



**HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER**

WORKING FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY IN HOUSING

# HRC NEWSLETTER

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## HOUSING NEWS

- **Inglewood Rent Moratorium**
- **Los Angeles City Right to Counsel - National Low Income Housing Coalition**
- **Section 8 Protected Income Status - LA Time Article**  
*(click on any title to go to the source)*

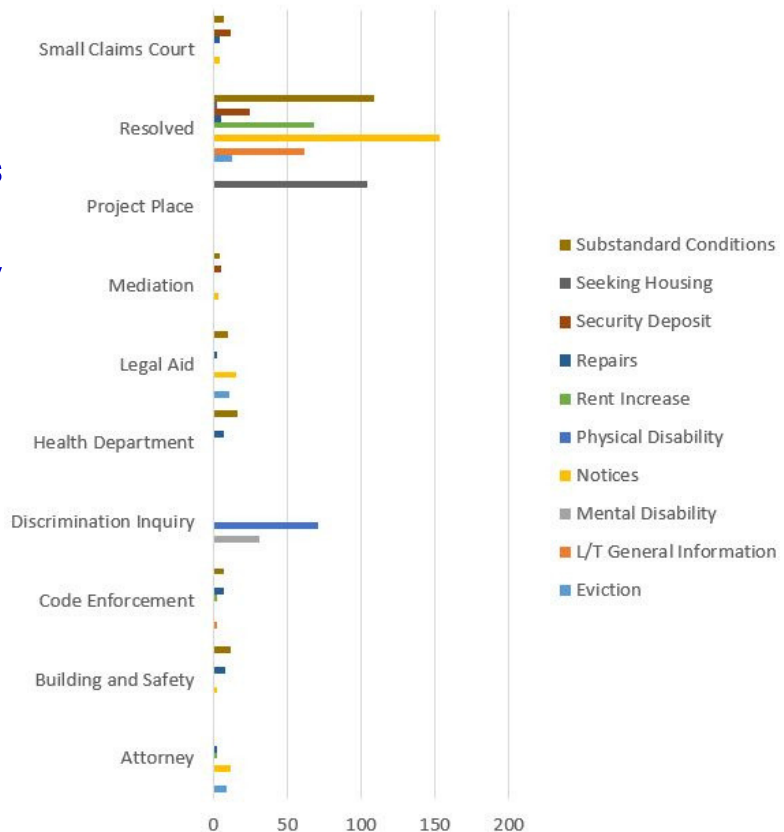
## HRC COUNSELING SNAPSHOT FOR UNINCORPORATED LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLIENTS FROM JANUARY THROUGH MAY 2019

*Written by Ricardo Barajas, Director of Media Outreach & Education, with the assistance of Leona Rollins, Director of Counseling*

The graph to the right represents the trends that we see in calls for services in Unincorporated Los Angeles County and their most common resolutions. Reminder that this data is representative for the **Unincorporated** areas of Los Angeles County during the months of January through May 2019.

There are a few interesting points we find when we look at the data for this area. What we find from the call data is that 23% of the 1004 total callers were reaching out to HRC after having received some type of notice about their housing. Second, we find that 20% of callers were reaching us due to some sort of potentially uninhabitable living unit. Third, we see that 13% of folks are calling to get access or information on the Project Place rental listing that is created.

Additionally, HRC is able to resolve 54% of inquiries that we receive by either providing clients with sample documentation, steps to take or referrals to other partner agencies.



**HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER**  
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 800-477-5977



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## HRC INVESTIGATIONS SNAPSHOT FOR INGLEWOOD DISCRIMINATION CASE BASED ON A MENTAL DISABILITY

*Written by Francis Ramos, Interim Director of Investigations and Ricardo Barajas,  
Director of Media, Outreach & Education*

During the month of April through the end of May the Housing Rights Center was able to provide disability discrimination investigation services to a disabled Section 8 Voucher Recipient in Inglewood facing an eviction. This tenant came to us in search of help with a Disability related Reasonable Accommodation Request.

