# employment opportunity

# Senior Administrator, Fair Housing at



# The Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council

Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

presented exclusively by



# The Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council is hiring a Senior Administrator to oversee its Inclusive Communities Program

Peter Gray Executive Search is MMFHC's exclusively retained partner for this executive search.

The official title of the position is Senior Program Administrator, Inclusive Communities.

about the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council

The <u>Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council</u> (MMFHC) is a civil rights enforcement agency that promotes fair housing throughout Wisconsin.

MMFHC fulfills this mission by combating illegal housing discrimination and by creating and maintaining racially and economically integrated housing patterns.

**MMFHC** was founded in 1977 as a grassroots initiative. Forty people, prompted by prevailing patterns of racial and economic segregation, widespread discrimination in the housing market, and an inadequate number of fair housing enforcement agencies, organized MMFHC to investigate housing discrimination and promote fair housing. MMFHC is now a private, non-profit, membership-based organization that serves Milwaukee, Washington, Waukesha, Ozaukee, Dane, Outagamie, Brown, Winnebago, and Calumet Counties, and conducts out-of-service-area activities as well.

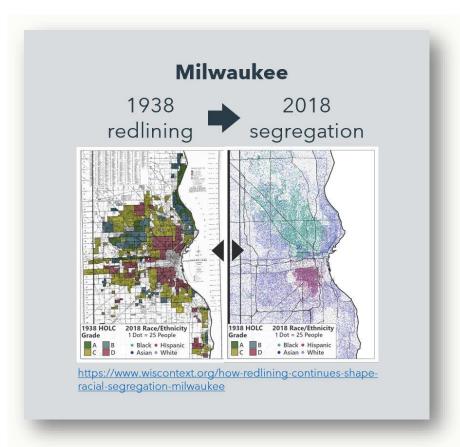
**MMFHC** is a tireless and highly successful legal advocate for fair housing. MMFHC clients experience high levels of success when seeking a legal remedy to discrimination they've faced. Of the thousands of complainants MMFHC has assisted, approximately 650 have chosen to file lawsuits. Of those 650, MMFHC clients have prevailed in all but 8 cases.

**MMFHC** has earned national recognition. For over four decades, MMFHC has established an impressive record of accomplishments and assumed a leadership role in the struggle for equal opportunity in housing. MMFHC staff provide technical assistance, training, and consultation services to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the National Fair Housing Alliance and private fair housing agencies throughout the United States, and other local, state and federal organizations. MMFHC has received two Best Practices Awards from HUD, and was honored with a Trail Blazer Award by the Milwaukee Awards in Neighborhood Development Innovation program for its activities to address predatory lending practices.

# about Milwaukee's fair housing landscape

The greater Milwaukee metro area has a diverse racial and ethnic makeup. Its overall population of 1.5 million residents is 66% White, 17% Black, 12% Hispanic/Latino, and 4% Asian.

But Milwaukee's history of redlining, exclusionary public policy, and discrimination in the private housing market has made it one of the most racially segregated metropolitan areas in the United States, with its Black population concentrated in certain neighborhoods within city limits, while its suburbs are predominantly White. Present-day forms of redlining, exclusionary housing policies, and ongoing housing discrimination continue to reinforce segregated living patterns.



MMFHC carries on the legacy of courageous civil rights pioneers like <u>Vel Phillips</u> and <u>Father James Groppi</u>, who led Milwaukee's nonviolent protest movement for fair housing in in the 1960s, notably with the <u>Open Housing marches</u> of 1967. Their efforts led the Milwaukee Common Council to pass an open housing ordinance in 1968 that was stronger than the recently passed federal open housing law.

But racial segregation persists in Milwaukee, with related disparities in <a href="https://homeownership">homeownership</a>, <a href="health">health</a>, and <a href="https://other.com/othership">other</a> <a href="https://othership.com/othership">quality-of-life</a> indicators remaining serious problems.

Against this backdrop of longstanding racial segregation and struggle in Milwaukee, MMFHC carries on a proud tradition of resistance in the fight for access to fair housing and quality of life for all Milwaukee residents.

# an MMFHC solution: the Inclusive Communities Program

MMHFC runs a very effective <u>Inclusive Communities Program</u> that includes several elements.

MMFHC's Inclusive Communities Program operates Opportunity MKE, a housing mobility project that assists Housing Choice Voucher users to find and maintain housing in high-opportunity areas. This project **supports pro-integrative housing choices**, recognizing that people of color and people with low and moderate incomes are often segregated in housing that limits access to employment opportunities, school options and more. The Opportunity MKE initiative **connects families with resources so** that families can find homes in close proximity to jobs, schools and community amenities. This helps families expand their housing choices, assists employers in developing a stable workforce, and is good for the environment. The Opportunity MKE initiative is funded by a multi-year Housing Mobility grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



The Inclusive Communities Program also advocates for expansion of housing choice in land use, zoning, and other housing-related policies, playing a role in the housing planning efforts of cities and counties throughout metropolitan Milwaukee. Inclusive Communities Program staff provide technical assistance, outreach, and education to a wide variety of private and public organizations in the region. These activities ensure that the topics of fair housing and equal housing opportunity are never overlooked in local housing discourse and decision-making.

