

# HUD Awards \$17.6 Million in Grants to Help Fight Housing Discrimination

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WASHINGTON - Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson today awarded \$17.6 million in grants to 106 groups to help them fight housing discrimination.

The grants, funded under HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives Program, will go to public and private fair housing groups and state and local agencies across the country. These groups will use the funds to investigate allegations of housing discrimination, educate the housing industry and public about housing discrimination laws, and work to promote fair housing.

"Today's announcement reinforces the Bush Administration's continued commitment to ensuring that communities across America are free of discrimination," said Jackson. "These grants will provide communities with a variety of education initiatives aimed at promoting fair housing."

The grants are allocated as follows:

- Private Enforcement Initiative - About \$11.8 million was awarded for 12 to 18 month grants of up to \$220,000 to assist private, tax-exempt fair housing enforcement organizations in the investigation and enforcement of alleged violations of the Fair Housing Act and substantially equivalent State and local fair housing laws.
- Education and Outreach Initiative - About \$3.7 million was allocated for one-year grants of up to \$100,000 to inform and educate the public about the rights and obligations under federal, state and local fair housing laws. About \$500,000 of the grant money, which went to seven groups, is specifically going to programs that have a special focus on the fair housing needs of persons with disabilities, so that housing providers, the general public, and persons with disabilities themselves better understand their rights and obligations.
- Fair Housing Organizations Initiative - About \$2.1 million was awarded for three-year grants of about \$1 million for projects that serve rural and immigrant populations in areas where there currently is no existing fair housing organization, or are otherwise underserved.

Below is a breakdown of funding to groups in the following locations:

<b>Alabama - \$519,116</b>	<b>Montana - \$219,870</b>
<b>Arizona - \$532,030</b>	<b>Nebraska - \$254,872</b>
<b>Arkansas - \$50,000</b>	<b>Nevada - \$218,462</b>
<b>California - \$1,671,310</b>	<b>New Jersey - \$300,000</b>
<b>Colorado - \$80,000</b>	<b>New Mexico - \$397,269</b>
<b>Connecticut - \$220,000</b>	<b>New York - \$710,900</b>

District of Columbia - \$1,868,032	North Carolina - \$78,134
Florida - \$733,492	North Dakota - \$219,360
Georgia - \$320,000	Ohio - \$839,999
Hawaii - \$220,000	Oklahoma - \$273,644
Idaho - \$80,000	Oregon - \$299,520
Illinois - \$1,025,644	Pennsylvania - \$519,498
Indiana - \$80,000	Puerto Rico - \$92,386
Kentucky - \$207,531	Rhode Island - \$47,262
Louisiana - \$607,530	South Carolina - \$129,446
Maryland - \$262,469	Tennessee - \$283,663
Massachusetts - \$519,967	Texas - \$348,811
Maine - \$220,000	Vermont - \$80,000
Michigan - \$803,225	Virginia - \$105,034
Minnesota - \$300,000	Washington - \$440,000
Mississippi - \$220,000	Wisconsin - \$1,269,979
Missouri - \$269,999	

The 106 winners were chosen based on the soundness of approach, the extent of the problem, the capacity and experience of the applicant, demonstration of results, program evaluation, and the leveraging of other resources.

Additionally, some of the grants will address sophisticated and subtle forms of discrimination through paired testing as well as other investigative tools. HUD gave special emphasis to grant applications that target under-served populations, such as rural residents and immigrants, especially non-English speaking racial and ethnic minorities.

The Fair Housing Act bars housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, family status and national origin. The Act covers the sale, rental, financing and advertising of almost all housing in the nation. Fair housing investigations are conducted by HUD investigators, state and city agencies working with HUD, and private fair housing groups that receive HUD funds.

*Anyone who believes they have experienced housing discrimination is asked to call HUD's Housing Discrimination Hotline at **1-800-669-9777, TDD 1-800-927-9275**. They can also visit HUD's fair housing website at [www.hud.gov/fairhousing](http://www.hud.gov/fairhousing).*

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities; creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; and supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic and community development as well as enforces the nation's fair housing laws. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov) and [espanol.hud.gov](http://espanol.hud.gov).

NOTE: [A list and descriptions of all grants are on the HUD website.](#)