The client contacted our offices in early April after receiving a 90-Day notice to end their tenancy. The client believed they had received this notice because they had previously had to call the police on some of their neighbors due to excessive noise coming from their homes. Under California Civil Code §1927 & §3304 all tenants have a right to Quiet & Peaceful Enjoyment of their rental unit and property,

Previously in their life, the client had experienced homelessness and at the point of contact had been five years off the streets living at the property with thier child. When HRC attempted to reach out to the property owners firstly, the letter sent was not responded to, so then HRC staff followed up with the management company via call in order to be able to move quicker on the matter. Eventually, the call was returned by management and they stated that it was in the tenant's best interest to live elsewhere, and that the management company had been trying to rid themselves of the tenant for the past few months anyways.

Ultimately, HRC was able to assist the client in proving her need to remain. After engaging in many exchanges with the Housing Authority & the property owners, the tenant was granted her request of being permitted to stay on the property due to her disabilities. As this home was a single parent household, and the parent experienced a variety of disabilities, then we can see that were it not for the services provided by HRC, this tenant would have potentially fallen back into the cycle of homelessness. Luckily, with the collaboration of a multitude of vested community agencies and partners, we can continue to spread awareness of the services out in our communities to help our residents remain.

### California’s Ralph Civil Rights Act

*Protects individuals from hate violence or threats of violence on account of any of the protected personal characteristics outlined in the Federal & State Fair Housing laws. These are examples of bias-related crimes that are forbidden by the law:*

- Threats, verbal or written
- Disturbance of religious meetings
- Bomb threats
- Vandalism or property damage
- Physical assault or attempted assault
- Cross-burning
- Hate-related graffiti, including swastikas and other offensive symbols



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## HRC LITIGATION SNAPSHOT FOR VAN NUYS SETTLEMENT RESTORES PARKING SPACE FOR FAMILY WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE DISABILITIES DISCRIMINATION CASE BASED ON A MENTAL DISABILITY

*Written by Scott Chang, Director of Litigation & the Legal Department*

A family with children who have developmental disabilities will receive their parking space back and \$60,000 in damages and attorneys’ fees as part of a settlement of their fair housing case. Housing Rights Center’s Investigations Department investigated the case and Housing Rights Center’s Litigation Department represented the family in their lawsuit.

During the entire term of family’s 17-year tenancy, the family had an assigned onsite parking space conveniently located in a parking lot at the rear of their apartment complex. In 2017, the landlord served the family with a notice stating that they would no longer be provided with an onsite parking space.

Without an assigned parking space, the family’s children risked injuring themselves as a result of their disabilities.

The family’s home is located on a heavily trafficked street. Without an assigned parking space, the family had to park on the street, sometimes blocks away from their home. One of the children does not

After the family was served with the notice stating that they would no longer have an assigned parking space at the apartment complex, the family, through the Housing Rights Center, notified the landlord of the family’s disability-related need for reinstatement of their onsite parking space as a reasonable accommodation. The landlord ignored Housing Rights Center’s five attempts to obtain a reasonable accommodation on behalf of the family.

Housing Rights Center’s Litigation Department filed a lawsuit in United States District Court on the family’s behalf alleging that the owner violated the Fair Housing Act and state fair housing laws.

### HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER LOCATIONS [Monthly Walk-In Clinic Info \(click here for more info\):](#)

Los Angeles Office  
3255 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1150  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Van Nuys Office  
6320 Van Nuys Blvd., Ste. 311  
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Pasadena Office  
1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
Direct Line—(626) 791-0211

- Alhambra, Public Library — 1st Four Fridays: 2 pm to 5 pm
- Carson, Senior Center — 1st Thursday & 3rd Wednesday: 9 am to 11 am
- East LA, Maravilla Center — 1st Tuesday: 10 am to 1 pm
- El Monte, City Hall — Wednesdays: 2:30 pm to 5 pm
- Inglewood, Public Library — 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1 pm to 4 pm
- Lancaster, City Hall — 3rd Thursday: 9 am to 12 pm
- Palmdale, SAVES — 3rd Thursday: 1 pm to 4 pm
- South LA, District 9 Office — Every Tuesday & Thursday: 9 am to 12 pm
- West LA, HCID Offices — 2nd Wednesday: 10 am to 12 pm



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# HOUSING RIGHTS SUMMIT RECAP

*Written by Susan Lin, Outreach Coordinator*

On April 18th, 2019 the Housing Rights Center hosted the 20th Annual Housing Rights Summit: “Improving Our Future by Remembering Our Past”.

