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Fair Housing Council Staffer Receives “Forty Under 40” Award for Leadership

Milwaukee, WI – Kori Schneider Peragine has been recognized as one of the *Business Journal* “Forty Under 40,” a prestigious award bestowed upon up-and-coming community leaders in metropolitan Milwaukee. Despite her youth, Schneider Peragine has been a longtime leader on housing justice issues in our region.

Schneider Peragine is Senior Administrator of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council (MMFHC) Inclusive Communities Program. In that role, she works with local governments, advocacy groups and other stakeholders to ensure that public policies promote equal housing opportunity, as well as racial and economic integration.

April Hartman of Legal Action of Wisconsin, who nominated Schneider Peragine for the award, wrote in her nomination that “Ms. Schneider Peragine has been fighting to improve fair housing opportunities in the Milwaukee region for more than a decade. She is one of the original members of the Milwaukee Housing Coalition, she serves on various boards and committees, including the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's Environmental Justice Task Force, the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Urban Planning Alumni Association, and she has served on the housing advisory committees for Washington, Ozaukee and Waukesha Counties. Independent of her work at MMFHC, she also works to improve her own neighborhood of Riverwest, in Milwaukee. She is an amazing and energetic professional, and Milwaukee benefits greatly from her sense of fairness and civic duty.” Karyn Rotker of the ACLU also nominated Schneider Peragine, noting that her hard work on behalf of fair housing has been especially valuable because Southeastern Wisconsin is a highly segregated region.

“I couldn’t be more proud of Kori,” says William R. Tisdale, President and CEO of the Fair Housing Council. “She has a rare combination of abilities: she can bring people together and build consensus, she understands the connection of big socioeconomic forces to individual families’ lives, and she works with great persistence and resolve to achieve real results.”

Schneider Peragine and other “Forty Under 40” award recipients will be recognized at a reception and dinner on February 28 at the Pfister Hotel. For more information about the event, contact the *Business Journal* at 414-908-0557.

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MMFHC is a private, non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote fair housing throughout the State of Wisconsin by combating illegal housing discrimination and by creating and maintaining racially and economically integrated housing patterns. It operates satellite offices in Dane County (the Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison) and in Northeast Wisconsin (the Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin).

Persons who feel they may have experienced illegal housing discrimination should call 414-278-1240, or 1-877-647-FAIR, a toll-free number, if not in the 414 area code. All services to victims of illegal housing discrimination are free of charge.