

## **Hamilton County Title VI Department Title VI Fact Sheet**

*“No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or nation origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”*

### **What is Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) is the federal law that protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of their race, color, or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Hamilton County is committed to providing equal opportunity in all programs and services to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination against participants or clients of County programs and/or services on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

### **What Programs are covered by Title VI?**

- Elementary, secondary, and higher education
- Health care, social services and public welfare
- Public transportation
- Parks and recreation
- Natural resources and the environment
- Employment and job training
- Housing and community development
- Law enforcement and the administration of justice
- Agriculture and nutrition

### **What discrimination is prohibited by Title VI?**

There are many forms of illegal discrimination based on race, color, or national origin that can limit the opportunity of minorities to gain equal access to services and programs. Among other things, in operating a federally assisted program, a recipient cannot, on the basis of **race, color, or national origin**, either directly or through contractual means:

- Deny program services, aids, or benefits;
- Provide a different service, aid or benefit, or provide them in a manner different than they are provided to others;
- Segregate or separately treat individuals in any manner related to the receipt of any service, aid, or benefit; or
- Fail to take reasonable steps to provide Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons with meaningful access to programs and activities.

### **How can a participant or customer of Hamilton County file a complaint of discrimination?**

If an individual protected by Title VI has been discriminated against, please refer him/her to the Hamilton County Title VI Department. The Title VI Department can be reached by calling (423) 209-6146 or by email at [TitleVI@HamiltonTN.gov](mailto:TitleVI@HamiltonTN.gov).

Additional information may be found at [www.HamiltonTN.Gov/TitleVI.aspx](http://www.HamiltonTN.Gov/TitleVI.aspx)

### **What will the Title VI Department do with a complaint?**

The Title VI Department has the primary responsibility for receiving, acknowledging, and investigating complaints and for generating a report of the findings.