

Fair Housing Council of  
**METROPOLITAN MEMPHIS**



Our Website  
[www.fhcmm.org](http://www.fhcmm.org)







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“The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a grant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Government.”



# Introduction

- Opened June 1, 2024
- 3-year FHIP grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Operating Member of the National Fair Housing Alliance
- Governs entire Memphis Metropolitan Area with Fair Housing Testing and Education and Outreach programs
- First full-scale Fair Housing Organization in Memphis History
- FHCMM's Service Area includes over 1.4 million people and over 350,000 housing units







Service Area :

**Tennessee**

- Fayette
- Shelby
- Tipton

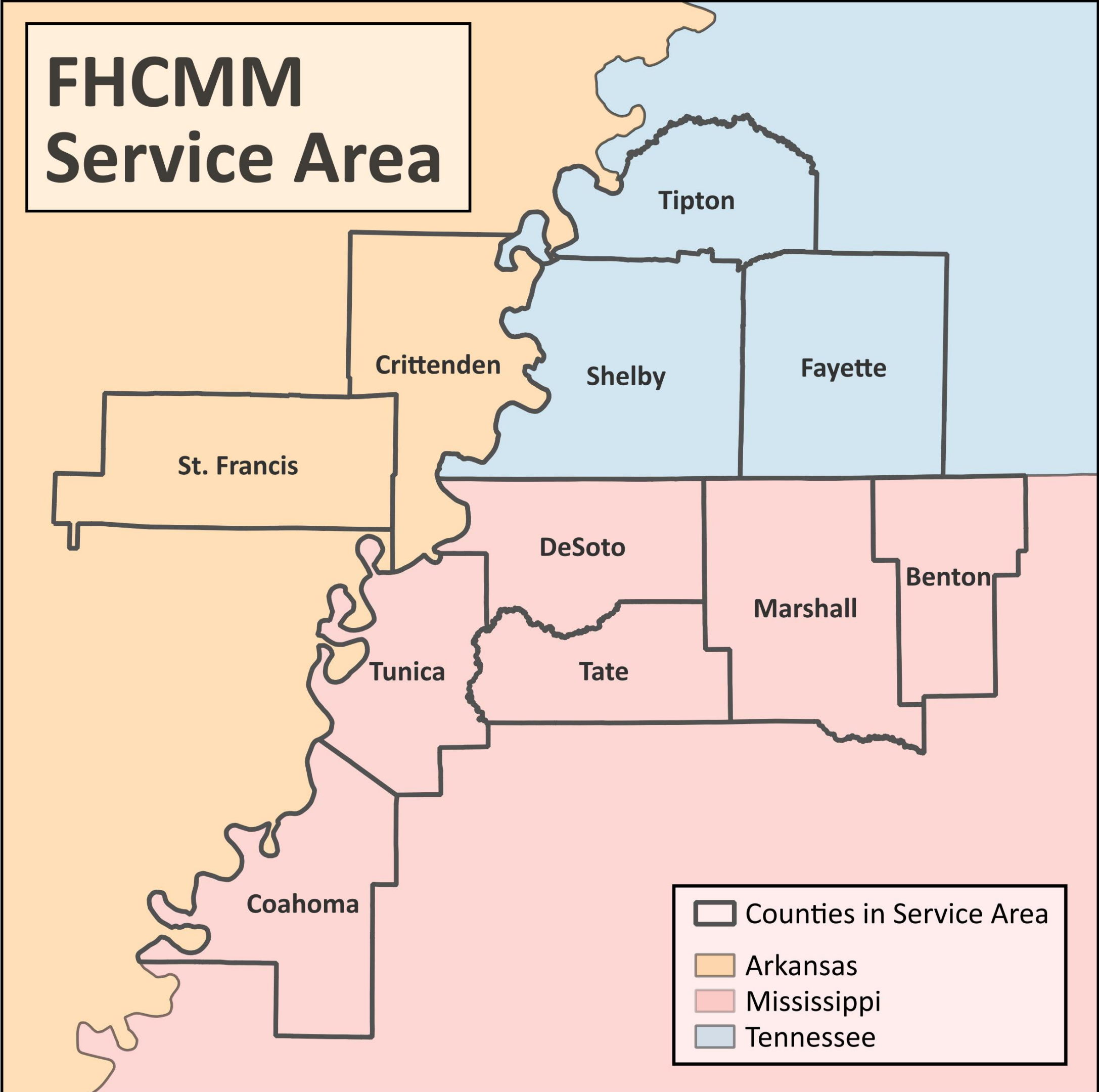
**Mississippi**

- Benton
- Coahoma
- DeSoto
- Marshall
- Tate
- Tunica

**Arkansas**

- Crittenden
- St. Francis

**FHCMM  
Service Area**





# FHCMM Mission Statement



The Fair Housing Council of Metropolitan Memphis (FHCMM) is dedicated to ensuring fair and equitable housing for all through education, research, and advocacy. We firmly believe that housing choice, access to housing, and inclusive communities are fundamental human rights. We work to ensure fair and equitable housing opportunities through the elimination of the illegal barriers that perpetuate housing segregation, discrimination, and inequality in the Memphis Metropolitan Area, our region, and nationally.



# Impact Since *Opening Day* (June 1, 2024)

- 50+ different pieces of Fair Housing Literature and items created including 24 different printed PSAs
- 85 tests completed
- 75,000+ pieces of fair housing literature and publications distributed throughout the service area
- Over 160,000 individuals reached through fair housing advertisements
- 750+ instances of education and outreach completed
- 50+ social media posts on FB, IG
- 272,000 individuals reached by FHCMM





# Impact Since *Opening Day* (June 1, 2024)

- 165+ housing calls screened for Fair Housing Issues
- 50+ individuals with disabilities assisted
- 15 Reasonable Accommodations/Modifications Obtained
- 40 individuals referred to free legal services
- 20 cases closed without the need for a formal complaint to HUD and/or THRC
- Mighty Lights for Fair Housing campaign reaching Over 20,000 people
- NextDoor “Fair Housing” campaign, roughly 30,000 impressions each month
- Fair Housing Month Segment on News Channel 3 viewed by 70,000 people.





## ***My Happy Home: A Fair Housing Coloring Book***




- Free coloring book made available to members of community. *My Happy Home* coloring book teaches the following on a on a Pre-Kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup> grade level:
  1. fair housing
  2. types of homes
  3. types of people who need homes.
- Available in English and Spanish
- Teacher's Guide made available as a companion to book.
- Released 2024. Over 4500 copies distributed.




# Fair Housing Rights

## Word Search and Crossword Puzzle



### Fair Housing Rights




**ACROSS**

2. Money you borrow to buy something, like a house.  
5. Judging someone before you know them.  
8. Bringing different people together in one place.  
10. Bullying or bothering someone repeatedly.  
12. Making sure everyone is welcome.  
15. Treating someone unfairly because of who they are.  
17. Housing The right to choose where to live without discrimination.  
18. A person who helps you buy or sell a home.  
19. Guiding someone toward or away from a place.  
21. Going to court to solve a problem.  
23. Stopping something, like unfair rules.  
24. Helping a cause or a person.  
25. Being able to get into or use something.


**DOWN**

1. Making something different, often better.  
3. Keeping different groups of people apart.  
4. A chance to do something.  
6. Treating everyone the same, no matter who they are.  
7. Denying loans in certain areas based on race.  
9. The person you rent a home from.  
11. A group of people working together for a cause.  
13. Treating people equally without favoritism.  
14. Favoring one thing over another unfairly.  
16. Not being treated the same as others.  
20. Things you are allowed to do by law.  
22. A person who rents a place to live.



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• Free word search and crossword puzzle made available to members of community. *Fair Housing Rights* teaches the following for all ages:

1. fair housing
2. terms used in the Fair Housing Act
3. items used in the rental, sale, or purchase of a housing unit.

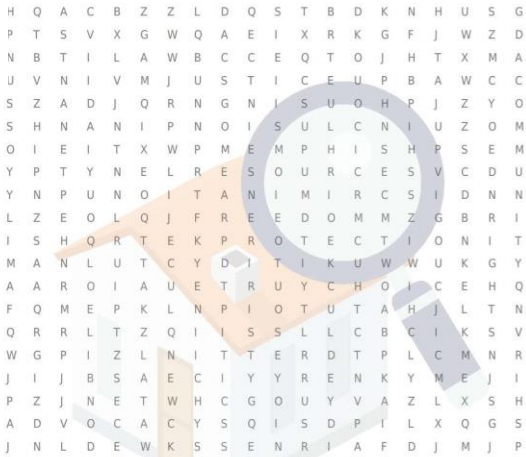
- Available in English (2024)
- Spanish and other languages (summer 2025)

- Over 3600 copies distributed.




### Fair Housing Rights

Vords can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.




**Word Bank**

1. freedom	2. justice	3. safe	4. opportunity
5. access	6. security	7. shelter	8. support
9. community	10. landlord	11. law	12. respect
13. choice	14. rights	15. resources	16. memphis
17. inclusion	18. fairness	19. family	20. protection
21. housing	22. advocacy	23. tenants	24. diversity
25. equality	26. discrimination		



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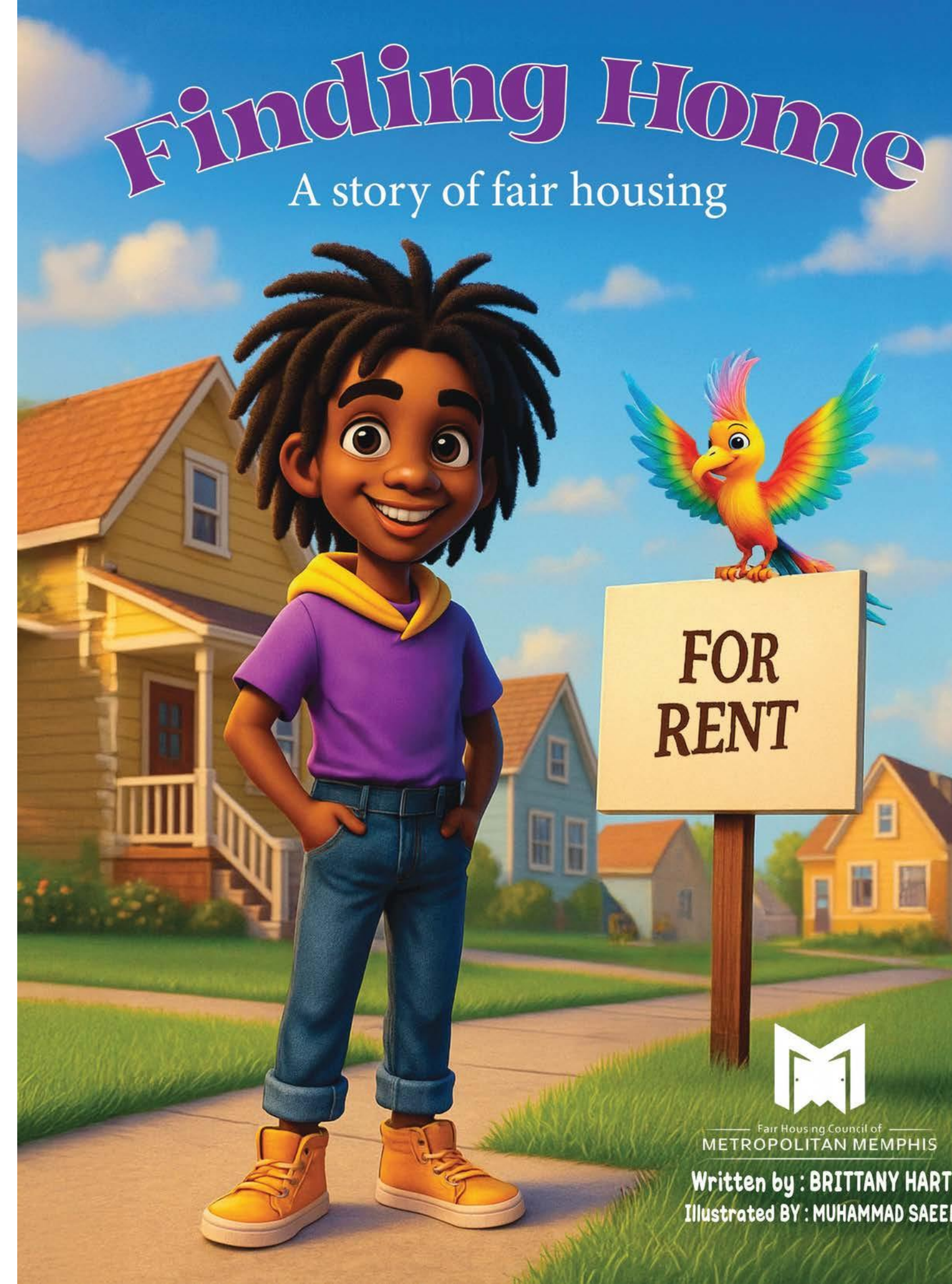


