



**For Immediate Release**

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**COMMUNITY FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING FILES HOUSING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT AGAINST DALLAS HOUSING AUTHORITY**

*COMMUNITY FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING Alleges Housing Discrimination Against People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities*

DALLAS, TX — May 1, 2017: Today, **COMMUNITY FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING (CPSH)** with assistance from and the North Texas Fair Housing Center filed a complaint against the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) for discriminating against people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD). The organizations filed the formal complaint with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for cancelling a project based voucher program that would give people with intellectual/developmental disabilities access to community-based, service-enriched, affordable housing options.

The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any buyer or renter because of a handicap. CPSH alleges that by cancelling a project based voucher program for permanent supportive housing for persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities, DHA has discriminated in the rental of these properties to any renter because of a handicap.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the United States Supreme Court's decision *Olmstead v. L.C.* held that the integration mandate of the ADA requires public agencies to provide services "in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of qualified individuals with disabilities". CPSH alleges that by cancelling this project DHA denies people with IDD the opportunity to live in the integrated setting appropriate.

"DHA has determined that people with IDD can not rent from a family member who has been awarded a project based voucher for a single family home. The potential tenant cannot submit a reasonable accommodation request. Housing discrimination toward people with IDD is illegal as stated in the Fair Housing Act and the ADA. By requiring reasonable accommodations, the Fair Housing laws ensure that



tenants with disabilities have the same access to housing as everyone else,” says Robin LeoGrande, President of CPSH.

The Dallas Housing Authority administers the project based voucher program in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Tarrant Counties. Across these counties, about 100,000 people with IDD have at least one challenge to living independently. There is affordable, community-based, service-enriched housing for three percent of this population.

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#### [COMMUNITY FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING](#)

Founded in 2010, COMMUNITY FOR PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING is a non-profit organization in Texas. CPSH works with families, service providers, and all levels of government to identify affordable, community-based, service enriched housing options for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities regardless of IQ, and provides education and tool to help families transition their loved ones to housing of their choice. [CPSH Public Service Announcement](#).

#### [North Texas Fair Housing Center](#)

The North Texas Fair Housing Center's mission is to actively support and promote fair housing through education and advocacy to ensure that all persons have the opportunity to secure the housing they desire and can afford, without discrimination based on their race, color, religion, gender, national origin, familial status, disability or other characteristics protected by law.