

STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
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**NEW YORK STATE AWARDED \$448,000
TO COMBAT HOUSING DISCRIMINATION**

Partnership with the Federal Government keeps NYS at the forefront of civil rights enforcement

The New York State Division of Human Rights (DHR) announced a partnership with The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to fight more than 60 cases of housing discrimination pending across the State. The partnership will provide DHR with \$448,000 to ensure New York protects the rights of its residents.

"New York State has proven it is a national leader on civil rights issues," said Alphonso David, New York's Deputy Secretary for Civil Rights. "This year, among other achievements, we enacted the toughest rent regulation laws in 30 years. We will continue to identify innovative ways to keep our promise and ensure equal rights for all New Yorkers. The administration thanks HUD for its support and looks forward to continuing this strong partnership."

"I am delighted that the New York State Division of Human Rights was a major grant recipient under our Fair Housing Assistance Program," said HUD Regional Administrator Adolfo Carrión. "These funds will serve to both assist New York State in ending all forms of housing discrimination, and help its communities and housing providers to better understand their fair housing rights and responsibilities, including those related to HUD's new Equal Access to Housing regulation."

The funds will be used to finance the legal staff required to prosecute cases in State court. New York State's Human Right Laws ensure fair housing practices by making it unlawful for anyone to be denied public and most types of private housing, be harassed or treated unequally in their home based upon age, disability, creed, race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital or familial.

DHR's program is the second largest Fair Housing Assistance Program in the country.

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New York has the proud distinction of being the first state in the nation to enact a Human Rights Law, which affords every citizen "an equal opportunity to enjoy a full and productive life." The New York State Division of Human Rights was created to enforce this important law and does so through, among other things, the vigorous prosecution of unlawful discriminatory practices and the receipt, investigation, and resolution of complaints of discrimination. Please visit the Division's website at www.dhr.ny.gov for additional information about the agency and its work.