

#### **HOUSING**

March 10, 2023



# LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

with

Zoom



## WELCOME

ASL, captions, and language interpreters will be provided today.









# EFFECTIVE & INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION

- Verify that your microphone is muted when others are speaking during the meeting.
- Always speak slowly and clearly.
- Utilize the "raise hand" or chat feature for your questions and comments.
- Always take turns when speaking.



#### SCHEDULE

Training #1 – Housing
March 10, 2023

Training #2- Technology
April 14, 2023

Training #3 – Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault May 5, 2023



#### THE ENABLE PROJECT



This training is brought to you by the Enable Project, a coalition that brings together non-profit and social justice organizations and their staff to create channels for integration of people with disabilities within their organizations and movements.



#### **MINDFULNESS**

Chaplain Beyssa Buil
The Grey Tea Kettle Chaplaincy
Community Care & Support



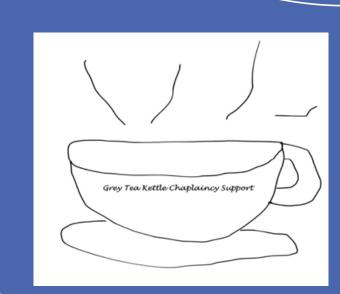
Introduction –

Creating a safe space for triggering discussions

A place to be seen and heard

Website: www.greyteakettle.com

Email: chaplainbeyssa@greyteakettle.com









This will be a safe place.

This will be a sacred and holy place.

A place without time.

A place where we are all welcome.

Feel, seen, heard, and supported.

### FRED CHRISTIAN





#### **JUSTINE CHICHESTER**



### **OUR HOME**

When it was built vs. other homes

Two steps into the house

**Bathrooms** 

Kitchen

**Bedrooms** 

### THE RAMP

**Temporary Ramp** 

Permanent Ramp



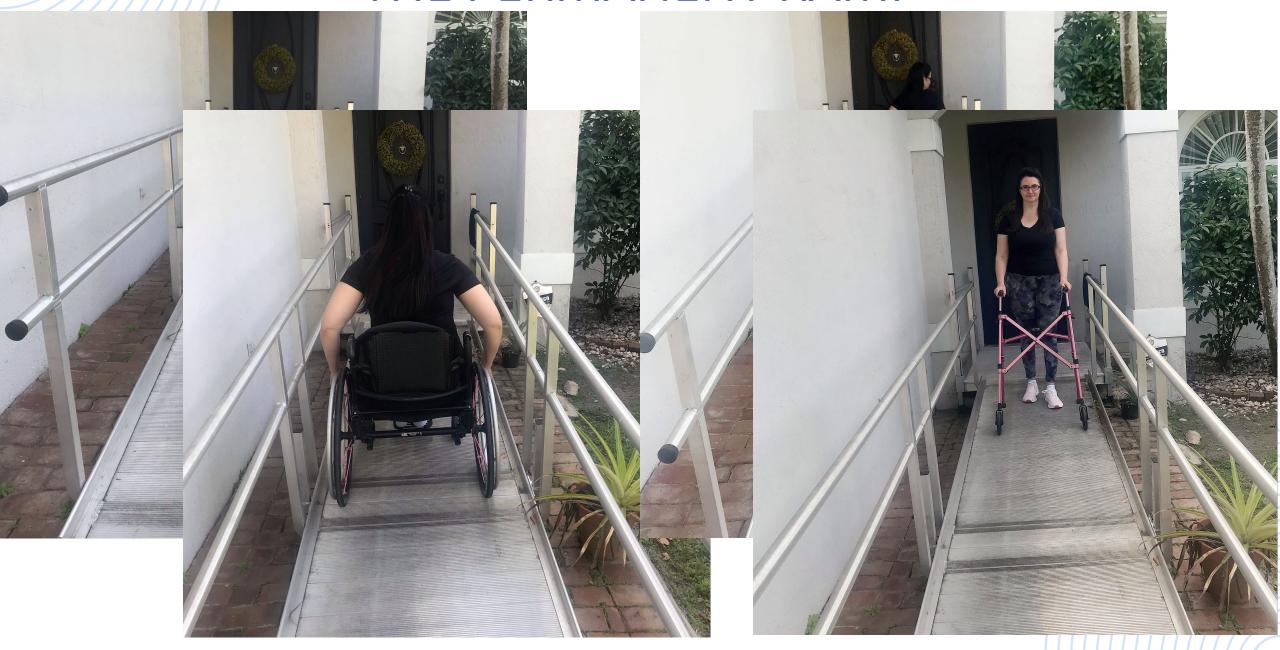
#### FL BRAIN AND SPINE PROGRAM

Program provided by the FL department of Health

The Goal is Ultimate Independence

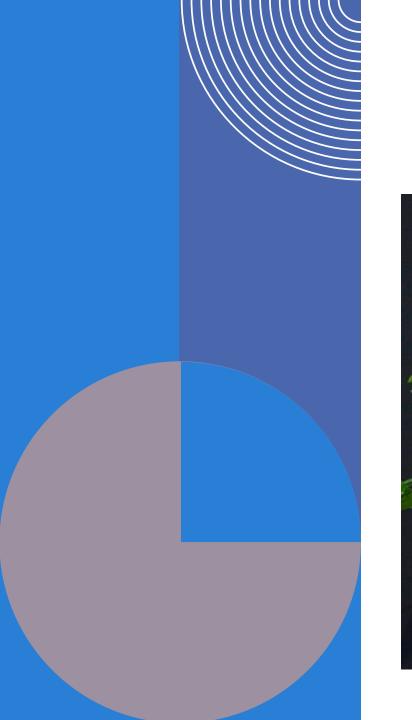


### THE PERMANENT RAMP



#### VISITING FRIENDS HOMES





#### **GUIDED BODY SCAN**





Reset your nervous system and mindfulness

Reflect for one minute and observe what has come up for you it can be a physical sensation, a memory, emotion, a thought.

# Fair Housing

Rob Collins, Esq.
Education & Outreach Coordinator
Housing Opportunities Project for Excellence, Inc.



# About HOPE, Inc.

- Established in 1988 in response to local survey showing high discrimination
- Mission:

   Fight housing
   discrimination in
   Miami-Dade &
   Broward Counties and ensure equal housing opportunities
- Services:

   Education & outreach,
   intake & counseling,
   enforcement
   (recovered over \$12
   million in damages for victims of discrimination)



## Fair housing laws

- Civil Rights Act of 1866
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Florida's Civil Rights Statute, Title XLIX, Chapter 760.23
- Miami-Dade County Code, Civil and Human Rights Ordinance
- Broward County Ordinance, Human Rights Act



# Why practice fair housing?

- It's the right thing to do
- It's the law
- It's good business
- Diversity is the future

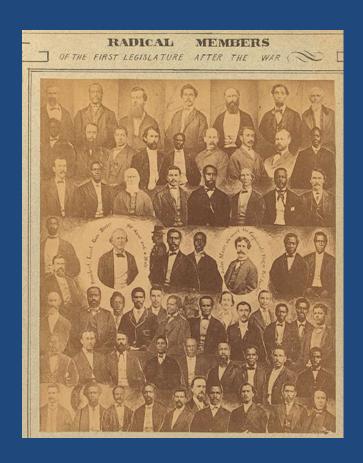


# Laws apply to "housing providers" – who are they?

- Builders
- Condo associations, landlords, realtors
- Property appraisers
- Mortgage lenders/brokers
- Insurance lenders/brokers
- Newspaper organizations
- Anyone involved in the provision of housing/housing-related services (includes maintenance)



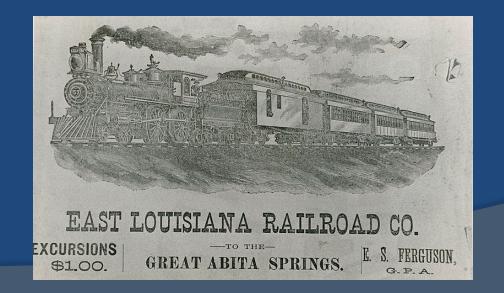
# Early attempt at equality: Civil Rights Act of 1866

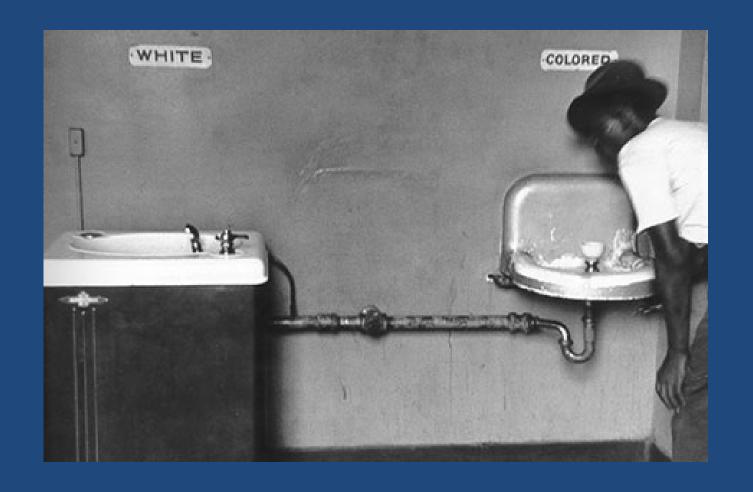


- Citizenship for all
- Fair housing
- Lacked enforcement protections

## Plessy v. Ferguson

- In 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court allowed Louisiana to separate Black and White railcar passengers
- "Separate but equal" was born

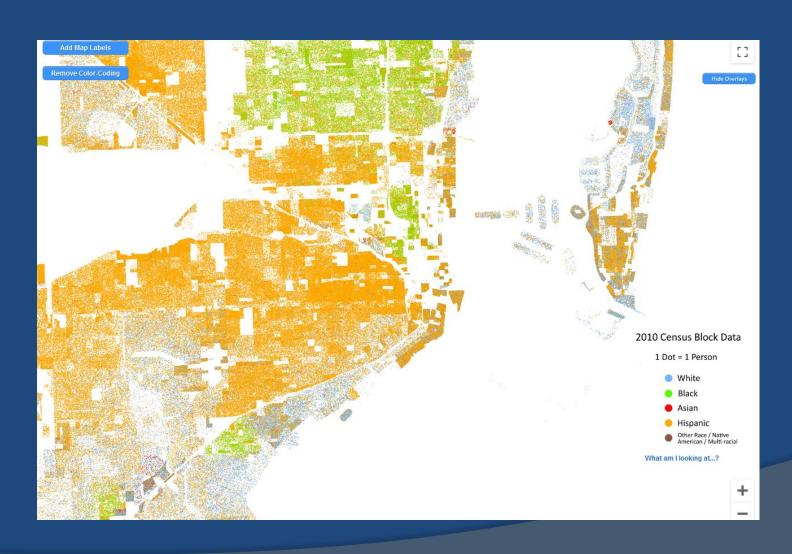








# Segregation in Miami



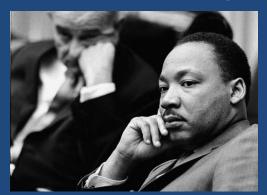
# Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Then furthest-reaching civil rights law in U.S. history
- Outlawed segregation in schools, public places, and employment
- Outlawed segregation in federally assisted housing



## 1968 Fair Housing Act

- Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968
- Signed by President Lyndon Johnson after Martin Luther King's assassination



 Prohibits discrimination in housingrelated transactions based on certain protected classes

# What are protected classes?

- Groups of people who share common characteristics and are protected from discrimination and harassment due to these characteristics
- These protections come from different places – some are federal, some come from the county, and some come from cities

### **Protected classes**

- Race
- Color
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Familial status as in whether or not you have children
- Disability
- HIV status (State of Florida)
- Marital status (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Age (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Sexual orientation (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Pregnancy (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Gender identity/expression (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Source of income (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Being a victim of domestic violence (Broward and Miami-Dade)
- Political affiliation (Broward)
- Veteran status (Broward)
- Being a victim of human trafficking (Broward)

# Evolution of the seven federal protected classes

- Listed in 1968:
  - Race
  - Color
  - National origin
  - Religion
- Added in 1974:
  - Sex
- Added in 1988:
  - Familial status
  - Disability



# What housing is covered?

- Most housing including but not limited to:
  - Section 8/public housing,
  - Advertised homes, condos, townhomes, mobile homes
  - Apartments
  - Mansions
  - Vacant land sold for future housing



# What housing <u>isn't</u> covered?

- Certain unadvertised homes rented or sold without an agent
- Certain owner-occupied homes
- Certain housing operated by religious organizations (applies to non-commercial property)



# Housing for older persons

Housing intended for people of a certain age must follow certain guidelines. Unauthorized age discrimination is illegal.



#### Lawful discrimination

- Housing providers <u>can</u> select tenants based on objective business criteria, such as the applicant's:
  - ability to take care of the property
  - credit history
  - low income
- Housing providers must be consistent in the screening and should document any reasons for denial

### Prohibited practices

- Refusing to rent or sell
- Falsely stating that housing is unavailable



- Charging higher application fees, deposits, maintenance fees, etc
- Denying homeowners or rental insurance



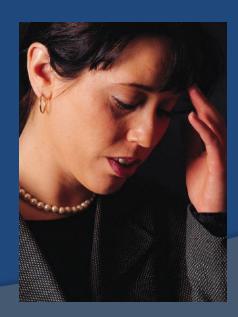
# Prohibited practices, cont.

- Providing different housing services
- Conducting inspections in an unequal manner
- Advertising housing only to preferred groups of people

# **Tormenting residents**

 Harassment in housing based on a protected class is also illegal, as is retaliation





# Occupancy standards

- Occupancy standards must be reasonable limits on numbers (NOT age) of people living in a certain amount of space
- Children under the age of two are typically not counted for occupancy



# Federal definition of "disability"

A mental or physical impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activities, including:

- walking
- hearing
- breathing
- working
- caring for your daily needs
- seeing
- speaking
- learning



# **Examples of covered disabilities**

#### Physical disability

- Paralysis
- Blind/low vision
- Deaf/hard of hearing
- Cancer
- Heart disease
- Alcohol or drug addiction
- HIV infection

#### Mental disability

- Depression
- Bipolar disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Developmental disabilities



# Provisions under disability protection

- Reasonable accommodations
- Reasonable modifications
- Design and construction specifications

#### **Common mistakes**

- Making rules about <u>people</u> instead of <u>behavior</u>
- Inconsistency in applying policies
- Retaliating against, harassing, or neglecting residents
- Failing to train employees
- Unreasonable occupancy standards
- Using restrictive advertising



#### Fair housing suggestions

- Make rules about <u>behavior</u> instead of <u>people</u>
- Always be consistent
- Don't retaliate, harass, or make insensitive jokes and comments
- Train employees

# Penalties for violations of fair housing laws

- Actual damages
- Civil penalties
- Punitive damages
- Injunctive relief
- Licensee discipline



### **Enforcement options**

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Florida Commission on Human Relations
- Miami-Dade Office of Human Rights
- Broward Human Rights Section
- Department of Justice
- State court
- Federal court



# **Enforcement options-2**

OHOPE, Inc.!



#### **Questions?**

Contact HOPE, Inc.

Miami-Dade – 305-651-HOPE

Broward – 954-567-0545

TDD - 800-955-8771

# CALL HOPE, INC. IF YOU SUSPECT DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING.

Miami-Dade: (305) 651-4673 Broward: (954) 567-0545

There are laws against discrimination in the rental or sale of housing on the basis of:

- **Race or Color**
- **National Origin**
- **⋄Religion**
- **Marital Status**
- **⋄Pregnancy**
- **Familial Status**

(as in whether you

have children)

- **⋄Disability**
- **⋄Sex (Gender)**
- **⋄Veteran Status**

- **⋄Age**
- **⋄HIV Status**
- **Sexual Orientation**
- **Gender Identity**
- **Gender Expression**
- **⋄Political Affiliation**
- **Source of Income**
- **⋄**Ancestry
- Being a victim of domestic
- violence or human trafficking

#### DID YOU KNOW-1?

You can have a pit bull as a service animal/emotional support animal in Miami-Dade County.



### DID YOU KNOW-2?

That for the past ten years, more than

50% of all fair housing complaints are

based on disability discrimination.



https://nationalfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2022-Fair-Housing-Trends-Report.pdf

#### DID YOU KNOW-3?

That you have a choice between having a complaint investigated by a governmental agency or filing directly in court.



# DID YOU KNOW-4?

That homeless or domestic violence shelters are covered housing under the Fair Housing Act and must allow accommodations for persons with disabilities.



#### DID YOU KNOW-5?

That you are entitled to a closer and designated parking space if you have a disability.



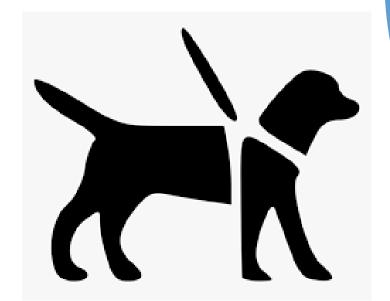
# DID YOU KNOW-6?

That you can have a family member under 18 years old as a live-in aide in a 55+ over facility.



### DID YOU KNOW-7?

That you cannot be barred from any common area of a development with a service or emotional support animal.



#### DID YOU KNOW-8?

In housing that receives federal financial assistance, from public housing to college dormitories, the housing provider is responsible to pay for and install all required accommodations, such as bathroom grab bars.

# DISCUSSION



#### ENABLE PROJECT PARTNERS

- Catalyst Miami
- The Center for Independent Living of South Florida
- Disability Independence Group
- Advocacy Network on Disabilities
- Enable Project Advisors



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CILSF Activities: https://www.cilsf.org/calendarofevents

#### PRESENTATION MATERIALS

https://www.justdigit.org/resources-2/

<u>YouTube Channel – Enable Project Playlist</u>



DIG

#### WE ARE BACK!

# SUPPER SOCIAL CLUB

March 22 - 6:30pm T.G.I. Fridays 1200 S. Dixie Hwy Coral Gables, FL



Accommodations are available upon request

# THANK YOU



