

FAIR HOUSING PROCLAMATION 2022

WHEREAS, ON APRIL 11, 1968, PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON SIGNED AND ENACTED THE FAIR HOUSING ACT, in order to abolish racial segregation and end housing discrimination in our Nation; and

WHEREAS, fifty-four (54) years later, the Fair Housing Act still serves as a powerful statement about who we are as people: the values of fairness, right, and dignity that we strive to uphold, and those places where work is still needed in order to attain our full promise as a Nation; and

WHEREAS, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale or rental of housing, including against individuals seeking a mortgage or housing assistance, or in other housing-related activities. The Federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability; and

WHEREAS, Maryland's Fair Housing law is "substantially equivalent" to the federal law. You cannot be discriminated against because of your marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or source of income; and



WHEREAS, we, the Commissioners of the Housing Authority of St. Mary's County, Maryland (Commissioners), join other communities across our Nation to assert Fair Housing in our community, St. Mary's County, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, equal housing opportunities are essential in order to promote justice for all citizens in all areas of life; and

WHEREAS, housing choice impacts our children's access to education, our options and ability to seek and retain employment, the cultural benefits we enjoy, the extent of our quality of life, as well as our access to convenient, affordable, high-quality health care; and

NOW THEREFORE, in collaboration with the National Association of Realtors and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, we, the Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 2022 as **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in St. Mary's County and urge citizens to join in education and accountability aimed directly at creating and promoting equal housing opportunities for all people.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the Housing Authority of St. Mary's County, Maryland to be affixed this 4th day of April in the year two thousand twenty-two.

ATTEST:


Dennis L. Nicholson
Secretary and Executive Director



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**


Tina Dean, Chair


Michael Bellis, Vice-Chair


Roy Alvey, Commissioner


Joshua Brewster, Commissioner

- Absent -
Erin Ramos, Commissioner


Natalie Weech, Commissioner


Alexis Zoss, Commissioner

