

CSA SAN DIEGO COUNTY PRESENTS

THE COVID-19 CONUNDRUMS

APRIL 28 -29, 2021



CSA SAN DIEGO COUNTY

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**CSA San Diego County Fair Housing
Presents the Fair Housing Symposium 2021**

Covid-19 Conundrums



The landing of the Covid-19 early 2020 was a rampant reverberating in an astonishing way despite the well-established and giant systems, facilities, and structures in biotechnology and many other supportive fields. The pandemic conundrum nature is globally and equally shared no matter large or small, rich and poor.



While the biological elements of the pandemic are progressively responded and challenged; its sprouts continue to create foreboding fastidious situation. A number of shadow pandemics are looming in the shade of the Covid-19 pandemic on social justice and other alerting fronts. Race- national origin-or color, gender, and disability are among many protected classes are at the front line of shadow pandemics. Ongoing concerns in this respect needs to be highlighted and put in the light to prevent counterclockwise discourses or practices.

CSA San Diego County as a fair housing agency is raising the alarm in the sphere of California's fair housing non-profit organizations and social justice advocacy groups through this symposium titled "Covid-19 Conundrums" to address the structural inequities that establish barriers on the basis of race-color, national origin, sex, and disability among other protection classes. Covid-19 has greatly impacted, exposed, and exacerbated the disparate fissures directly affecting communities' access to social justice, economic wellbeing, health, and housing.

This symposium plan to discuss the four topics: -

Social Justice and Structural Racism, Economics, Women, and Health- with speakers expounding on the specific socio- historical contexts establishing inequities. Using such a holistic lens, the discussion will outline potential avenues through existing Fair Housing laws to alleviate some of these barriers while sparking conversation on additional approaches to heal the longstanding institutional discrimination holistically and systemically.



Session Schedule-Day 1

1st Day Prelog	9:00-9:10 04/28/2021	Introduction& welcoming remarks	Estela De Los Rios Event moderator
	04/28/2021	Topic	Speaker
First Session Introduction	9:10-9:15	Introduction of topic and speaker	Monica Lopez
First Session	9:10-9:45	Forward only on Social Justice. F.H protected classes; Race, color and National origin	Christopher Brancart
First Session Conversation	9:45- 10:00	Moderate, summary, and questions	Monica Lopez
Break	10:00-10:10		
Second Session Introduction	10:10-10:15	Introduction of topic and speakers	Matthew Hoeg
Second Session	10:15-10:45	Economic impact, vulnerabilities, and recovery	Joshua V. Barr
Second Session Conversation	10:45-11:00	Moderate, summary, and questions	Matthew Hoeg
Day 1 Close out	11:00- 11:15	Summary of Day 1 and foreshadow Day 2 along with logistics	Estela De Los Rios



Session Schedule-Day 2

2nd Day Prelog	9:00-9:10 04/29/2021	Introduction & welcoming remarks	Estela De Los Rios Event moderator
Third Session Introduction	9:10-9:15	Introduction of topic and speaker	Estela de los Rios
Third Session	9:15-9:45	Women facing the pandemic	Amy Nelson
Third Session Conversations	9:45-10:00	Moderate, summary, and questions	Estela de los Rios
Break	10:00-10:10		
Fourth Session Introduction	10:10-10:15	Introduction of topic and speakers	Matthew Hoeg
Fourth Session/Panel	10:15-10:35	Healthy society and pandemics, Futuristic prospects, and health implications	Rakesh Patel
Fourth Session/Panel Continued	10:35- 10:55	Housing and health, eviction protections, public health and Covid implications moving forward	Laura Nunn
Fourth Session/Panel Conversation	10:55-11:00	Moderate, summary, and questions	Matthew Hoeg
Closing	11:00-11:15	Final statement and conclusion	Estela de los Rios



Program Overview

Session I

April 28 9:15- 10:00

Christopher Brancart

Forward on Social Justice: Preserving and Advancing Fair Housing Laws amidst the Pandemic

The first session will set the stage for the symposium by delving into Social Justice in the context of Fair Housing, with critical focus on protected classes of race, color, and national origin. The pandemic has exacerbated many of the existing inequities pertaining to housing. Understanding the historical context of the Fair Housing Act in conjunction with historical challenges to marginalized communities such as redlining practices, reveal the importance of current social justice movements in advocating for legislative and enforcement policies and practices. This allows for new opportunities to develop legislation and enforcement practices that combat infringing discriminatory practices, especially amidst Covid-19 through the preservation and advancement of Fair Housing laws.

