

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## **Proclamation No. 14-0246 Recognizing April 2014 as “Fair Housing Month”**

**WHEREAS**, the year 2014 marks the 46th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act: Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the Colorado Fair Housing law, and Denver’s housing law guarantees that housing in Denver and throughout the United States of America should be made available to all citizens without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, familial status, gender variance, marital status, ancestry and creed, military status, or physical or mental disability; and

**WHEREAS**, in the fall of 2013, the Denver Metro Fair Housing Center conducted an investigation into fair housing compliance by rental property owners throughout the Metro Denver Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver Metro Fair Housing Center released “*Access Denied: A Report on Rental Housing Discrimination in the Denver Metro Area*” on February 5, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, evidence shows that even 45 years after the Fair Housing Act was passed, people of color and families with children in Denver are still discriminated against at a very high rate; the investigation found African Americans encounter discrimination 67 percent of the time in their search for rental housing, Latinos encounter discrimination 91 percent of the time, and households without children in the home were treated more favorably than those with children 73 percent of the time; and

**WHEREAS**, illegal barriers to equal opportunity in housing, no matter how subtle, diminish the rights of all and only with the cooperation, commitment, and support from the residents of the City and County of Denver, can barriers to the enjoyment of housing choice be removed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Denver City Council hereby recognizes the Denver Metro Fair Housing Center for their work to promote fair housing choice and to eliminate barriers to housing opportunities.

**Section 2.** That the Denver City Council shares the vision for equal housing opportunities for all residents in the City and County of Denver and hereby joins in the national celebration by proclaiming April 2014 as “Fair Housing Month”.

**Section 3.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Denver Metro Fair Housing Center.

**PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 7, 2014**

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PRESIDENT