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RESEARCH PRESENTATION SHOWS THE IMPORTANCE OF FAIR HOUSING The Fair Housing Snap Shot Research Project

SALT LAKE CITY (May 11, 2015) – The results of The Fair Housing Snap Shot Research Project: a statewide Fair Housing study, will be presented on Wednesday May 13, 2015 at 10:00 AM. At the Utah Labor Commission's office, located on 160 east 300 south, 3rd floor. Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Fair Housing Snap Shot Research Project was a university and community partnership between Utah State University College of Social Work, and the Utah Labor Commission, Fair Housing Unit of the Utah Antidiscrimination Division (UALD). This report, provides valuable insight into Utah's residents' knowledge and attitudes about Fair Housing Law.

“Creating and sustaining a culture of Fair Housing throughout the state of Utah is beneficial to each and every Utahn, as well as for the growth of the State.” Said Dr. David Parker, Educational Specialist for the Fair Housing Division.

College of Social Work student researchers surveyed over 1,000 Utahns with participants in 22 counties statewide. The research was designed to explore the general public's knowledge and attitudinal positions regarding Fair Housing Law.

The Fair Housing Act was passed 47 years ago and is intended to reduce and eliminate housing discrimination in the United States. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination with respect to most kinds of housing transactions (including rentals, home sales, mortgage lending, home improvement, and zoning) based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, and in Utah, source of income, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Some of the results show that Utahans' have an average of 49% understanding of Fair Housing Law, 9% believe a landlord has the right to refuse an applicant based on religion, and 3% believe a landlord has the right to charge a higher rent if the tenant does not speak English.

55% of those that responded feel that housing discrimination occurs less in Utah compared to other states.

The results of this research will be presented in an informative and interactive presentation by Dr. David Parker, Fair Housing Educational Specialist for the Utah Labor Commission Fair Housing Division.

For questions, please contact: Dr. Parker at (385) 321-9317 or via email at: dparker@utah.gov

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The mission of the Utah Labor Commission, is to achieve safety in Utah's workplaces and fairness in employment and housing. Learn more at www.laborcommission.utah.gov