First Session

9:15-10:00 am

Christopher Brancart

Session II

April 28 10:15-11:00

Joshua V. Barr

Pandemic Social and Economic Changes: Defining Humanity's Next Epoch

The second session will discuss the impact the pandemic has had on the relationship between housing, employment, and our economy revealing the foundational structural institutionalization of racism, ableism, nationalism, etc. that primarily leave already marginalized communities disparately affected in housing, employment, and economic investment. Dissecting the economic impact and recovery efforts will identify communal vulnerabilities and opportunities for revitalizing economies in historically marginalized communities. The return to normal will not occur- instead this session will redefine normal by incorporating racial equity lenses into our economic systems that incorporate housing as a critical element. It will be our choosing to define the next epoch with hope, justice, and opportunity.

Second Session

10:15-11:00

Joshua V. Barr



Session III

April 29, 2021 9:15-10:00

Amy Nelson

Shadow Pandemic: Women Facing the Pandemic

The keynote session will uncover how the pandemic has primarily affected women in housing, economics, and social justice. Social structures have positioned caregiver roles and essential worker industries to consist of primarily women, especially at the intersections of race, national origin, and familial status. These disparities have worsened in the pandemic with higher rates of unemployment among women, greater economic and social responsibilities for women, and challenged resources such as childcare. Amidst such institutional disparities, women are more exposed to housing instability, eviction proceedings, or instances of sexual harassment, domestic violence and abuse, the rates of which have also risen during the pandemic. Such instances have also been further aggravated under quarantine, abusive landlords, and diminishing resources in agencies focused on these particular issues. Women are at the forefront of the disparate results of this pandemic, and it is critical they are at the forefront of addressing the challenges head on in protecting and advancing the rights of women both now and for future generations.

Third Session	9:15-10:00	Amy Nelson
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Session IV

April 29, 2021 10:15-11:00

Rakesh Patel and Laura Nunn

Housing and health, eviction protections, public health and Covid implications moving forward.

The pandemic has taught us to prioritize health, but can our institutions do the same in light of the limited global capacity to face Covid-19. In a time of despair and hope, many people are now seeing the importance of critical health policies that ensure equitable access to health care, especially considering that communities of color have been hardest hit by the pandemic. These health effects directly impact communities' ability to obtain and keep their housing and San Diego is no exception. Amidst, these circumstances, the Fair Housing Act provides room for one avenue of redress in the form of reasonable accommodations and modifications. Understanding a healthy society will address the socio and the health together holistically.

Fourth Session	10:15-11:00	Rakesh Patel & Laura Nunn
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Speakers' Biographies and Pictures

Day 1



Christopher Brancart, Esq.

Christopher Brancart started the Brancart and Brancart firm in 1989 with Elizabeth Brancart. Chris graduated with honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1985, clerked for the Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court (1985-1986), taught appellate advocacy and administrative law at Western State College of Law (1987-1988), and worked as a staff attorney and then the supervising attorney at the Pomona legal services office (1987-1989). Since entering private practice, Chris has focused on litigating cases that expand fair housing rights, devising methods that improve fair housing investigations, and supporting fair housing attorneys and advocates through trainings and co-counseling. Chris is a member of the State Bars of California, Nevada, North Dakota, and Maine, and admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Eighth Circuits, and the United States District Courts in California, Nevada, North Dakota, and the Southern District of Indiana

Speakers' Biographies and Pictures

Day 1



Joshua V. Barr

Joshua V. Barr is an Emmy award-winning, transformational leader and lawyer from South Carolina. In 2015, Joshua became the director of the Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Commission. As director, he increased the number of complaints filed in the office by 170% and the number of probable cause discrimination cases by 500%. He also spearheaded the Bridging the Gap initiative where the Commission conducted community dialogues to develop policies designed to increase opportunity and make a safe, more just community for all. Through the initiative, the Commission was able to create new city policies including protected class status for persons with government benefits to obtain housing; protecting the right of residents to be free from inquiry about immigration status from local law enforcement; and developing a cultural competency training program for all city employees.

In 2020, Joshua debuted the 2020 Emmy award-winning documentary *Breaking Bread, Building Bridges* where he and his team took 40 strangers and matched them together based on their differences to have dinners over the course of a few months. Joshua served as the creator, director, and executive producer of the documentary. In 2020, Joshua was also named #5 of the top 100 influencers in local government in the United States in part because of his article *A Better Way: 50+ Action Items to Fight Against Racism In Your Community*.