Our first panel, “Fifty Years of Fair Housing: Where Do We Go From Here,” presented by Professor George Lipsitz, gave a historical overview of Fair Housing laws in the U.S. and how they intersect with a number of other civil rights movements.

Afterwards, Madeline Howard from the Western Center on Law and Poverty, Greg Spiegel from the Inner City Law Center and Chancela Al-Mansour presented a Legislative Update. The panel discussed a number of current federal, state, and local updates including: information about protections for Section 8 recipients, rent control in Unincorporated L.A. County, and tenant’s Right to Counsel.

Our last panel featured members of the LAHSA Ad Hoc committee of Blacks Experiencing Homelessness. The panel’s speakers included Jacqueline Waggoner from Enterprise Community Partners, La Vecia Adams from Saint Joseph Center, Earl J. Edwards from UCLA, and Malcolm Harris from LA Black Worker’s Center. The panel addressed a number of issues relating to the causes of homelessness for Blacks in LA City and LA County.

Finally, the Housing Rights Center presented the 2019 Housing Rights Center Justice Award to Karen Korematsu, founder and Executive Director of the Fred T. Korematsu institute. The Housing Rights Center was honored to present the award on what would’ve been Fred T. Korematsu’s 100th birthday to commemorate his legacy and contribution to civil rights.

Overall, the 20th Annual Housing Rights Summit was a great success, with more than 230 people gathering at the California Endowment to meet, present, and discuss Fair Housing. Again, we would like to extend our gratitude to all of the sponsors, vendors, and registrants who made our 2019 summit what it was. Our event would not have been the same without everyone in attendance.

As this year’s summit has come to a close, we are looking forward to next year’s so look out for our Save-the-Date soon.



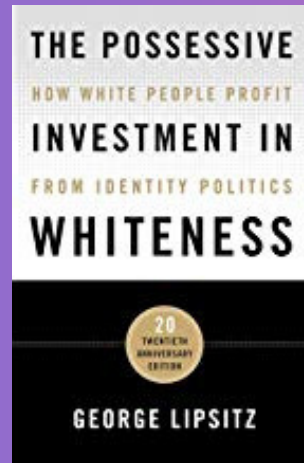
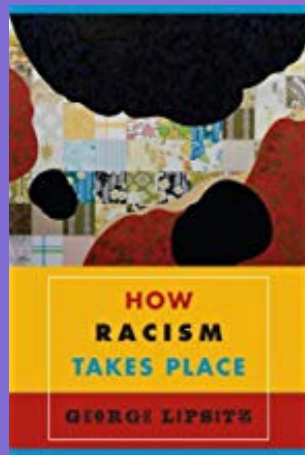


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## A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUMMIT RAFFLE SPONSORS

The Housing Rights Center would like to extend a sincere thank you to the agencies and individuals who donated items to give to our 2019 summit raffle: Dr. Aarti Shah, General & Cosmetic Dentistry in Artesia; Target in Downtown Los Angeles; and Professor George Lipsitz



*(click on any image to go to the website)*

### DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS? THEN CONTACT THE HOUSING RIGHTS CENTER TODAY

We can help with questions about fair housing, rent increases, repairs, evictions, notices and more!

Visit our website and social media pages to stay up to date!

**For Additional Information Call: (800)-477-5977**

**Visit Our Website: [www.HousingRightsCenter.org](http://www.HousingRightsCenter.org)**



Housing Rights Center  
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(800) 477-5977

The Housing Rights Center (HRC), is a private, non-profit, civil rights organization dedicated to actively supporting and promoting freedom of residence through education, advocacy, and litigation, to the end that all persons have the right to secure housing they desire and can afford without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, familial status, marital status, disability, ancestry, age, source of income, or other characteristic protected by law.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY