

# ELKHART HUMAN RELATIONS

## EQUAL HOUSING FOR ALL



### Get to Know the Commission



The Elkhart Human Relations Commission is the local civil rights enforcement agency that is substantially equivalent to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. The Human Relations Commission or HRC investigates complaints of housing discrimination on the basis of race, skin color, disability, religion, family status, gender (including gender identity and sexual orientation), and national origin. The Commission only has jurisdiction within the city limits of Elkhart, Indiana.

If you feel you've experienced discrimination in a housing transaction, please contact the Commission by phone, email, or on the website.

Elkhart Human Relations  
201 S. Second Street  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
574-294-5471  
[human.relations@coei.org](mailto:human.relations@coei.org)  
[www.elkhartindiana.org/fair-housing](http://www.elkhartindiana.org/fair-housing)

# THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

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April 11, 2022, marks the 54th anniversary of the enactment of the federal Fair Housing Act. On April 11, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, also known as the Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act protects people from discrimination when they are renting or buying a home, getting a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in other housing-related activities. The statute also directs all executive departments and agencies to administer their programs and activities relating to housing and urban development, including any Federal agency having regulatory or supervisory authority over financial institutions, in a manner affirmatively to further the purposes of the Act.

Initially, the Fair Housing Act prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion and national origin. Later, the Act's protections were expanded to include discrimination on the basis of sex, disability, and familial status. In February 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) clarified that the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation.

Today, under the leadership of Secretary Marcia L. Fudge, HUD continues to prioritize its commitment to strengthening fair housing protections and enforcement.