Speakers' Biographies and Pictures

Day 2

Amy Nelson

Amy Nelson is the Executive Director of the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI). The mission of the FHCCI is to ensure equal housing opportunities by eliminating housing discrimination through advocacy, enforcement, education and outreach. The FHCCI has a service area of 24 counties in Central Indiana reaching a population of over 2.5 million. The FHCCI works to prevent housing discrimination through its Advocacy, Education, Inclusive Communities, and Public Policy Programs. Amy believes that all people deserve safe, affordable, accessible housing that is free from discrimination. She has managed nonprofit fair housing organizations and programs since 1997 working previously at the Fair Housing of the Dakotas and Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia. Amy received a Bachelor of Science degree in International Business and Political Science from Minnesota State University-Moorhead of Moorhead, Minnesota and received her Master of Business Administration from Averett College of Danville, Virginia. She recently filed and won a case regarding sexual harassment.



Rakesh Patel

Rakesh Patel Chief Executive Officer and practicing family physician, Rakesh Patel, M.D., has been with Neighborhood Healthcare for over 18 years. He has ensured the non-profit community health organization possesses the resources and culture it needs to provide quality, compassionate, wholeperson care to families, regardless of their situation or circumstances. Dr. Patel is the Chair of the Board of Managers for Integrated Health Partners of Southern California, San Diego's leading clinically integrated network representing 270,000 lives. Dr. Patel also serves as the Board Chair for Health Center Partners of Southern California which serves as the primary voice and health care policy advocate for community health centers throughout Southern California. A board-certified family physician and Certified Physician Executive, Dr. Patel received his M.D. from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed his residency at Scripps Family Practice Residency in Chula Vista. He received his MBA from the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst. He is a CPCA board member and CMA delegate and serves as the East County Region Director on the San Diego County Medical Society Board.



Speakers' Biographies and Pictures

Day 2



Laura Nunn

As the San Diego Housing Federation's policy director, Laura plans, directs, and coordinates development of policy positions as well as government and legislative affairs. Previously, she worked at U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein's San Diego district office working on federal level issues related to housing, health, veteran affairs, and social programs. She also interned at former California State Senator Denise Ducheny's office. Laura holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from University of San Diego and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish from SDSU



Moderators' Biographies and Pictures

Estela De Los Rios, Executive Director CSA San Diego County

With over 35 years of management experience, Estela De Los Rios, a civil rights activist, serves as the Executive Director of CSA San Diego County Fair Housing, a nonprofit organization that fights for social justice to address discrimination in housing and human trafficking. She plays an important role on the board of directors of the following organizations: President of the San Diego Fair Housing Regional Alliance Board, Secretary for Latinos y Latinas En Accion, Justice Overcoming Boundaries, Lemon Grove Thrive, East County Justice Coalition, Chair of Welcome Newcomer Network and a member of National Fair Housing Alliance. As a bi-lingual advocate who holds a B.S. in Sociology from SDSU, Ms. De Los Rios believes in respect, dignity and human rights for all people regardless of their racial background, language, national origin, religious practice, sexual orientation, gender, age or disability is what makes her the humanitarian she is today. Estela currently serves as a Commissioner for the Leon L. Williams San Diego County Human Relations Commission, 2020. Lastly, Estela De Los Rios story was selected as one of 50 Latinos in San Diego for the San Diego History Center.



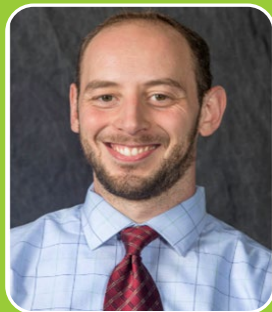
Monica Lopez

Monica Lopez is a California native and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Phoenix. Ms. Lopez is also a graduate of the Eleanor Jean Grier Leadership Academy. Monica has worked in the field of fair housing as a fair housing counselor, trainer, outreach coordinator, testing coordinator and program manager since 1997 and she has spent the last 3-years consulting for fair housing groups in Southern California.

