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| JURISDICTION/ORG NAME HERE | **FOR RELEASE** **Friday** **April 1, 2023** |

### **FIRST-EVER ORANGE COUNTY AFFORDABLE AND FAIR HOUSING MONTHS, APRIL AND MAY 2023**

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA- Today the Kennedy Commission and partners throughout the region kick off the first-ever **Orange County Affordable and Fair Housing Months**.

“INSERT YOUR OWN AGENCY QUOTE HERE”

The months of April and May 2023 are now designated as **Orange County Affordable and Fair Housing Months** to highlight and celebrate regional efforts to create affordable housing and to affirmatively further fair housing.

The federal Fair Housing Act, passed on April 11, 1968, advances and protects fair housing rights to ensure that all people have the right to obtain the housing of their choice, free from discrimination. Each April, local communities across the country celebrate Fair Housing Month by hosting events that enhance public awareness of fair housing rights and emphasize the importance of creating diverse and inclusive communities. For the Orange County community, the 2023 activities will continue into May in recognition of national Affordable Housing Month.

Events will include: A Youth Poster Contest, Eviction Diversion Collaborative Report Presentation, Property Managers & Owners Fair Housing Training, Property Tours, Fair Housing Source of Income Protections Workshop for Property Owners, Affordable Housing Awards, Tenant Protections Presentation, Property Owner’s Section 8 Workshop, Affordable Housing Career Panel and Networking, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Workshop, and Update on Implementation of OC Housing Elements.

The Kennedy Commission is a community-based non-profit that works with residents, community organizations, the public sector, and the private sector to increase the production of homes affordable to lower income households throughout Orange County.

INCLUDE YOUR OWN ORGANIZATION/AGENCY INFORMATION HERE FOLLOWED BY A CLOSING ORGANIZATION QUOTE.

For the **Orange County Affordable and Fair Housing Months**, the Kennedy Commission is partnering with local jurisdictions, and public/private sector organizations including: City of Irvine, City of Costa Mesa, City of Santa Ana, City of Anaheim, City of Orange, City of Tustin, County of Orange, Fair Housing Foundation, Fair Housing Council of OC, Orange County United Way, Orange County Housing Finance Trust, Irvine Community Land Trust, Affordable Housing Clearinghouse, Orange County Community Housing Corporation, C&C Development, Families Forward, and Jamboree Housing Corporation.

For a complete listing of Orange County Affordable and Fair Housing Month events and partners, go to: [https://www.kennedycommission.org/affordable-housing-](https://www.kennedycommission.org/affordable-housing-and-fair-housing-month)and-fair-housing-month

People who believe they have experienced discrimination in their search for housing in Orange County, can contact one of these organizations for no-cost assistance: Fair Housing Council of OC at (800) 698-FAIR or via email at [info@fairhousingoc.org](mailto:info@fairhousingoc.org) or Fair Housing Foundation at (800) 446-3247 or email [info@fhfca.org](mailto:info@fhfca.org).

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