



Advancing Fair Housing: Strategies for Change

Wednesday April 24, 2024

9:30 am - 1:30 pm PDT

Via Zoom



**Presented by:
Fair Housing Advocates of
Northern California**

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Fred Freiberg

*National Field Consultant
Fair Housing Justice Center*



Cashauna Hill

*Executive Director
The Redress Movement*



Liz Darby

*Social Equity Programs
and Policy Coordinator
County of Marin*



Maeve Elise Brown

*Executive Director & Founder
Housing and Economic Rights
Advocates*



Leah Simon-Weisberg

*Adjunct Professor
UCSF Law School*



Julia Howard-Gibbon

*Supervising Attorney
Fair Housing Advocates
MODERATOR*



Lisa Rice

*President
National Fair Housing Alliance*



Catherine Bracy

*Founder & CEO
Tech Equity Collaborative*



Caroline Peattie

*Executive Director
Fair Housing Advocates
Conference Moderator*

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



9:30-9:45 am

Welcome & Introduction

- **Caroline Peattie, Executive Director and Conference Moderator
Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California**
-



9:45-10:00 am - Session 1:

Fair Housing Testing Investigations

- **Fred Freiberg, National Field Consultant
Fair Housing Justice Center**

In this short session, Fred Freiberg will explore the crucial role fair housing testing plays in providing probative evidence when housing discrimination occurs. In addition, we will show an excerpt from a film produced in 1961 — prior to the passage of the Fair Housing Act — by Wisconsin NAACP and the University of Wisconsin-Madison where Black and white actors contacted housing providers about homes for rent or sale. This film was suppressed by the university for 59 years because of the “moral and ethical problem” of hidden cameras and microphones as “an unwarranted invasion of privacy”. Despite appeals to release the film by prominent politicians and respected journalists like Edward R. Murrow, the film was not released until 2021.



10:00-11:00 am - Session 2:

Addressing the Impact of Residential Segregation

- **Cashauna Hill, Executive Director - The Redress Movement**
- **Liz Darby, Social Equity Programs and Policy Coordinator
County of Marin**

This session will cover some of the causes as well as the effects of residential segregation — exclusionary zoning, restrictive covenants, and others — and some of the ways to address them.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



11:00-11:15 am

Fair Housing Poetry Contest

- **Reading of featured poems by winning students**
-



11:15-11:30 am - Break



11:30 am-12:30 pm - Session 3:

Leveraging Fair Housing Laws: Advocating for Corporate Accountability in Housing

- **Maeve Elise Brown, Executive Director & Founder
Housing and Economic Rights Advocates**
- **Leah Simon-Weisberg, Adjunct Professor - UCSF Law School**
- **Julia Howard-Gibbon, Supervising Attorney
Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California**

A conversation between housing advocates and fair housing practitioners about emerging corporate landlord practices, including junk fees and zero tolerance policies that disproportionately impact members of protected classes. This session will examine how to look at these issues through a fair housing lens to suggest best practices for housing providers and fair housing laws that housing advocates can apply to protect the most vulnerable residents in our communities.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



12:30-1:30 pm - Session 4:

Fair Housing and the Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- **Lisa Rice, President - National Fair Housing Alliance**
- **Catherine Bracy, Founder & CEO - Tech Equity Collaborative**

AI and automated systems impact every area and aspect of our lives, determining if we can secure quality housing, obtain affordable credit, gain a living wage job, access the right healthcare, and other services. While these technologies hold immense potential (lowering the cost of mortgage loans, increasing a homeowners' chances of getting insurance, or identifying fraud and security threats) they also bring challenges. AI can perpetuate and amplify discrimination, resulting in denial of access to life-saving healthcare or false imprisonment.

This session will empower attendees with knowledge, actionable insights, and strategies to collaborate on practical solutions that can be implemented in our communities, employing innovative fairness methodologies and leveraging AI to identify and eradicate discriminatory practices, while advocating for AI-driven equitable access to vital opportunities and striking a balance between fairness and accuracy in algorithmic models.

Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California

Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California (FHANC) serves several Bay Area counties, providing fair housing counseling, investigation, intervention, and legal referrals to persons experiencing housing discrimination. FHANC conducts outreach activities and offers programs that educate the community about fair housing and the value of diversity, conducts trainings for housing providers, and offers pre-purchase and foreclosure prevention counseling and education. FHANC is a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

RUBY SPONSORS



Marin
Community
Foundation



CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS®

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

EMERALD SPONSORS



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

SAPPHIRE SPONSORS

Audrey Perrott, REALTOR®

(Century 21 Select Real Estate, Inc)

Azalea Renfield, FHANC Board President

Brancart & Brancart

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA)

Century 21 Select Real Estate, Inc.

City of Fairfield

Contra Costa Association of REALTORS®

First Federal Savings of San Rafael

Haven Neighborhood Services

Legal Aid of Marin

Marin Interfaith Council

Solano Association of REALTORS®

Note: This material is based on work supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under FHIP EOI Grant #FEOI220009. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of HUD.