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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS TO COMBAT ANTI-ASIAN, TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION**

**CALIFORNIA – FEBRUARY 17, 2022** — The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the Housing Rights Center (HRC) \$125,000 to combat rising housing discrimination against Asian communities and transgender individuals. HRC is one of several agencies selected to receive the Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI) grant under HUD’s Fair Housing Initiative Program (FHIP).

“Between the pandemic, the change in federal administration, and the growth of violence against Asian, transgender, and unhoused individuals, the past year has brought unprecedented challenges and changes to fair housing advocacy—especially in California,” said Susan Lin, Project Manager. “This grant will allow HRC to expand its outreach to Southern California’s most vulnerable communities with new and enriched resources in Mandarin, Vietnamese, and Korean.”

California was the site of nearly half of all COVID-related anti-Asian hate incidents in 2020, highlighting the need for comprehensive outreach to the diverse and multilingual Asian communities. California is also home to 50% of the nation’s unhoused transgender individuals, making it crucial for homeless service providers to learn about the newly reaffirmed Equal Access Rule requiring inclusive policies for transgender and gender-non-conforming individuals.

HRC received its first EOI grant in 2020 to address sexual assault and harassment in housing. HRC provided nearly 30 fair housing workshops to community-based organizations working to support survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, and distributed thousands of multilingual fair housing resources throughout Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

If you believe you have experienced housing discrimination, or have general housing questions, contact the Housing Rights Center for free counseling at 1(800)-477-5977. To request a Housing Rights Workshop for your organization, please email [outreach@housingrightscenter.org](mailto:outreach@housingrightscenter.org). For more resources, visit HRC’s website at [www.housingrightscenter.org](http://www.housingrightscenter.org) and follow HRC on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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*The Housing Rights Center is a non-profit organization established in 1968 to actively support and promote equal opportunity and freedom of residence to all persons without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, familial status, disability, marital status, ancestry, age, source of income, or other characteristics protected by law. The Center engages in activities – including outreach/education, investigation/testing and legal advocacy – to identify barriers to fair housing in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and to help counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices.*

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