

An update for those we serve and all of our supporters:

First, thank you all for your continued engagement with the work of the Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO) and our mission to end housing discrimination and ensure equal access to housing opportunity in the state of Oregon.

We recognize that the current COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting responses at many levels can be unsettling for many members of our community.

In particular, we know that members of protected classes throughout the state of Oregon experiencing discrimination in housing may be feeling especially vulnerable during this time.

Please know that despite the disruptive nature of the current situation, we are making every effort to continue our work to end housing discrimination in the best ways possible, as circumstances will allow.

To that end, we wanted to take a moment to provide you all an update on the status of our current operations and our upcoming events.

- To protect the health and safety of our staff, we are following recommendations around social distancing and have closed the FHCO office to public visits. Our staff members are working remotely and continuing to connect with our colleagues and those we serve through email, telephone and video connections.
- Telephone access to our statewide housing discrimination hotline is temporarily suspended, but if you are experiencing housing discrimination, please [contact us through this form on our website](#) or by sending an e-mail to [information@fhco.org](mailto:information@fhco.org).
- In following [current guidelines for events and gatherings](#), we have canceled or postponed educational and outreach events statewide through the end of April. We are working with our partners to reschedule trainings and also may be able to offer some trainings remotely through on-line delivery systems. Extensive educational materials remain accessible on our website at [www.fhco.org](http://www.fhco.org).
- We also are postponing our popular “Fasten Your Seatbelts, It’s Been a Bumpy Ride” bus tours of historic housing discrimination, segregation, and displacement until after May 15<sup>th</sup>. We are working closely to reschedule those groups who had tours scheduled during this period.
- We will not hold an in-person event for our mission-centered fundraising luncheon scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, but we are working on plans for a potential virtual event on that date. Stay tuned for more exciting updates to come about April 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Please check our website at [www.fhco.org](http://www.fhco.org) for the latest updates on our operating procedures and the best ways to contact us.

Again, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve so many of you in the work that we do and greatly appreciate the support of so many of you. Together, through all of this, we continue to work toward the open and inclusive neighborhoods we all so greatly desire.

With much gratitude,

Allan Lazo, Executive Director