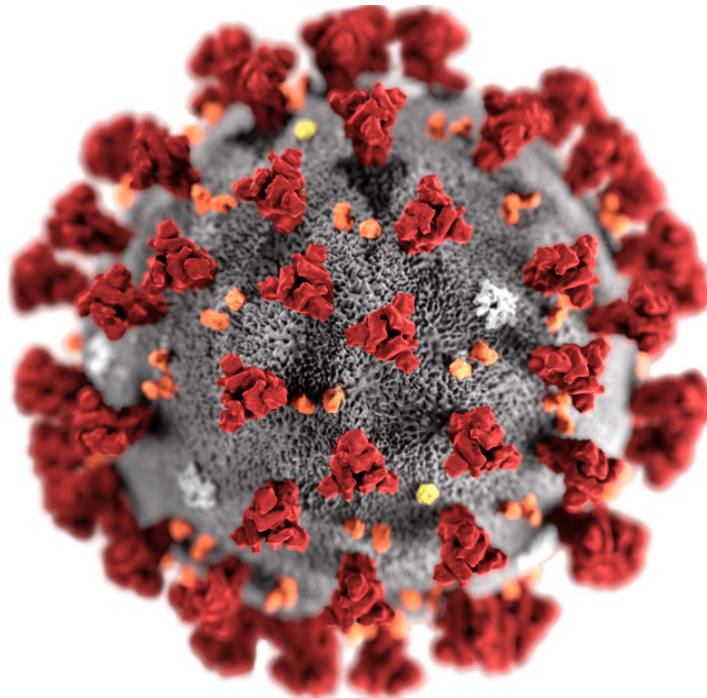




## CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19



The health of our community is a priority to all of us at the Fair Housing Center for Rights & Research, so we must take proactive steps to ensure the health and safety of our staff, clients, and neighbors. In an effort to decrease the spread of COVID-19 and keep our community healthy, The Fair Housing Center has made the decision for all staff to work remotely, with our office being closed through Friday, April 3, 2020. While folks will not be able to connect directly with a staff member when calling our office during this time, a message can be left on our voicemail for staff members to get back in touch. All staff will still be available [via email](#), and will be checking voicemails regularly while working remotely. For more

information on how to contact The Fair Housing Center, please visit [www.thehousingcenter.org/about-us/contact-us/](http://www.thehousingcenter.org/about-us/contact-us/).

As information and instructions from public health officials are quickly evolving, we will be sure to inform the public of any potential updates or changes to our services or operations.

Learn more [here](#).

## RESOURCE AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

### OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING HOUSING:

FAIR HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL  
AND MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITIES



Fair Housing Center  
for Rights & Research

If you or someone you know lives with a physical or mental health disability, The Fair Housing Center has recently released an updated resource to assist in obtaining and maintaining housing. This brochure is meant to inform the public about fair housing rights and how to recognize housing discrimination. In addition, it seeks to specifically address common fair housing issues faced by people with physical and mental health disabilities, caregivers, and medical and mental health professionals.

[Visit our website](#) to view this resource, and learn more about fair housing for people with disabilities and [download now](#).

## FAIR HOUSING AT BW SOCIAL CHANGE SUMMIT



On Saturday, January 25, 2020, we engaged in meaningful conversations with BW students, facilitating two issue education sessions and participating in a networking fair at Baldwin Wallace University's 4th annual Social Change Summit.

The conference-style event brought students together with local nonprofit leaders to learn about social change work being done in the community and how students can enact positive change.

## SAVE THE DATE: FAIR HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY FIRST TRAINING



On May 20, 2020, In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, The Fair Housing Center will be presenting a **Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST Design**

**& Construction Training** on May 20, 2020 from 9:00am - 5:15pm at the Parma Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library.

The mission of Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST is to promote compliance with the Fair Housing Act design and construction requirements. The free program is registered with the American Institute of Architects. Architects will receive up to 6 continuing education HSW credits.

Learn more and register [here](#).



## STUDENTS SPEND SPRING BREAK WORKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



On Tuesday, March 3, 2020, Fair Housing Center staff spent the afternoon with a group of 10 John Carroll University students, who gave up their spring break to participate in NEOCH's Cleveland Immersion Experience (CIE). The immersion experience "seeks to put a human face on statistics" by allowing students to visit local organizations to understand the interconnecting issues surrounding poverty and homelessness. CIE participants build relationships with folks experiencing homelessness and learn about the systemic reasons why people struggle with housing. For more information on NEOCH's programs, visit <https://www.neoch.org/educating-and-advocating>.

While in our office, students learned about our country's history of discrimination, ways that discrimination and segregation still persist, what their rights are under fair housing law, and the work that The Fair Housing Center does to combat discrimination. We enjoyed engaging with this group and hope we've inspired some new fair housing advocates!

## OTHER NEWS UPDATES

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson, in consultation with the Trump Administration and the Coronavirus Task Force, authorized the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) to implement an [immediate foreclosure and eviction moratorium](#) for single family homeowners with FHA-insured mortgages for the next 60 days. These moratoriums are part of the continued effort to address impacts to the financial well-being of America's individuals, families, and businesses caused by Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Cleveland City Council will consider legislation Monday to [press for a moratorium in Cleveland Housing Court on evictions](#) that can be linked to hardship caused by the coronavirus.
- In response to the coronavirus pandemic, many local courts have temporarily suspended eviction hearings or rescheduled them for later dates. If you have received a court summons or have an eviction hearing scheduled in the near future, please check the court docket or contact the court where your hearing is scheduled to confirm whether it will continue as scheduled. [Click here](#) if you would like to add your name to NEOCH's petition to Governor DeWine if you believe that the state should prohibit evictions, prevent utility shut-offs, and provide emergency assistance to those facing eviction/homelessness during the coronavirus outbreak.
- Following news that Governor DeWine ordered a three-week shutdown of Ohio schools, CMSD immediately implemented a plan to continue meal service to all students, similar to the service we provide during summer months. [Here is a list of 22 sites](#) where children 18 and younger can pick up a bagged lunch for the day and a breakfast to take home for the next day. CMSD will provide yellow bus shuttles to each site with times and locations listed on the back. RTA will continue to honor student bus passes for meal pickups.

## ABOUT THE FAIR HOUSING CENTER FOR RIGHTS & RESEARCH

The Fair Housing Center for Rights & Research (The Fair Housing Center) is a nonprofit fair housing organization whose mission is to protect and expand fair housing rights, eliminate housing discrimination, and promote integrated communities. The Fair Housing Center has been in existence for over 35 years, beginning as the Metropolitan Strategy Group in 1983.

The federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of a dwelling on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability. The purpose of the law is to eliminate housing discrimination and promote residential integration.

For more information visit [www.thehousingcenter.org](http://www.thehousingcenter.org).

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## STAY IN THE LOOP!

Sign up for our e-newsletter and never miss the latest in local and national fair housing news. Visit [www.thehousingcenter.org/sign-up](http://www.thehousingcenter.org/sign-up).



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**Fair Housing Center  
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