

MEMORANDUM

TO: All CDBG, HOME and NAHTF Awardees and Administrators

FROM: Lara Huskey, Housing Coordinator, Community and Rural Development

RE: Contract Special Condition: Fair Housing

As recipient of funds in the Community Development Block Grant, Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund or HOME Program, awardees must fulfill affirmative action requirements of federal fair housing laws. (P.L 90-284, as amended by L. 1988 P.L 100-430; and E.O. 11063). The contract between the awardee and the Department of Economic Development, as well as the Administrative Requirements provides for compliance with these laws. The response to this memo is also a Special Condition for Release of Funds in the contract.

The intent of this memorandum is to:

- ◆ Notify awardees of this requirement;
- ◆ Suggest possible fair housing affirmative action efforts; and,
- ◆ Request a written response listing the actions the awardee will undertake during the award period to meet this requirement

Suggested actions:

- ◆ Adopt a fair housing ordinance with means of enforcement.
- ◆ Undertake a review of existing fair housing ordinance, zoning and land use practices to ensure there are not discriminatory policies and practices.
- ◆ Support and participate in educational programs coordinated with local realtors, home builders and mortgage lenders designed to provide information on fair housing rights.
- ◆ Provide housing referral and counseling services which assist minorities, women and the persons with disabilities seeking housing with the awardees's jurisdiction. Encourage local employers to cooperate in efforts to find housing for their employees and to promote equal housing choices within the community.
- ◆ Request assistance from the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission or other advocacy groups in undertaking fair housing informational or technical assistance seminars in your community or region.
- ◆ Use the Equal Housing Opportunity logo on official letterhead and prominently display posters, logo and information on fair housing and periodically print and notice local newspaper that the awardee is an active supporter of fair housing laws.
- ◆ Host a Fair Housing Month event (April). See www.hud.gov for suggested event activities.