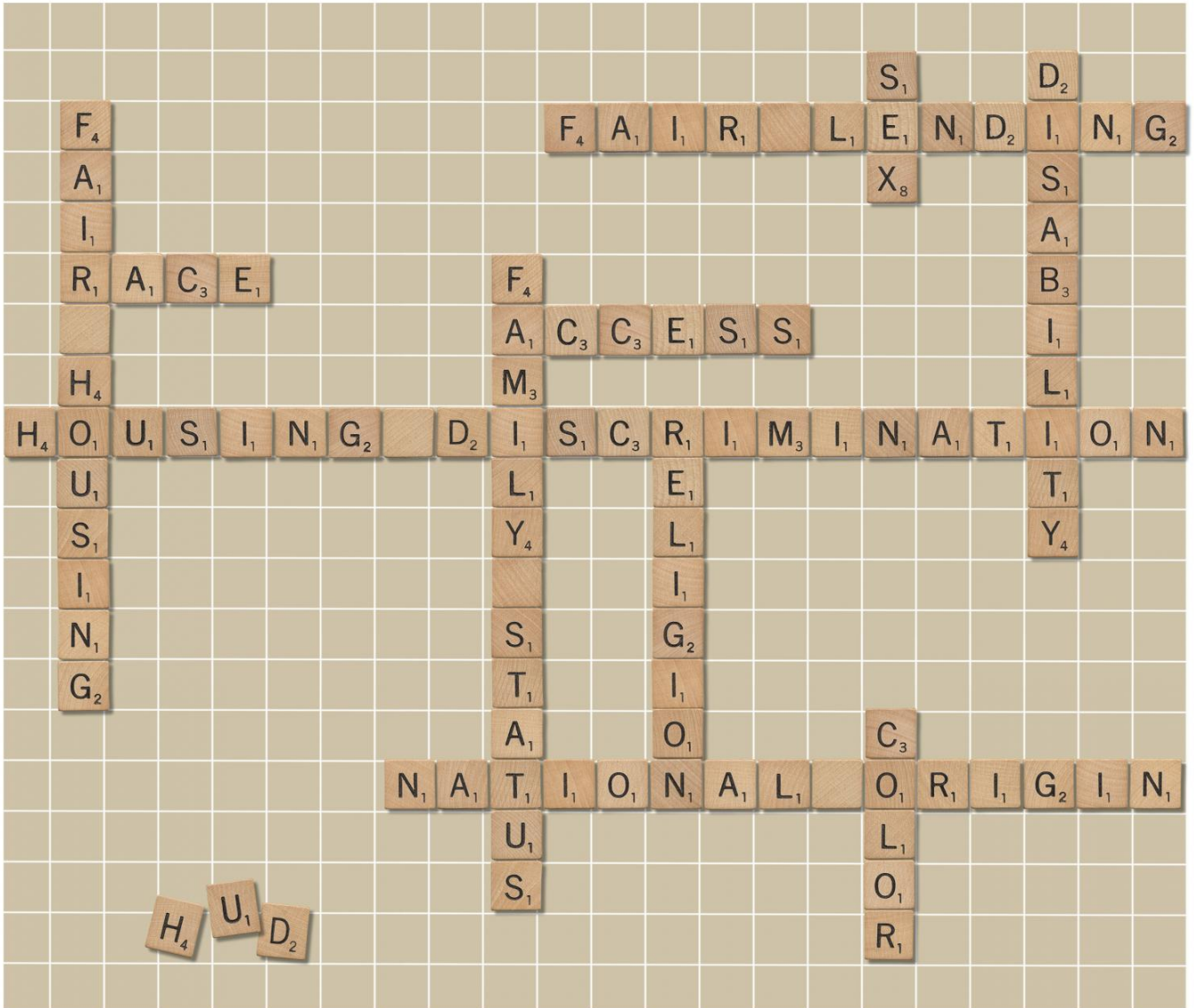


Matthew Hoeg

Matthew Hoeg serves as the Fair Housing Outreach and Education Coordinator with CSA San Diego County. His work entails ensuring communities inclusive of residents and housing providers have access to the necessary resources to navigate fair housing laws and policies with the goal of eliminating inequities to historically marginalized communities. Prior to relocating to San Diego, he worked as a Human Rights Specialist for the City of Des Moines investigating complaints of discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations, with many discrimination complaints resolved through mediation and conciliation. He has a master's degree in Intercultural Communications from the University of New Mexico. In addition to his position with CSA San Diego, he is a Lecturer of Communication Studies at San Diego State University.



Fair Housing: MORE THAN JUST WORDS



FAIR HOUSING: More than just words on a gameboard, **IT IS THE LAW.**



**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS!**

If you feel you have experienced housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and family status, contact HUD at **1-800-669-9777** (voice), **1-800-877-8339** (Federal Relay), online at www.hud.gov/fairhousing, or your local fair housing organization.

