Fair Housing Resources

DISABILITY PRIDE AND HOUSING RIGHTS

Disability Pride Month, celebrated each July, marks the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Both the federal Fair Housing Act and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act protect people from discrimination and harassment in housing based on physical or mental disability. A disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity, such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning or working. These laws also protect people with a record of such an impairment, those regarded as having one, and individuals associated with someone who has a disability. Housing providers may be required to grant reasonable accommodations or reasonable modifications so residents with disabilities can fully enjoy their homes and shared spaces.

- Reasonable accommodation = A change to a rule, policy, practice or service. Examples: Allowing an assistance animal despite a “no pets” policy. Creating a reserved accessible parking space.
- Reasonable modification = A structural change to the property. Examples: Lowering counters, installing strobe lights for residents with hearing impairments, and adding ramps or grab bars.

Fair housing laws prohibit denying housing, limiting access, discouraging home seekers or imposing different rules, fees or standards because of disability or any other protected class.

For more information:

- California disability protections
- Federal disability protections

Local Resources

Legal Aid Society of San Diego Inc.
www.lassd.org

California State Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH)
www.calcivilrights.ca.gov/

Multilingual Brochures
Visit sandiego.gov/FairHousing to view fair housing brochures in Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

Equal access to housing is a right protected by both federal and state law. The City of San Diego strives to increase housing opportunities for its residents and offers free services to promote fair housing and emphasize solutions through education and enforcement.