

Equal Housing Opportunity Policy

Knox County Housing Authority
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Article I. Purpose / Scope of the Policy

Section 1.01 It is the policy of the Knox County Housing Authority to fully comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VIII and Section 3 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (as amended), Executive Order 11063, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and any legislation protecting the individual rights of residents, applicants or staff which may be subsequently enacted.

Section 1.02 The Housing Authority shall not discriminate because of race, color, sex, religion, familial status (in non-elderly designated housing), disability, handicap or national origin in the leasing, rental, or other disposition of housing or related facilities, including land, included in any development or developments under its jurisdiction.

Section 1.03 The Fair Housing Act does not specifically include sexual orientation and gender identity as prohibited bases. However a lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) person's experience with sexual orientation or gender identity housing discrimination may still be covered by the Fair Housing Act. In addition, housing providers that receive HUD funding, have loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) as well as lenders insured by FHA, may be subject to HUD program regulations intended to ensure equal access of LGBT persons.

Section 1.04 The Housing Authority shall not take any of the following actions on account of any of the aforementioned protected categories:

- (a) Deny to any family the opportunity to apply for housing, nor deny to any eligible applicant the opportunity to lease housing suitable to its needs.
- (b) Provide housing which is different than that provided others.
- (c) Subject a person to segregation or disparate treatment.
- (d) Restrict a person's access to any benefit enjoyed by others in connection with any program operated by the Housing Authority.
- (e) Treat a person differently in determining eligibility or other requirements for admission.
- (f) Deny a person access to the same level of services.
- (g) Deny a person the opportunity to participate in a planning or advisory group which is an integral part of the public housing or tenant-based housing programs.
- (h) The Housing Authority shall not automatically deny admission to a particular group or category of otherwise eligible applicants (e.g., families with children born to unmarried parents or elderly pet owners).
- (i) Each applicant in a particular group or category will be treated on an individual basis in the normal processing routine.