

### III. Community Participation Process

*1. Describe outreach activities undertaken to encourage and broaden meaningful community participation in the AFH process, including the types of outreach activities and dates of public hearings or meetings. Identify media outlets used and include a description of efforts made to reach the public, including those representing populations that are typically underrepresented in the planning process such as persons who reside in areas identified as R/ECAPs, persons who are limited English proficient (LEP), and persons with disabilities. Briefly explain how these communications were designed to reach the broadest audience possible. For PHAs, identify your meetings with the Resident Advisory Board.*

In order to ensure that the analysis contained in an AI accurately reflects conditions in a community and that the goals and strategies are targeted and feasible, the participation of a wide range of stakeholders is of critical importance. A broad array of outreach was conducted through community meetings, focus groups, and public hearings.

In preparing this AI with assistance from members of the Fair Housing and Implementation Council, the Lawyers' Committee reached out to neighborhood residents, fair housing organizations, civil rights and advocacy organizations, legal services providers, social services providers, housing developers, industry groups, tenant associations, neighborhood associations, and undocumented families to hear directly about fair housing issues affecting residents of Delaware. Additional meetings were held with public officials from the various entitlement jurisdictions and statewide agencies. All meetings took place in facilities that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Throughout the AI process, the consultants met with over 100 organizations and individuals throughout the Twin Cities Region<sup>1</sup>, including:

#### **Focus Groups:**

- Advocates for Persons with Disabilities:
  - MN State Council on Disability (Statewide)
  - Richfield Disability Advocacy Partnership (City of Richfield)
- Unhoused/Formerly Housed Persons:
  - Street Voices of Change (Minneapolis)
  - Freedom From the Streets (St. Paul)
- Black/African American Minnesotans:
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (St. Paul Chapter)
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Minneapolis Chapter)

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<sup>1</sup> Note: The service area of each organization/group is noted in parentheses.

- Mixture of St. Paul Community Group Members:
  - Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (Twin Cities Region)
- The Mother's Tutoring Academy (Twin Cities Region)
  - Somali Mothers

### **Stakeholder Meetings**

- Housing Justice Center (Nationwide)
- Center on Urban and Regional Affairs (Twin Cities Region)
- ARC of Minnesota (Statewide)
- Minnesota Disability Law Center (Statewide)
- Ramsey County Community and Economic Development (Ramsey County)
- Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid (Central Minnesota, including the Twin Cities Region)
- Homeline MN (Statewide)
- Inquilinx Unidxs (Minneapolis)
- Lawrence McDonough, Pro-Bono Director, Dorsey & Whitney LLP
- Alliance for Metropolitan Stability (Twin Cities Region)
- Greater MSP: Minneapolis Saint Paul Regional Economic Development Partnership (Twin Cities Region)
- Minnesota State Attorney General's Office (Statewide)
- City of St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development (St. Paul)
- City of St. Paul Office of Financial Empowerment (St. Paul)
- Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (Twin Cities Region, excluding Hennepin County)
- City of Richfield (Richfield)
- Jewish Community Action (Suburban Hennepin County)
- Neighborhood Development Alliance (St. Paul & East Metro)
- Scott and Carver County Continuum of Care Providers (Scott and Carver County)
- Community Stabilization Project (St. Paul)
- Frogtown Neighborhood Association (St. Paul)
- Hmong American Partnership (Twin Cities Region)
- Alliance Housing MN (Minneapolis)
- City of Minneapolis (Minneapolis)

### **Public Hearings**

[Dates, locations, and methods used to reach community members for attendance at public hearings to be added once public hearings have been completed]

- Anoka County
- Dakota County
- Hennepin County
- Ramsey County
- Washington County