

## ODE to the ZIP CODE



### Call for Entries!

**YOUR ZIP CODE IS MORE THAN AN ADDRESS,  
IT'S AN IDENTITY.**

**SEND US A POEM INSPIRED BY YOUR ZIP CODE.**

**Submit your entries  
February 15 - March 1  
to the following link**

<https://toledocitypaper.com/online/ottzc-2019-submit/>

**Poems must be 5 lines each,  
with the number of words in each line  
determined by the corresponding digit in  
your ZIP Code.**

Live reading & prizes awarded  
Thursday, April 18, 2019

**CASH PRIZES!**

Winners selected from youth  
& adult categories

**Finalists published in *Toledo City Paper*!**

**Last year's youth winning poem:**

4 Outside the house, waiting  
3 To go in.  
6 I'm nervous to see the inside  
0 (holdingmybreathholdingmybreathholdingmybreath)  
6 The door opens and I gasp—  
— **Tulia Pfeffinger**

Hosted by:



# Boost Your Fair Housing Knowledge!

Housing professionals have two opportunities to attend free trainings on fair housing.

**F**air Housing: Basics and Beyond outlines the fundamentals of fair housing laws and regulations for housing industry professionals. The course provides an overview of the history of the Fair Housing Act, defines protected classes, explores common discriminatory practices, and offers guidance on best practices. The curriculum is aimed at increasing understanding and compliance with fair housing laws, in an effort to prevent housing discrimination.



## Free Fair Housing Training for Real Estate Professionals

Earn 3 CE Credits in Ohio and Michigan

**Thursday, February 21**

**9 a.m. – noon**

Toledo Regional Association of Realtors

590 Longbow Dr.

Maumee, OH 43537

**TRAR members RSVP here**

**Non-TRAR members RSVP to [dana@toledorealtors.com](mailto:dana@toledorealtors.com)**

## Free Fair Housing Webinar for Landlords, Property Managers, and Rental Industry Professionals

**Tuesday, February 26**

**10 a.m. – noon**

**Register here**



## Delivering Results

Imagine a simple task such as getting your mail being difficult because accessing the mailroom can be hazardous. That's what a recent client faced when she contacted The Fair Housing Center for help.

The client's disability requires the use of a walker or wheelchair to get around. However, the door to the mailroom in her apartment complex was so heavy that she couldn't pull it open safely without it slamming back and nearly knocking her down. The threshold at the entrance to the mailroom was also too high, making it difficult for her to get in and out. To make matters worse, the lack of handicapped parking near the mailroom meant she had to park far away and walk a long distance, causing her to fall multiple times on the slippery walkway.

Assisting our client through the process, an administrative complaint was filed with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and successfully resolved. As a result of the case, the apartment complex modified the door to make it easier to open and created a beveled threshold. They are also in the process of building a new mailroom with a fully accessible entrance. To ensure our client can safely travel to the mailroom, handicapped parking spaces have been installed and the sidewalk will be salted during the winter.

This case serves as a great example that very often the modifications required to accommodate a person's disability can be very small, but have a meaningful impact on that person's daily life.



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## Removing Barriers

A woman with a disability was awarded an emotional support animal through a partnership between the Toledo Area Humane Society and ProMedica. After notifying her landlord about her new dog, she was told that her doctor would have to sign a form certifying that the dog was needed for her disability. That's no problem, and any landlord can ask for that. However, this landlord also wanted to know the doctor's specialty and license number, and how long the doctor had been treating the client. In addition, the doctor had to sign a form stating that he would testify in court to the tenant's disability – and have all this notarized and sent to the company's corporate offices. The Fair Housing Center educated the landlord on the reasonable accommodation process and explained that this was an undue burden on our client. We requested that the landlord accept the tenant's original doctor's note as sufficient to be able to have her dog. The landlord agreed, and the tenant was able to keep her emotional support animal without additional requirements.



## Have you joined the Movement?

Help foster more diverse, inclusive communities by joining the Welcome In My Backyard (WIMBY) campaign! Inspired by similar efforts in other communities, WIMBY Ohio is a timely and powerful response to the “Not In My Backyard” sentiment that leads to discrimination, harassment, and intolerance.

It’s easy to participate! Take the WIMBY pledge, display a yard sign or window decal, and share on social media.



Visit [wimbyohio.org](http://wimbyohio.org) and show your support today!



Take the Pledge



Display the Logo

Tell Your Friends – follow WIMBY Ohio on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)



Upload Your Video

Use [#wimbyohio](#)



Get Some Swag

Marie M. Flannery  
President & CEO

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Patty Wise ..... Vice Chairperson  
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Cheryl Slack ..... Secretary

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Mary-Thom Williams

The Fair Housing Center  
432 N. Superior St.  
Toledo, OH 43604-1416  
419.243.6163

toledofhc.org



**VISION**

The Fair Housing Center will be a leading visible force in preventing and correcting discriminatory practices.

**MISSION**

The Fair Housing Center is a non-profit civil rights agency dedicated to the elimination of housing discrimination, the promotion of housing choice and the creation of inclusive communities of opportunity. To achieve our mission, the Center engages in education and outreach, housing counseling, advocacy for anti-discriminatory housing policies, research and investigation and enforcement actions.

The Fair Housing Center (Toledo Fair Housing Center) is a GuideStar Platinum Participant



EXCELLENT RATING

*11 Years*



2014 Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics Winner  
Northwestern Ohio • Better Business Bureau®

Trust • Performance • Integrity

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- When purchasing items, please indicate Fair Housing Opportunities of Northwest Ohio, Inc. as your charitable organization of choice.
- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase to The Fair Housing Center



### Enroll Your Kroger Card

With the Kroger Community Rewards program, you can help support the efforts of The Fair Housing Center every time you buy groceries at Kroger. Enrollment is simple and free!

- Visit [kroger.com](http://kroger.com)
- Sign in or create an account
- On the Community tab, select Kroger Community Rewards
- Click Enroll Now, then Enroll
- Search by group number **97582** or the name **Fair Housing Opportunities of Northwest Ohio, Inc.**
- Click Enroll