Mercer County, NJ Fair Housing Survey

The Mercer County, NJ Office of Housing and Community Development is conducting a survey to evaluate Fair Housing conditions in the area. The survey is being conducted anonymously, so do not write your name on the survey form **please be honest and complete in your answers**. Responses will be summarized and individual responses will not be reported in any way.

The following questions will address specific fair housing issues.

Fair Housing is a right protected by Federal and State laws. Each person is entitled to equal access to housing opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, familial status, marital status, age, ancestry, sexual orientation, source of income, or any other arbitrary reason. Fair Housing laws apply to rental housing, homes for sale, advertising, home loans, and home insurance.

Signs of discrimination include:

- The rent or deposit quoted is higher than advertised.
- The manager says the unit is rented but the ad or sign is still posted.
- The manager says "You probably won't like it here", "We've rented out the family units", or "There is no place for your children to play".
- A real estate agent keeps "steering" you to look for houses in neighborhoods different than the ones you desire and you think you can afford.
- The manager denies your request to make minor modifications to your unit to accommodate your disability.
- The manager refuses to make repairs to your unit or harasses you or your children – but doesn't do this to other tenants who are a different race or ethnicity than you.

1. Do you believe housing discrimination is an issue where you live? *

2. Have you ever experienced housing discrimination? *

If "NO", please skip ahead to question #9.

3. Who do you believe discriminated against you?

- ☐ A landlord / property manager
- ☐ A real estate agent
- ☐ A mortgage lender A mortgage insurer
- ☐ A government housing program staff person
- ☐ A real estate agent
- ☐ A mortgage insurer
- ☐ Other: _____

4. On what type of property or situation did the act of discrimination occur?

- ☐ An apartment complex
- ☐ A condo development
- ☐ A single-family neighborhood
- ☐ A public or subsidized housing project
- ☐ A trailer or mobile home park
- ☐ When applying for a government program
- ☐ A condo development
- ☐ A public or subsidized housing project
- ☐ When applying for a government program

5. On what basis do you believe you were discriminated against? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Race
- ☐ Color
- ☐ Religion
- ☐ National Origin
- ☐ Ancestry
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Marital Status
- ☐ Sexual Orientation
- ☐ Age
- ☐ Family Status (e.g. single-parent with children, family with children or expecting a child)
- ☐ Source of Income (e.g. welfare, unemployment, disability, social security)
- ☐ Disability (e.g. either you or someone living with you)
- ☐ Other (please explain): _____

6. How were you discriminated against?

_____

_____

_____

7. Have you ever been denied flexibility ("reasonable accommodation") in the rules, policies, or practices at your residence that you need because of a disability (for example, permission to install grab bars, ramps, etc.)?

If "YES", what was your request?

_____

_____

_____

_____

8. If you believe you have been discriminated against, have you reported the incident?

If "NO" – Why not?

- ☐ Don't know where to report
- ☐ Afraid of retaliation
- ☐ Don't believe it makes any difference
- ☐ Too much trouble
- ☐ Other: _____

9. Are you aware of any hate crimes that have been committed in your neighborhood in the last five years? (A hate crime is a crime, including intimidation or harassment, against a person on their Property motivated by hostility toward their real or perceived attributes.)

If "YES", what was the basis of the crime? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Race
- ☐ Color
- ☐ Religion
- ☐ National Origin
- ☐ Ancestry
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Marital Status
- ☐ Sexual Orientation
- ☐ Age
- ☐ Family Status
- ☐ Source of Income
- ☐ Disability
- ☐ Other: _____

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR REPORTING PURPOSES ONLY

10. What is your household's yearly income?

- ☐ Less than $15,000
- ☐ $30,000-$49,999
- ☐ $50,000-$74,999
- ☐ $15,000-$29,999
- ☐ $75,000-$99,999
- ☐ Greater than $100,000

11. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

12. What is your race? (If you are multi -racial, please check all that apply)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other
- ☐ Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Native American

13. Do you speak a language other than English in your home?

14. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School / GED
- ☐ Some College
- ☐ 2-year College Degree (Associates)
- ☐ 4-year College Degree (BA, BS)
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree
- ☐ Professional Degree (MD, JD)

15. Are you employed?

If "YES":

1) **What is your main form of transportation to work? (e.g. car, bus or other form public transportation, walk, bike, carpool)**
   - ☐ Car/Vehicle
   - ☐ Bus
   - ☐ Other Form of Public Transportation
   - ☐ Walk
   - ☐ Bike
   - ☐ Carpool
   - ☐ Other: _____

2) On average, how long is your commute to work each day (round trip)?

- ☐ 0-15 minutes
- ☐ 16-20 minutes
- ☐ 30 minutes or more

16. Are you disabled?

Do you receive money from the government because of your disability?

17. Male:☐ Female:☐ Age:_____ Zip Code:_____

18. If you live in a named subdivision, rental property, apartment complex, mobile home park, etc., Please provide the name:_____

19. How many people are in your household? _____

Submit Reset

This survey is being administered for use by the
Mercer County, NJ Consortium
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(609) 989-6858

For additional information about your fair housing rights, visit www.hud.gov.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY