

PROCLAMATION  
APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH



**WHEREAS**, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, known as the Federal Fair Housing Law, guarantees the right of all Americans to dwell in the neighborhood of their choice, is one of the most important components of our national civil rights policy; and

**WHEREAS**, discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, or financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, handicap, or disability is prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act that adds the additional protected classes for age, ancestry and the use of guide or support animals.

**WHEREAS**, even though this non-discriminatory policy is the law of the land, its proper enforcement requires the continued cooperation of all levels of government, the real estate and homebuilding industries and private citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout Indiana County, this spirit of cooperation is being provided through the efforts of our state, federal and local governments and with the support of countless community and nonprofit organizations.

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN**, that the Indiana County Commissioners proclaim April to be Fair Housing Month so as to bring to the attention of the County's residents their right to live where they want to live without prejudice or discrimination by any owners of real estate, developers, builders, or financial organizations; and

**BE IT FURTHER KNOWN**, that the Indiana County Commissioners will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, handicap, disability, or familial status (families with children), or need to use a guide or support animal to seek equity under Federal and State laws by filing a complaint with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

This proclamation was duly approved and signed the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

ATTEST:

INDIANA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk

(SEAL)

R. Michael Keith, Chairman

Robin A. Gorman, Commissioner

Sherene Hess, Commissioner