

Westchester County Human Rights Commission

2024 Executive Proposed Budget

Core Programs & Functions

- Receive, investigate, conciliate and adjudicate complaints of discriminatory practices in employment, housing, places of public accommodations, credit lending, commercial property transactions and discriminatory harassment.
- Enforce the County's Human Rights Law and Fair Housing Law.
- Conduct education and outreach about the County's Human Rights Law and Fair Housing Law and combating discrimination.

Budget Summary

ITEM	2023	2024
Operating Positions	8	8
Trust Positions		
TOTAL POSITIONS	8	8
Personal Service	\$907,399	\$925,333
Equipment	\$22,141	\$5,000
Materials & Supplies	\$8,408	\$8,000
Contractual Expenses	\$251,915	\$238,500
Inter-Departmental Charges	\$121,373	\$175,555
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,311,236	\$1,352,388

Budget Summary

ITEM	2023	2024
Inter-Departmental Revenue		
Departmental Revenue		
State & Federal Aid	\$240,015	\$245,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$240,015	\$245,000
DEPARTMENT TAX LEVY	\$1,071,221	\$1,107,388

New Initiatives & Highlights

- Dual missions of enforcement and education.
- Outreach highlights: History of the Lenape, LGBTQ cultural competency training, fair housing trainings/events, extensive community engagement (e.g., estimated 60,000 people reached at County's Heritage Fairs alone), and presentations on hate-related issues.
- Presenting at four (4) events this week alone – Port Chester/Rye NAACP, Manhattanville College, Hudson Valley Trans Forum and a local middle school.
- Bilingual outreach campaign with over 10M impressions.
- Enforcement highlights: Continued partnership with U.S. HUD to enforce fair housing. The Commission is only 1 of 2 HUD Fair Housing Assistance Partners (FHAP) in NYS.
- Processing the highest number of complaints filed in the Commission's history (i.e., 92 filed last year).
- Settlement of Executive Director initiated pattern and practice discrimination case regarding allegations of disability discrimination that took place for over a decade. Additional pattern and practice investigations are ongoing – highest in the Commission's history.
- Recent settlements include \$100,000 payment allocated to complainants and material relief to safeguard the public's interest.
- Recent decisions found discrimination in an employment and/or public accommodation setting.
- Omnibus legislative update.
- New personnel.