



FAIR HOUSING

# fOCUS

2015

## Fair Housing: Beyond the Transaction

A publication from the Community & Political Affairs Division of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

**T**aking your effort to the next level for stronger neighborhoods and more stable communities

In our industry, there's naturally a significant focus on the buying and selling of property. It's what real estate professionals do! But when it comes to fair housing, the transaction itself is only one important aspect of a much bigger issue. Until inequity and under-representation no longer stand in the way of housing opportunity and stable home values where they're needed most -- there's plenty more work to be done.

*Through active engagement, REALTORS® can effect positive, big-picture change.*

No one understands community better than REALTORS®. In response to the eye-opening events in Ferguson, Missouri last year, and the ensuing inquiry into racial and economic imbalances across the country, the St. Louis Association of REALTORS® found a positive role leading the discussion with regard to community. It developed four principles that exemplify the REALTOR® commitment to fair housing, and serve as a sensible model for all of us concerned with creating inclusive communities:

**Diverse Neighborhoods** REALTORS® are already the best advocates for inclusive communities, because they understand the value of diverse neighborhoods, a key tenet of fair housing.

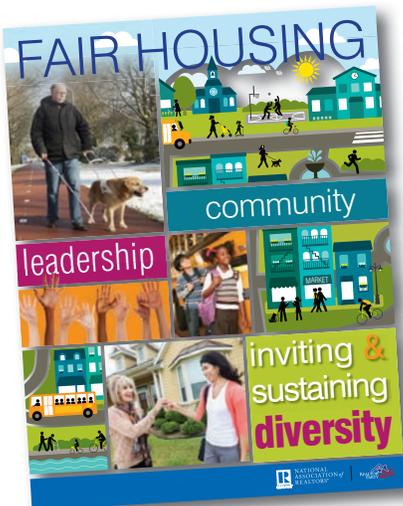
**Diversity in REALTOR® Leadership** By actively engaging minority members in leadership roles, state and local associations will benefit from governing bodies that accurately reflect their membership and bring to the table a heightened sensitivity to race issues.

**Diversity among Community Leadership** REALTORS® have the power to help elect candidates who are passionate about fair housing. The REALTOR® Party exists to share its resources and expertise with state and local associations that want to give a leg-up to the best candidates for the job: those who will promote and create broader housing opportunities.

**Land Use and Neighborhood Revitalization Policies that Invite and Sustain**

**Diversity** The REALTOR® Party has numerous programs designed to address aspects of fair housing, from land use policy to neighborhood revitalization. Whether you're starting small or thinking big, sprucing up a single city block or re-drafting zoning law to promote diverse neighborhoods, the REALTOR® Party is there for you.

It's time to take it beyond the transaction. Now, more than ever, consider how you and your fellow REALTORS® can take the lead in creating a reality of fair housing for all.



**Display your Fair Housing Month poster**



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of REALTORS®

