

# FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUITY PROGRAMS

January 2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2021 Northern Virginia Housing Expo

Friday, January 1, 2021

The Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs (OHREP) will participate as a virtual exhibitor in the 2021 Northern Virginia Housing Expo. This free, online event is open to anyone looking for resources and information related to affordable housing in Northern Virginia.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OHREP'S VIRTUAL BOOTH](#)

## OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

On July 1, 2020, changes to Virginia's laws expanding the number of protected classes in housing and employment went into effect. Subsequently, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors reaffirmed and amended the County's Human Rights Ordinance and Fair Housing Act to reflect these changes. In housing, the new protected classes are **source of income, veteran status, gender identity** and **sexual orientation**. In employment, the new protected classes are **veteran status, gender identity,** and **sexual orientation**.

During the last quarter of 2020, OHREP's outreach coordinator participated in virtual meetings hosted by the Fairfax County Veterans Collaborative, NAMI Northern Virginia's Concerned Fairfax, and the Fairfax County Communities of Trust to raise awareness about the new changes in the law.

## OHREP NEWS & UPDATES

We launched a new animated video titled "**Fair Housing Concerns & COVID-19**" focusing on the fair housing issues that have emerged as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Click [here](#) or on the image below to watch the new video.



## WHAT WE'RE READING

**NPR: In U.S. Cities, The Health Effects Of Past Housing Discrimination Are Plain To See**  
<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/11/19/911909187/in-u-s-cities-the-health-effects-of-past-housing-discrimination-are-plain-to-see>

**AXIOS: AI could amplify racial discrimination in housing**  
<https://www.axios.com/housing-ai-tech-data-collection-biases-race-02eef4e4-52d9-4bd8-acde-049255e25764.html>

**FORBES: National Fair Housing Alliance Issues A Policy Roadmap For The Biden Administration**  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brendarichardson/2020/12/19/national-fair-housing-alliance-issues-a-policy-roadmap-for-the-biden-administration/>

**EEOC: Performance Food Group Will Pay Over \$5 Million To Resolve EEOC Nationwide Sex Discrimination Lawsuit**  
<https://www.eeoc.gov/newsroom/performance-food-group-will-pay-over-5-million-resolve-eeoc-nationwide-sex-discrimination>

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*The mission of the Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs is to ensure equal opportunity and to promote justice, diversity, and inclusiveness by protecting the civil rights of all in Fairfax County.*

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**DO YOU BELIEVE YOU WERE SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION?  
CLICK HERE TO FILE AN ONLINE INQUIRY.**

Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 318  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
703-324-2953, TTY 711  
[fairfaxcounty.gov/humanrights](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/humanrights)