

A Fair Chance at Housing





Who We Are:

Nation Outside is a grassroots and advocacy organization entirely led by the justice impacted and formerly incarcerated with 7 regional chapters.

Mission:

To drive policy & practice reforms that build transformative systems of support for justice impacted people and their communities.

Vision:

We envision a society where our communities are safe and vibrant, all people are treated with dignity and respect, and justice and fairness are available to everyone.

Housing is a Human Right

A person's conviction history should never be a barrier to housing.



Michigan: Housing barriers

A MSHDA survey found that people with conviction histories in MI faced the **highest levels of housing discrimination overall.**

63 percent of Michigan landlords indicate that criminal records have been a factor in denying tenancy.

4 million Michiganders have some type of criminal background and **10 percent of Michigan children** have experienced parental incarceration.

Estimates of people excluded from public housing in MI

Number of people excluded by PHA policies in Michigan



Public housing only makes up **13 percent** of Michigan's rental housing market.

Homelessness and Housing Insecurity

10X

Formerly incarcerated people are **10 times more likely to be unhoused** than the general public.

203

per 10,000 formerly incarcerated people are homeless

The **relationship between homelessness and incarceration is cyclical**, as housing instability increases the likelihood of future system involvement.

Stable housing increases public safety

- Reduces homelessness, reduces law enforcement contact, reduces crime.
- Decreases the probability of committing a crime by **80 percent**.
- Study: Odds of recidivism decreased **by 83 percent**.

Michigan opinion polling



People with a criminal record who also have access to stable housing are much less likely to commit another crime than people with a criminal background who do not have a place to live.



Giving housing access to people with a criminal background will ultimately make us safer because people with housing are less likely to commit another crime.

■ Total true

■ Total false

The human impact of barriers

Michigan moving in the right direction

2019: Detroit Fair Chance Housing

2020: Kalamazoo

2021: Jackson and Ann Arbor



The Voice of Formerly Incarcerated People



FAIR CHANCE PROCESS

This is for general information only. Please read the ordinance in its entirety to ensure compliance.





Daniel Mahoney
Mayor of Jackson

Statewide Fair Chance Housing

Prohibit landlords from asking potential tenants about their conviction history during the initial screening process.

Postpone any background check until landlords give a conditional offer to the potential tenant.

Limit the use of criminal record unless that record would impact public safety, property, or other tenants adversely.

Allow potential tenants to offer evidence of rehabilitation prior to final denial by the landlord.

Thank you!