Fair Housing is the law. Housing discrimination is illegal. Fair housing means you may freely chose a place to live without regard to your race, color, religion, sex, nationality, disability status or because of your children.

If you have a disability, the fair housing laws protect you. The fair housing laws protect people with mental retardation, mental illness, cerebral palsy, visual and hearing impairments, HIV and AIDS, and, physical impairments that require walkers, wheelchairs and canes. It also protects people who need companion animals and/or personal attendants.

If you have children, you cannot be denied housing simply because you have children this includes pregnant women, families with children, adult guardians of children, and households in the process of gaining custody of children.

If you have any questions about housing discrimination, contact the Fair Housing Program:

Coshocton County Fair Housing Program: 937-666-3431 or 1-866-666-4612

You can also contact:

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission: 1-614-466-5928

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 1-800-669-9777 / TTY 1-800-927-9275

Ohio Legal Aid: 1-866-529-6446

FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE: 1-800-850-0467

Remember: Housing Discrimination is illegal!

## **Coshocton County Fair Housing Guide**



Coshocton County will not discriminate against any application on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, familial status or handicap.

Robin Schonauer, FH Coordinator
Coshocton County
401½ Main Street, Annex Building
Coshocton, Ohio 43812
(740) 622-1753
E-Mail Address:
robinschonauer@coshoctoncounty.net
Web Address: www.coshoctoncounty.net

FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE: 1-800-850-0467

Fair Housing is the law. It is not lawful to deny someone the opportunity to live where they want and can afford to live. If you believe you are being treated unfairly, take the following steps to protect yourself:

- 1. Keep a written record of any meetings and/or phone calls you have with a landlord, property manager, real estate agent, loan officer or insurance agent. Write down the person's name, title, company, and the date and time of the discussion. Write down what happened, what was said and what was promised.
- 2. Keep copies of any documents you signed, applications, leases, receipts, as well as any documents that were given to you.
- 3. Contact the Fair Housing Program:

COSHOCTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S FAIR HOUSING ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

401 ½ MAIN STREET COSHOCTON, OHIO 43812 1-740-622-1753

**FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE:** 1-800-850-0467

The Fair Housing Board will help you understand what fair housing is and who are considered "protected classes." It will help guide you to the right person who can assist you.

You should be careful if one of the following happens to you:

- You are told the apartment you want to rent is not available after you have completed an application.
- You are told you cannot rent an apartment because of your children.
- You are asked to sign blank or incomplete documents.
- You are told you might like "another neighborhood" or you cannot "afford" the neighborhood."
- You receive door-to-door, telephone, or mail solicitations that promise financial assistance or services but ask for personal information, like a social security number, or payment up front.

Remember: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is too good to be true!!!!

## **Coshocton County Fair Housing Guide**



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