

Purpose

The Mahoning County Fair Housing Office serves as the administrative body for complaints of discrimination in the areas of fair housing. Per Resolution 14-08-023, Ms. Annemarie DeAscentis, Grants Special Projects Coordinator, was appointed Fair Housing Coordinator for Mahoning County.

Complaints of Discrimination

Complaints of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or ancestry of birth in the areas of Fair Housing.

Any persons who believe themselves hurt by a discriminatory act or practice may phone (330) 740-8799 and tell us the facts regarding the discriminatory complaint.

The Mahoning County Fair Housing procedure is administrative. The Mahoning County Fair Housing Office prefers to work with you, and resolve any Fair Housing Issue locally but reserves the right to refer complaints to the Akron Regional Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC).

How to File a Complaint

To file a complaint of discrimination with the Mahoning County Fair Housing Office please call our office at (330) 740-8799. This phone line is dedicated to the Fair Housing Services provided by Mahoning County.

The Fair Housing Coordinator if needed will assist you in writing a brief outline describing the facts, on the most recent form provided by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission Housing Discrimination Charge form. At this time, you would be asked to complete the form with all the details and answer all questions as fully as you can. Names, dates, places, addresses and details of what happened should be as accurate as possible. Documented facts can help to support charges of discrimination. If you have witnesses, it's important to give full names, and contact information.

Description of Complaint Intake and Referral Procedures

Fair Housing services for Mahoning County are provided by The Mahoning County Special Projects Office, Fair Housing Coordinator, Annemarie DeAscentis the phone line is staffed during normal working hours and has voice mail capabilities during off hours.

A written record of the call and any referral is maintained in the Fair Housing file appropriate to the caller's location and problem statement. As appropriate, the office informs the caller regarding their Fair Housing rights, offers written literature, or discusses appropriate complaint procedures. When appropriate, the caller is referred to agencies within Mahoning County that may provide assistance.

Upon the caller identifying their address, if it is determined that they live within another Fair Housing territory they will then be referred to the appropriate provider of Fair Housing Services.

In cases where it does not appear that issues can be resolved locally the callers are referred to the Akron Regional Office of the Ohio Civil Rights Commissioner (OCRC). Should the client require assistance in completing the form for the complaint and submitting to OCRC, the Fair Housing Coordinator will assist them with either or both.

Follow up will continue with OCRC or the Client throughout the complaint process until resolution or dismissal is determined.