

“Linking Our Community”

National Fair Housing Month



Winston-Salem has a fair housing ordinance that mirrors the Fair Housing Act. The Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission and Human Relations Department are responsible for enforcing fair housing laws locally to ensure fair and equal housing access and treatment for all people regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, family status, or religion.

This year’s Fair and Affordable Housing Summit took place on April 22, 2021, Virtually through a Zoom conference. During the event the Ujema Community Development Corporation was presented with the Human Relations Commission’s Breaking Barriers Fair Housing Award for 2021.

Assistant Secretary Jeanine Worden, Assistant Secretary for Fair

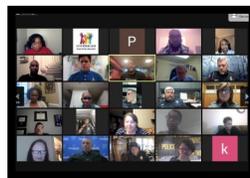


Housing and Equal Opportunity, gave the keynote address for the day. Pan-

elists for the panel discussion included; Dan Kornelis, Dr. Craig Richardson, Bianca Green, Dr. Sherri Lawson-Clark, Ed Sharp, and Dr. Stephen Sills. Topics included: Housing Affordability, Fair Housing through the Lends of the Pandemic

and Social Justice, Evictions and Housing Accessibility, Housing Financial Assistance During the Pandemic, and HUD Fair Housing Policy Updates.

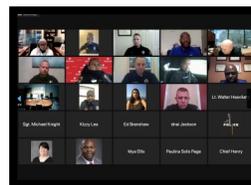
Collegiate Trust Talks



The City Human Relations staff, College Advisory Board, and commission members facilitated

the annual Collegiate Trust Talks between local university representatives, students, and police representatives on April 10 at 6:00 p.m. Virtually. The purpose was to build community trust by discussing issues and misconceptions that serve as barriers during police interactions with college/university students..

The Human Relations Department has been organizing Trust Talks since 2011 as a way to foster communication between law enforcement and the community.



Nondiscrimination Study Subcommittee

The Nondiscrimination Study Subcommittee is an ad hoc subcommittee of the City of Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission. Its goal is to advise the HRC and City Council on critical issues and opportunities facing the LGBTQIA+ community and recommend policies and procedures that will

advance social and economic equality for the LGBTQIA+ community. At the end of an 18-month period, the committee will issue a final report with recommendations and suggested action plans.

Requirements of Committee Members:

- Be a member of the LGBTQIA+ community
- Reside in Winston-Salem
- Commit to attending at least 75% of regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

Seven Members have been selected along with two alternate members. The Committee will start meeting on July 1, 2021.



Juneteenth Celebration

The city of Winston-Salem understands the value the African-American community places on the holiday, Juneteenth. It highlights the news of an end to slavery to African-Americans in Texas, a year after the abolition of slavery. In an effort to join in the annual recognition of this day’s value, the city has sponsored the community celebration.

The city’s sponsorship is a hand-in-hand



partnership of the city's [Human Relations Department](#) working towards unity among the city's diverse population, and the [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) Department's effort to raise awareness of the complexity of diversity in city government.

May this effort create greater awareness, understanding throughout the community. Join us as we celebrate.

Summer Calendar

June 2021

6/2/2021—African-American Heritage Initiative Meeting. 2:00 p.m.-Live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel
 6/2/21—Human Relations Commission 5:30 p.m.. Live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel
 6/19/2021—Juneteenth Festival 12-7:00 p.m.
 Bailey Park and Biotech Center
 6/24/2021—Youth Expression Wall Painting; 5:30 p.m., Winston-Square Park

July 2021

7/1/2021—Nondiscrimination Study Subcommittee—4:00p.m. Live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel
 7/7/21—African-American Heritage Initiative Meeting. 2:00 p.m.-Live-streamed via the City's YouTube Channel



NEXUS Challenge

Question 1

Suzy has been diagnosed with severe depression and is disabled as defined by the Fair Housing Act. Her doctor prescribed Suzy a dog to help alleviate some of her symptoms. Suzy asked her landlord if she can have a dog as a reasonable accommodation for her disability. Her landlord's response was,

- A) Yes, but tells Suzy she'll need to pay a \$250 pet deposit
- B) Yes, but she needs to provide proof that the animal is trained and certified to be a service animal
- C) None of the above

The answer is C, None of the above. The landlord cannot charge Suzy a pet deposit for her animal because it is not a pet, but rather a service/companion animal required for disability. Further, the landlord cannot ask for proof that the animal is trained.

Question 2

If a resident violates his or her lease, based on federal fair housing law, which of the following people would be protected?

- A) A divorced female, single parent
- B) A 35 year old single, Muslim man
- C) A 50 year old white man
- D) All of the above

The answer is D, All of the Above. Everyone is protected by the Federal Fair Housing Act as long as the discrimination is based on one of the seven protected classes; Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Handicap, Family Status, and National Origin.

Question 3

If a resident violates their lease and you have solid grounds for eviction, you should give that resident a second chance if:

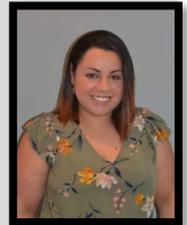
- A) The resident is a member of a protected class and you're worried he will sue you for discrimination.

- B) You are good friends with the resident and you want to give him a break.
- C) You give all your residents a second chance in the same situation.

The answer is C: Treat residents consistently when holding them accountable for breaking the rules. If a resident violates your lease, you may give that resident a second chance only if you give all your residents a second chance in the same situation.

Commissioner's Corner

Michely Preble



Michely Preble, originally from Puerto Rico, moved to Winston Salem NC in 2009. She is a Medical Case Manager at Positive Wellness Alliance, a non-profit dedicated to serving people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Michely graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a degree in Psychology and Sociology.

Michely is married to her soulmate and best friend Christopher Preble. She is also a loving stepmom to Caden, Lexi, and Jackson Preble, and a dog mom to a 12 year old pug named Lola. When she is not working, or taking care of her family, you can find her at her crafting table making greeting cards.

Michely is a loud advocate for equity and inclusion for all, and she applied to be a commissioner after advocating on behalf of one of her clients who were being discriminated against.



Winston-Salem

Report a problem
Request a new service
Send suggestion or comment

CityLink311

Call 311 or 336-727-8000
citylink@cityofws.org

City Council

Mayor Allen Joines; Denise D. Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore, North Ward; Kevin Mundy, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John C. Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Barbara Hanes Burke, Northeast Ward; Annette Scippio, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity

Human Relations Commission

Chair: Robert Leak III; Vice-Chair: Kerry Wiggins; Jeffrey Bloomfield, Sonny Haynes, Michely Preble, Joshua Price, Ruth Sartin, Fred Taylor, Melissa Thompson, Patrick Usher

Human Relations Department Staff

Wanda Allen-Abraha, JD, Human Relations Department Director; Adolfo Briceño, Specialist/Hispanic Outreach; Iris McKnight, Specialist; Jayme Waldeck, Specialist/Outreach; Karlyn Duncan, Admin, Asst./Intake