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***HOPE Fair Housing Center names Michael Chavarria as new Executive Director***

**WHEATON, IL** – HOPE Fair Housing Center, based in Wheaton, IL has named Michael Chavarria its new executive director.

Chavarria, an Illinois native has dedicated the last 8 years of his career to fighting for fair housing around the state. Chavarria comes to this role with not only a wealth of expertise in fair housing enforcement, but also a background in coalition building and a strong network of partnerships with local, state, and national community leaders and housing organizations.

Chavarria grew up in Matteson, IL as it was being transformed by some of the nation’s fastest documented white flight and has dedicated his career to working alongside those most impacted by housing discrimination and community disinvestment to advance fair housing.

As the oldest fair housing center in Illinois, HOPE has protected and improved the fair housing rights of the people of Illinois since 1968. HOPE’s Board President, Jay Mitchell, celebrates the announcement of the new executive director.

“On behalf of the Board of Directors of the HOPE Fair Housing Center, we enthusiastically welcome Mr. Michael Chavarria to HOPE in his role as our new Executive Director,” said Mitchell. “Michael’s coalition building and advocacy experience coupled with his fresh vision will allow HOPE to strategically build on its long and outstanding record. We look forward to sharing this journey together under his leadership.”

Chavarria succeeds Evelyn Sanguinetti, who served as HOPE’s Executive Director from 2020-2022 and was the 47<sup>th</sup> Lt. Governor of the State of Illinois from 2015-2019.

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*HOPE Fair Housing Center works to create greater housing opportunities for all. We want to ensure everyone has the chance to live in the community/home/apartment of their choice free from discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, or any other characteristics protected under state or local laws. HOPE accomplishes this through education, outreach, enforcement, training, and advocacy.*