## DO YOU USE A HOUSING VOUCHER?

It is illegal in Virginia for housing providers to discriminate against people because they use housing vouchers. Landlords cannot treat you differently because you have a Housing Choice Voucher, Section 8, VASH, or another type of rent assistance.

Signs of discrimination may include:

- A leasing agent tells you they do not accept vouchers.
- A landlord quotes you a higher rent price because you have a voucher.
- A property manager stops contacting you or tells you the unit has been rented after they learn that you have a voucher.

• A landlord tells you that you must make 3 times the total rent even though you have a youcher.

Know

Your Rights

You can report possible housing discrimination to the Equal Rights Center.

- (D) 202-234-3062
- (⋈) info@equalrightscenter.org
- (

  equalrightscenter.org

## **HOW CAN THE ERC HELP?**

If you suspect you've experienced housing discrimination, the ERC may be able to:

- Advocate on your behalf with a housing provider to address your concerns,
- Assist you with filing a housing discrimination complaint with the Virginia Fair Housing Office or Fairfax County Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs,
- Assist people with disabilities with submitting reasonable accommodation or reasonable modification requests to housing providers, and
- Conduct <u>civil rights testing</u>: trained civil rights testers pose as potential tenants or buyers to find out if and how discrimination is occurring.