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### *Finding Home: A Story of Fair Housing*

- Illustrated storybook written by Brittany Hart, Education and Outreach Coordinator
- Explains the concept of Fair Housing to Children and adults. Facilitates family discussion around fair housing. *Finding Home* teaches the following for families:
  1. fair housing
  2. terms used in the Fair Housing Act
  3. items used in the rental, sale, or purchase of a housing unit.
  4. the value of community
  5. the importance of having a community
- Teacher's Guide made available as a companion to book.
- First book in anticipated children's book series for fair housing
- Released June 2025. Spanish edition will also be released.





- Conducted over **30** fair housing tester trainings
- Distributed **7000** pieces of literature surrounding fair housing testing
- Recruited over **75** testers, who are paid employees of FHCMM





# Community Member Responses

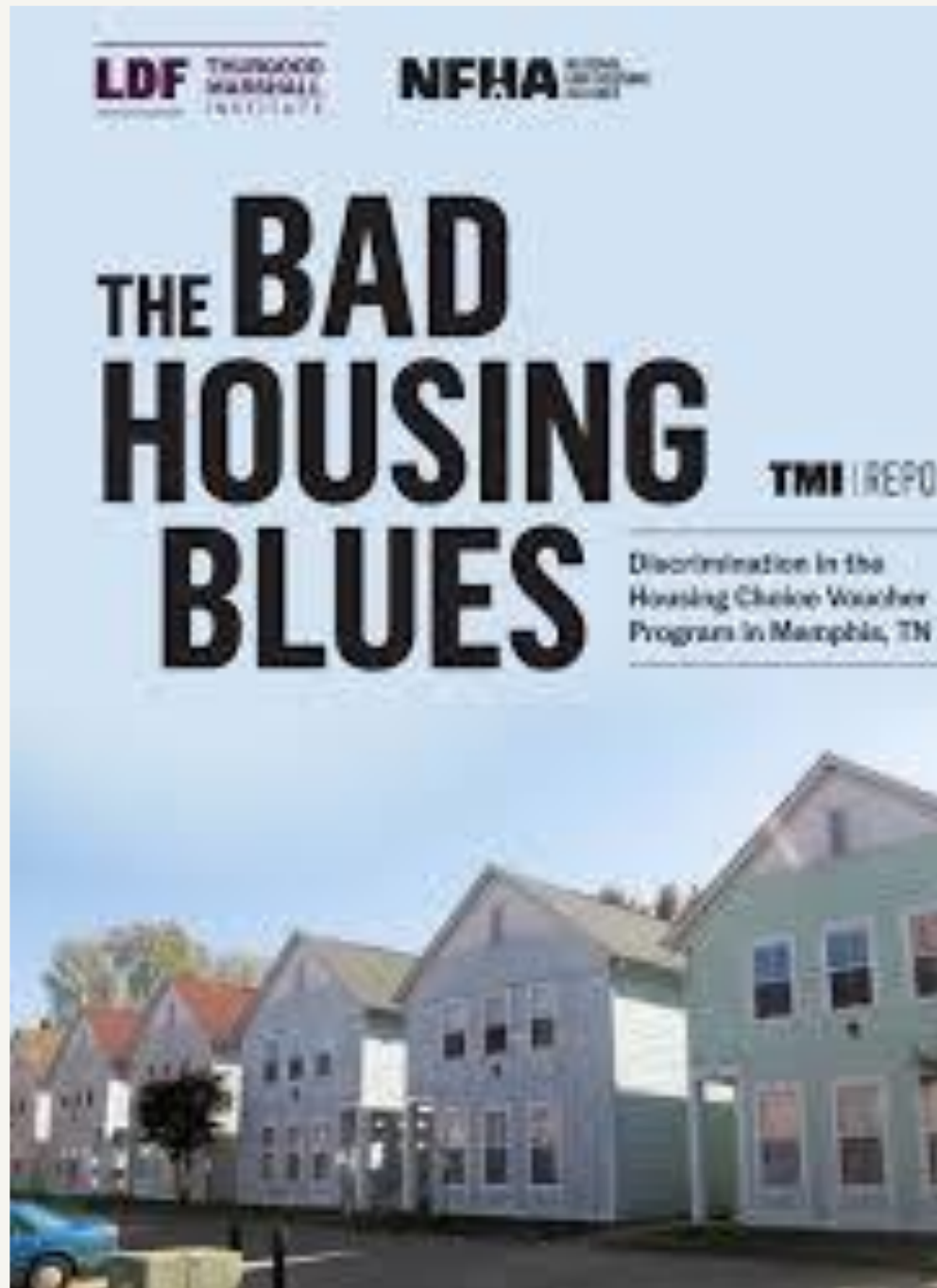
- “I needed you 2 years ago. Where were you when I was buying my house?”
