

Federal Protected Classes:

Race/Color/National Origin

Disability

Provides protections for persons with mental and physical impairments that substantially limit major life activities. Includes provisions addressing the design and construction of multifamily units, and requests for reasonable accommodations and/or modifications.

Familial Status

Presence of children under the age of 18 and/or pregnancy.

Sex

Includes protections for victims of domestic violence, and prohibits sexual harassment.

Religion

Additional State Protected Classes:

Creed, Marital Status, and Age

Local laws may provide additional protections.

Fair housing laws protect you against intimidation, coercion, and harassment. Should you file a complaint of housing discrimination, fair housing laws offer protections prohibiting retaliation.

To report housing discrimination or if you have questions about the federal, state, or local laws requiring housing be available on an equal opportunity basis, contact Montana Fair Housing.



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Alternative Format
Available Upon Request

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**Access and Choice –
Promoting Equal
Housing Opportunity**

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MONTANA FAIR HOUSING

Montana Fair Housing is a private, full service, non-profit organization dedicated to the elimination of housing discrimination, and the advancement of civil rights.

The mission of Montana Fair Housing, Inc., is to promote fair housing throughout Montana, and elsewhere. Among MFH's specific purposes and goals is the promotion of equal opportunity in all housing related transactions, and to ensure all housing is available on a non-discriminatory basis. In addition, Montana Fair Housing supports the pursuit and expansion of all civil rights available in Montana and throughout the United States.

Montana Fair Housing foresees a time that this country provides to all of its peoples opportunities to work, live, and prosper without the historic barriers perpetuated by discrimination. MFH recognizes that these opportunities will only be available in our communities when changes occur in both the private and public sectors, and civil rights are valued and honored by all individuals and entities.

Federal, state and local non-discrimination laws prohibit discrimination in any housing related business or transaction. These laws address discriminatory practices in the rental, sales, insurance, advertising, appraisal, and lending industries, as well as issues arising from discriminatory zoning ordinances, the actions of Home Owners' Associations, and access issues affecting persons with disabilities.

Discrimination occurs when a housing provider makes a decision about a household's eligibility for services, or implements different terms and/or conditions on a household, **BECAUSE OF** the household's membership in a protected class, or the protected class status of someone associated with the household.

Services: Education, Outreach, and Dispute Resolution

Montana Fair Housing provides educational opportunities for industry representatives and consumers. Our workshops are approved for continuing education credits.

Technical assistance is available for

housing providers and consumers to ensure they understand their rights and obligations as provided by local, state and federal non-discrimination laws.

MFH offers dispute resolution services to address issues related to federal, state, and/or local non-discrimination laws.

Upon request, Montana Fair Housing will provide a list of housing believed to be available on a non-discriminatory basis.

Enforcement Activities

MFH investigates allegations of discrimination, counsels individuals who experience discrimination, and assists in the filing of administrative complaints with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Montana Human Rights Bureau. When appropriate, Montana Fair Housing will assist individuals in filing complaints of discrimination in Federal or District Court, and may, on its own behalf, for the public interest and for its constituents, file complaints as an organization.

FAIR HOUSING – IT'S YOUR RIGHT AND IT'S THE LAW!