



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **Study to Examine Fair Housing Solutions in Aftermath of Financial/Housing Crisis**

A new six-month study beginning this month will identify new strategies for assuring fair housing in the wake of the housing and foreclosure crisis. The research, entitled “The New Era in Fair Housing,” was funded by a \$300,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan. The study will be conducted by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at The Ohio State University.

The project will examine new housing initiatives created in the wake of the housing crisis to evaluate their impact on fair housing for marginalized communities. The initiative will also convene national experts in an effort to create a vision for future innovation and solutions to assure fair housing for all.

“We must ensure that access to credit is fair for all people, particularly those marginalized groups that are isolated in opportunity-poor neighborhoods,” said John A. Powell, the project's founder, and executive director of the Kirwan Institute. “The goal is to create transformative change in communities of color by assuring fair housing and true integration into opportunity.”

“The credit and foreclosure crisis had a severe and disproportionate impact on marginalized communities. Foreclosures, a vacant property epidemic, asset losses, instability in the housing market and the lingering effects of predatory lending have reshaped the fair housing landscape,” said Jason Reece, senior researcher managing the Opportunity Communities program at the Institute. “In the aftermath of the crisis and due to our changing housing market, we will need to envision new strategies for fair housing. These strategies would work not only to mitigate the impacts of the crisis in marginalized communities, but also to assure fair housing and access to opportunity for marginalized groups and communities in the future.”

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930. The organization supports children, families and communities as they strengthen and create conditions that propel vulnerable children to achieve success as individuals and as contributors to the larger community and society. Grants are concentrated in the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the southern African countries of Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. For further information, please visit the Foundation's Web site at: [www.wkcf.org](http://www.wkcf.org).

The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity was established in 2003 as a center for interdisciplinary research at The Ohio State University. The Kirwan Institute partners with people, communities, and institutions worldwide to think about, talk about, and act on race in ways that create and expand opportunity for all. For more information about the Kirwan Institute, go to: <http://kirwaninstitute.org/>.