Dear Friends, Clients, Colleagues, and Members of our Community:

Our thoughts and hopes are with you during these difficult times, and our hearts go out to all those who have lost homes, jobs, both, or even worse, loved ones. We have only begun to see the effects of the North Bay fires, and as our communities rally to provide support to those affected, FHANC wants to let our community know of services we can offer.

**Mortgage Delinquency:** Our bilingual Foreclosure Prevention Counselor may be able to assist you if you have lost your employment due to the fire, if your home has depreciated, or you have other mortgage-related concerns. Some lenders have specific relief measures that could help to save your home and prevent additional unnecessary loss. There are safety nets in place and FHANC wants to help ensure that you are informed about all available assistance.

**Unreasonable Rent Hikes:** Under California Penal Code §396(b), landlords are prohibited from raising rent prices more than 10 percent on housing for 30 days after a declared state of emergency resulting from natural or man-made disasters, such as fire, earthquakes, etc. If you have experienced price-gouging, please contact your local District Attorney's office or report it to the CA Attorney General's office. If you believe you are being targeted for price-gouging because of your race, color, national origin, familial status, disability, or immigration status, this is a fair housing issue, so please call our office.

**Concerns due to immigration status or citizenship:** Please note that Senator Kamala Harris confirmed that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will not be conducting immigration enforcement in impacted areas. To read ICE's statement, click here.

**Reasonable Accommodations for Renters with Disabilities:** If you are a renter who has been impacted by the wildfires and you have disability-related concerns, a Housing Counselor may be able to assist you with a reasonable accommodation request based upon your household's disability-related need. For instance, if your home is still considered habitable but due to your disabilities, you are unable to safely use and enjoy the
premises, FHANC can talk with you about your rights.

We will continue to watch closely for emerging fair housing issues as the effects of this devastation continue to unfold. Please know that we are here to help advise you and enforce your fair housing rights.

If you are a homeowner or renter in Sonoma County (excepting Petaluma), Marin County, Fairfield, or Vallejo and you have concerns of discrimination, disability-related needs, or mortgage-related concerns, please do not hesitate to contact FHANC's bilingual intake counselor/foreclosure prevention counselor, Karen Crump, at 415-483-7494 or fhanc@fairhousingnorcal.org.

If you are in need of resources, or looking for ways to help those affected, please review this attached list of resources provided by Marin Community Foundation.

Our thoughts and hearts are with all of you, and we will do our best to continue to stay updated on resources, rights, and opportunities to provide support.

Sincerely,

Caroline Peattie
Executive Director