



Authority of New Kensington • Westmoreland County, PA

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New Kensington Redevelopment Authority promotes fair housing awareness

New Kensington, Pennsylvania – The Redevelopment Authority of the City of New Kensington is committed to ensuring fair and equal housing opportunities for all. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 enshrined into federal law the goal of eliminating racial segregation and ending housing discrimination in the United States. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), familial status, national origin, and disability, and commits recipients of federal funding to affirmatively further fair housing in their communities.

The Pennsylvania Human Relations Act further prohibits discrimination in housing based on religious creed, ancestry, age, pregnancy/childbirth, and the use of guide support animal because of blindness, deafness, or physical handicap of the user or because the user is a handler or trainer of support or guide animals.

Housing discrimination can occur in many forms. A landlord may refuse to rent to any person or advertise that housing is available only to certain persons. A real estate agent may deny that housing is available for sale or rent when it really is. Financial institutions may deny or make different financial conditions for home loans based on a discriminating factor. These are only a few examples of prohibited actions.

“Most people know that they can’t be discriminated against, but they’re not sure where to go or what to do if it actually happens to them.” Executive Director Bill Herman said. Citizens can access a list of fair housing resources on the Redevelopment Authority’s website at newkenredevelopment.org.

Discrimination complaints can be filed with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, 333 Market St., 8th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101, or by calling 717-787-9780, or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 100 Penn Square East, 12th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107, or by calling 215-861-7643.

Citizens are also encouraged to call the fair housing hotline at 1-800-669-9777 or visit hud.gov/fair-housing.

For questions regarding this release, please contact Bill Herman – Executive Director / The Redevelopment Authority of the City of New Kensington, Westmoreland County, PA ranewken@gmail.com or 724-337-3525