



# 2019 Annual Report

An aerial photograph of a dense residential neighborhood. The image shows a variety of houses with different roof colors, including red, orange, and grey. Some houses have white walls, while others are darker. The roofs are closely packed together, and there are some trees visible in the background. The overall scene is a typical urban or suburban residential area.

**Bringing Home  
HOPE**

2019



# HOPE's Year in Review

HOPE Fair Housing Center grew both physically and geographically in 2019, adding four new staff members and expanding outreach activities to 11 counties. **We are excited to share our accomplishments from the year.**

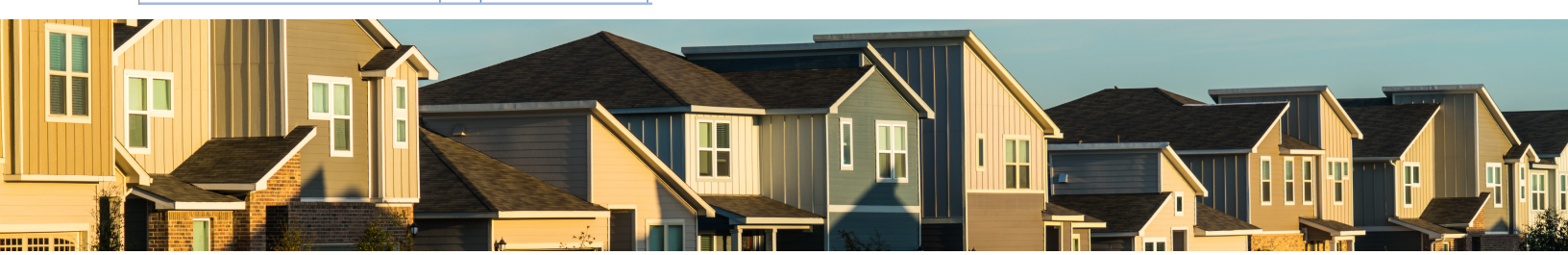
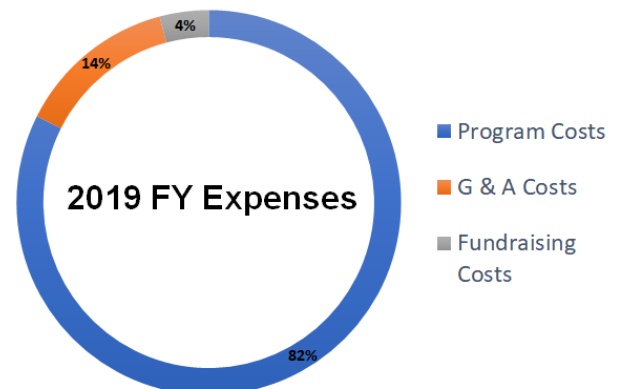
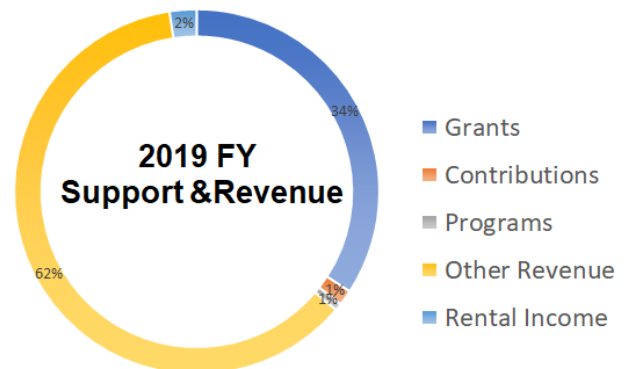
## In 2019 HOPE...

- Provided services to **22 counties** across Illinois
- Assisted **269 clients** with fair housing related concerns
- Teamed up with school district U-46 to pilot a unique rental assistance program for families experiencing homelessness. To read our full report visit [hopefair.org/community-development](http://hopefair.org/community-development)
- Aided in making reasonable accommodation requests for **20 individuals with disabilities**
- Provided educational material about fair housing rights to **2,190 people** at various community events
- Hosted a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service event as well as our annual Fair Housing Conference

Revenue	Amount	Percentage
Grants	\$471,423	34%
Contributions	\$18,893	2%
Programs	\$8,896	1%
Other Revenue	\$846,363	61%
Rental Income	\$32,915	2%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,378,490</b>	

Expenses	Amount	Percentage
Program Costs	\$535,857	82%
G & A Costs	\$87,644	13%
Fundraising Costs	\$26,776	5%
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$650,277</b>	

Net Assets	
1-Jan-19	\$494,837
Increase to Net Assets	\$728,213
31-Dec-19	\$1,223,050



# Fair Housing Complaints and Enforcement

HOPE assisted **20 individuals** with physical and mental disabilities in making reasonable accommodations and modifications. Some of these included:

- Accessible parking spaces
- Designated parking spaces
- Ending a rental lease early to assist a client in finding an accessible unit
- Advocating for stair handrails in a client's home
- Requesting first floor housing units for clients
- Assisting housing providers in establishing new procedures for landlord-tenant communications

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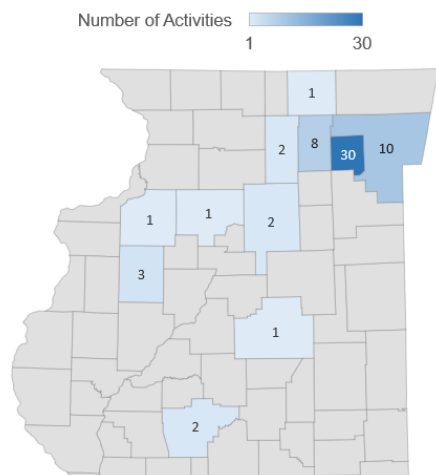
## Our Housing Impact

HOPE settled **6 cases** in 2019 concerning discrimination against families with children and persons with disabilities. Through our enforcement team, HOPE ensured that barriers to housing for families with children, such as restrictive occupancy policies, were removed. HOPE additionally secured physical modifications to several large properties that made the housing units accessible and usable by persons with disabilities for many years to come. HOPE's work on these cases did not just create change for those immediately involved, but also positively impacted **3,336 units** that will no longer be restricted by physical or policy barriers, allowing thousands of families to finally gain the full use of and enjoyment of their homes.



HOPE assisted **269**  
**clients in 20**  
**counties across our**  
**service area.**

# Education and Outreach



HOPE engaged in **61** education and outreach activities across **11 different counties** (shown above) in our service area.

**The Federal Fair Housing Act** prohibits discrimination in housing based on these protected classes:

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Disability\*
- Familial status (households with children under 18)
- Ancestry
- Marital status
- Age (40+)
- Military status
- Sexual orientation
- Gender identity
- Order of Protection status
- Unfavorable military discharge

\*Federal law defines disability as a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Any individual who currently has, has a history of, or is regarded as having such an impairment is covered under federal law. Such impairments include:

- Mental or physical impairments
- Emotional disorders
- Serious impairments in eyesight, hearing, or speech
- Specific diseases, such as AIDS
- Alcoholism and drug addiction (not including those currently using illegal drugs)

Founded in 1968, HOPE serves Chicago's Northwestern & Western suburbs, as well as 28 other counties in Northern & North Central Illinois

**All of HOPE's services are free**

**HOPE**  
FAIR HOUSING CENTER

202 W Willow Ave  
Suite 203  
Wheaton, IL 60187

Call us  
630-690-8900  
Email us  
info@hopefair.org  
Visit us online  
hopefair.org

**HOPE Fair Housing Center**

**Housing Rights for Military Members and Veterans**

Those who are currently active or have fought for our country should not have to fight for the right to choose where they live if deployed or once they return.

## Updated Outreach Materials

HOPE staff updated and expanded our outreach materials. Copies of our new brochures are available for download on our website, [hopefair.org](http://hopefair.org).

## Survivors of Domestic Violence Trainings

In November we kicked off a traveling training series aimed at service providers who deal directly with survivors of domestic violence. This series provided an overview on fair housing laws, as well as the specific housing rights that survivors have, which can help keep them in their homes and away from their abusers.

## MLK Day Event

January marked HOPE's second annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Event, bringing together community members and local high school students. Participating students assembled 100 care packages for homeless students, and author and professor Maria Krysan headlined our event.



## 2019 Annual Conference

In April we hosted our annual HOPE Fair Housing Conference in Geneva, IL. The conference theme was "Moving Forward", and featured three different session tracks; "Community Solutions", "Fair Housing Legal Updates & Hot Topics", and "Housing Plus". The day had an amazing turnout, with 140 people in attendance and author and professor George Lipsitz from the University of California Santa Barbara, presenting as our keynote speaker.





# Looking Forward

This past year at HOPE was both rewarding and challenging. It's truly because of you that HOPE is able to continue to serve our community and offer this promise: **we are here for you.**

Though our current environment may look a little different and life has become more challenging, our staff is continuously working to further our mission to advocate for greater housing opportunities for all. Whether you are an annual donor, a volunteer, or simply "like" our Facebook posts, we want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting our mission and allowing us to continue our crucial work.



## HOPE Fair Housing Center 2019 Staff

Executive Director.....	<b>Anne Houghtaling</b>
Executive Assistant.....	<b>Shirley Stacy</b>
Director of Enforcement.....	<b>Josefina Navar</b>
Investigations Coordinator.....	<b>Marsha Lightfoot</b>
Intake Specialist & Program Assistant.....	<b>June Bishop</b>
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator....	<b>Rachel Watson</b>
Project Coordinator.....	<b>Alex Majestic</b>
Financial and HR Manager.....	<b>Carol O'Neill</b>

## 2019 Board of Directors

President.....	<b>Patricia Mathis</b>
Vice President.....	<b>A. Jay Mitchell</b>
Secretary.....	<b>Maria Padilla</b>
Member.....	<b>Pam Terrell</b>
Member.....	<b>Florentina Redon</b>
Member.....	<b>Cindy Burke</b>