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NEWS RELEASE

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Miami Valley Fair Housing Center joins national alliance praising Biden's move to reinstate key Fair Housing Regulations

Dayton, OH — The Miami Valley Fair Housing Center joined the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA) and other civil rights organizations from across the country in praising President Biden's recent moves to reinstate key fair housing regulations that advocates say are essential to ensuring racial equity.

"By taking steps to reinstate the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule and the 2013 Disparate Impact rule, President Biden is following through with his [early commitment](#) to make racial equity and fair housing advancement a cornerstone of his administration's policy," said Lisa Rice, President/CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance.

"When Congress passed the Fair Housing Act in 1968, it intended for HUD to take active steps to end housing discrimination, dismantle housing segregation, and tackle systemic racism to expand access to opportunity for everyone. However, an actual framework for fully enforcing these mandates was not put into place until 2015, finally giving local jurisdictions and community stakeholders the process and data needed to identify and redress local barriers to fair housing. NFHA was devastated when the Trump administration gutted this vital framework in 2020 but is very encouraged by President Biden's move to restore it."

"Similarly in 2020, the Trump administration finalized its [harmful reversal](#) of the 2013 Disparate Impact rule, making it almost impossible for victims of discrimination to effectively fight against systemic racism and discriminatory policies by housing

providers, financial institutions, and insurance companies. Today, NFHA is hopeful because the Biden administration has signaled that it will also reinstate this vital rule for addressing systemic discrimination in housing.

“The actions of the Trump administration toward dismantling civil rights enforcement were disgusting and shameful and they need to be swept into the dustbin of history, for the well-being of our country,” said Jim McCarthy, President/CEO of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center.

While news of the Biden administration’s action is promising, fair housing practitioners assert that the restoration of the two regulations is the least of what needs to be done to address the systemic housing discrimination and segregation that exists in the United States. Inequality drives housing segregation this country. People of color are fated into under-resourced communities that struggle to achieve basic health, safety, educational, and economic opportunities.

“NFHA is glad that the Biden administration acknowledges these structural barriers to housing and racial equity. NFHA looks forward to working closely with the White House, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other leadership within the administration to ensure that racial equity and fair housing remain central to the administration’s plans as it tackles COVID-19 economic recovery, infrastructure, and other key issues. NFHA also looks forward to working with Congress to ensure HUD is properly staffed and provided resources to effectively implement and enforce the reinstated AFFH and Disparate Impact rules,” Lisa Rice concluded.