- “Yes, baby. Cause we sure do need some more fair housing.”
- “I’ll give this to my sister. She will be giving you a call.”
- “I’m so glad you all are here because we need you in our communities. They just want to take advantage of us.”
- “Now, how do I sign up for this testing stuff.”
- “Thank you, honey. I knew something was wrong with my situation, but I didn’t know what exactly. They told me to call y’all.”
- “So, Is this free? Really? It doesn’t cost me anything? Thank you honey, because I can’t afford a lawyer.”



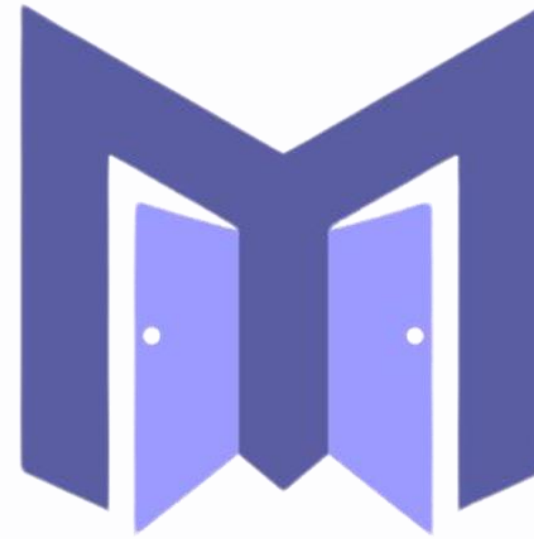


## FHCMM Testing Audit and Report

- Testing Conducted by FHCMM over most recent year.
- Will report and discuss findings including the barriers to securing fair housing
- Will contain recommendations for service area and organizations in Memphis Metropolitan Area.
- It is the first in a series of testing reports for the Memphis Metropolitan Area.
- **Will be released summer 2025**







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## Contact Us



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