# about the position

MMFHC is recruiting for an experienced fair housing expert to oversee its Inclusive Communities Program. The official title of this position is **Senior Program Administrator**, **Inclusive Communities**.

This position reports to the President & CEO of MMFHC, and manages a program team of 2 fully allocated staff.

#### The position's job responsibilities include:

- Supervision and management of Opportunity MKE, a housing mobility project that assists Housing Choice Voucher users to find and maintain housing in high-opportunity areas.
- Supervision of 2 team members in MMFHC's Inclusive Communities Program.
- Development of informational materials for housing consumers, housing providers, and the general public.
- Fund development to support the work of the Inclusive Communities Program.
- Research and evaluation of equitable housing opportunity in Wisconsin's housing markets.
- Leading or participating in coalitions of external partners on issues of housing equity.
- Building and maintaining relationships with partners in public and private sectors.
- Provision of education and technical assistance services to housing developers, policy makers, and other
  organizations on the creation of inclusive communities and expansion of housing choice.

# experience sought

MMFHC is seeking a savvy, determined champion for fair housing who can advance MMFHC's mission of combating illegal housing discrimination.

#### Must-haves:

- Demonstrated passion for MMFHC's mission.
- Significant experience managing complex multi-year public-sector grants (housing sector grant experience preferred).
- Experience effectively supervising multiple staff or volunteers.
- Outstanding ability to convey complex information in writing.
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with diverse groups of people and organizations, including leading coalitions of external partners and stakeholders.
- Experience communicating and collaborating in multicultural settings.



A strong candidate would also have some combination of these experiences and skills:

- Familiarity with housing policy and equity issues, including the intersection of fair housing laws with affordable housing development, land use, zoning, and housing subsidy programs.
- Familiarity with barriers to equal housing opportunities.
- Commitment to vigorous enforcement of fair housing and fair lending laws.
- Strong public speaking skills, including experience presenting to a wide variety of audiences.
- Spanish or Hmong language proficiency.
- Bachelor's degree or higher preferred; comparable experience will be considered.

# office location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

MMFHC serves nine Wisconsin counties in metropolitan Milwaukee, metropolitan Madison, metropolitan Green Bay, and Wisconsin's Fox Valley. Its office is located in downtown Milwaukee's historic Colby Abbot building.



The position requires a regular in-person presence in the Milwaukee office. Employees may work a hybrid schedule of in-person and remote work, subject to pre-approval by management. The job also requires driving travel around Wisconsin as needed to engage with partners and stakeholders.

This is a national search, and MMFHC is ready to offer financial assistance for relocation.

# salary and benefits

The position has a salary range of \$75,000 - \$90,000.

MMFHC's excellent <u>employee benefits</u> include employer-subsidized group health plan; dental; vision; long-term disability insurance; retirement savings plan; and generous paid time off (including vacation days, personal days, sick days, and paid holidays.)

# interested?

Please apply confidentially: bit.ly/fair-housing-apply

**Deadline:** rolling. The position is open until filled. It was announced on **April 5, 2024**. Rather than setting an application deadline, we are considering applications and holding interviews on a rolling basis. For best consideration, please apply promptly; and please complete all questions in the application, including the cover letter/personal statement. Our goal is to fill this position by the end of **June 2024**.



MMFHC has exclusively retained <u>Peter Gray Executive Search</u> to conduct the search for its new Senior Program Administrator, Inclusive Communities. Peter Gray Executive Search is a social impact executive search firm in Madison, Wisconsin.

MMFHC and Peter Gray Executive Search are equal opportunity employers, committed to attracting candidates representing a diverse range of backgrounds. MMFHC strongly believes it benefits from the perspectives and talents of a racially and culturally diverse staff.

# about peter gray executive search



<u>Peter Gray</u> (he/him) is a recovering Wall Street recruiter who now recruits social impact leaders and fights bias in hiring.

As founder and CEO of <u>Peter Gray Executive Search</u>, he guides nonprofit organizations and social impact employers through <u>leadership succession</u> and other <u>strategic hiring</u>. He also <u>trains</u> employers on diversifying hiring outcomes, and <u>coaches</u> individuals on overcoming bias in job search and career advancement.

Peter began his career in executive search at Korn Ferry in New York City. He gives back as a volunteer adviser, fundraiser, and board member for nonprofit and civic organizations. He chairs the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dane County's Move 'n' Groove for Boys & Girls Clubs campaign, which has raised over \$10 million for youth development.

Peter holds a BA from Harvard University, and an MBA from Columbia Business School.

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