

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CUMBERLAND COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
TO THE PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION SEEKS NEW MEMBERS**

Cumberland County, PA – The Cumberland County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC), the State’s civil justice enforcement agency, is seeking new members. Advisory Councils are composed of nonpartisan and nonpolitical individuals who serve as volunteers in an advisory capacity to the PHRC. Those interested in learning more can attend a virtual session via Zoom at 7 pm on April 7, 2022.

“This council, active since 2015, is looking for engaged community members who are looking to make an impact in Cumberland County,” Brittany Mellinger, PHRC education coordinator and liaison to the Advisory Council said.

Advisory Council members work to:

- Advocate for their community: Partner with PHRC to take action on key civil rights issues in Cumberland County.
- Assist community members with filing complaints: Raise community awareness about each citizen’s right to live, work, and learn free from unlawful discrimination. Assist them with filing a complaint, which will be investigated by PHRC staff.
- Plan events, trainings, and discussions that will educate the community and celebrate the diversity. PHRC staff members are available to assist in supporting these events.

The PHRC is empowered to create advisory councils to assist the Commission in achieving its mission to eliminate discrimination in employment, education, housing, or public accommodations against individuals or groups by reason of their: race, sex, religious creed, color, age, ancestry, familial status, national origin, handicap, disability, use of guide or support animals because of the blindness, deafness, or physical handicap of the user – or because the user is a handler or trainer.

Advisory councils are composed of 8-24 community members who are committed to helping achieve the goals of the PHRC. The time commitment for an advisory council member is one meeting per month, plus assisting with events, and participating in trainings as they arise.

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Interested in learning more? Join us for an informational session at 7 pm on April 7 to learn more about how you can get involved in this vital work. Join us on zoom: Meeting ID: 876 1980 6928 Passcode: 814141. Direct questions to Brittany Mellinger, PHRC Education and Outreach Coordinator – bmellinger@pa.gov or 717-783-8132.

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PHRC urges anyone who has experienced acts of discrimination or hate to file a complaint with the PHRC by calling 717-787-4410. Information and resources are also available at www.PHRC.pa.gov. Unconscious Bias and other anti-discrimination trainings are also available at no charge to any group or organization within the Commonwealth. To request information or schedule a training, visit: www.phrc.pa.gov/EducationandOutreach/Pages/Training-and-Events.aspx.