

NEWS RELEASE
GREATER NEW ORLEANS FAIR HOUSING ACTION CENTER

**GREATER
NEW ORLEANS**



**FAIR
HOUSING
ACTION CENTER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FAIR HOUSING ACTION CENTER ANNOUNCES UPCOMING FAIR HOUSING
MONTH ACTIVITIES**

The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC) is pleased to announce several upcoming events in honor of the 41st anniversary of the federal Fair Housing Act. All Fair Housing Month events are **free** and open to the public.

- **KNOW YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS! - FAIR HOUSING TRAINING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

*Tuesday, April 21st - 1:30 to 3:00 PM
1010 Common St. 2nd Floor Conference Room*

Are you having difficulty locating an accessible rental unit? Want to learn more about the accessibility requirements that apply to new multifamily developments? The Advocacy Center (<http://www.advocacyla.org>) and GNO Fair Housing Action Center are pleased to bring you a comprehensive training on how the Fair Housing Act and related laws protect people with disabilities. Training will focus on the design and construction standards required under the Fair Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The training will also address what people with disabilities should do if they perceive a violation of design and construction requirements in new developments.

- **"THE HOUSE WE LIVE IN" - SCREENING & DIALOGUE**

*Monday, April 20 – 7:00 PM (doors & refreshments @ 6:30)
Community Book Center – 2523 Bayou Rd.*

GNOFHAC partners with Junebug Productions (<http://www.junebugproductions.org>) to screen part of the provocative PBS documentary "RACE- The Power of an Illusion." "The House We Live In," focuses on the ways our institutions and policies, especially federal housing policies, have historically advantaged some groups at the expense of others. Screening followed by refreshments and a facilitated story circle.

- **FAIR HOUSING FIRST - ACCESSIBILITY TRAINING**

*Tuesday, April 28 @ 8:30 AM - The Louisiana Department of Justice
1885 N. Third Street, Livingston Building Ground Floor, Baton Rouge,
LA 70802*

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST program is conducting a training session along with the Louisiana Department of Justice. GNOFHAC highly encourages private developers, especially those receiving public funding through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, to attend. Architects will be eligible for up to 4.5 hours of

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AIA credit. Register at <http://www.fairhousingfirst.org/register.asp?id=169>.

GNOFHAC Executive Director, James Perry remarks, "I'm very excited about our line-up of Fair Housing Month events for 2009. Through trainings, screenings and dialogues we are trying to approach the critical issue of housing discrimination from all possible angles for maximum impact."

The federal Fair Housing Act was passed on April 11, 1968, seven days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. King and other civil rights leaders advocated for passage of the law for years, but it was only after King's death and at the urging of President Lyndon B. Johnson that Congress enacted the law. The current version of the law provides that it is illegal to discriminate against people seeking housing based on their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability and/or familial status.

More information and updates on Fair Housing Month programming is available at www.gnofairhousing.org/outreach.html

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The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC) is a private non-profit organization. The Center was established by a group of concerned New Orleanians in 1995 with the help of the National Fair Housing Alliance and a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. GNOFHAC is dedicated to eliminating housing discrimination and furthering equal housing opportunities through education, outreach, advocacy, and enforcement of fair housing laws across the metro New Orleans area.

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