CRISIS HOUSING FUND
for Persons with a Serious Mental Illness

The program is currently administered by Hearth Connection and is funded through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services Mental Health Division.

A helpful resource to prevent homelessness while a person seeks treatment

This program applies to people who rent, own, have lot payments for mobile homes or who are paying in any way for their own permanent and community based housing.

Retaining housing for people who are hospitalized during mental health crises is not only cost-effective but it also reduces anxiety about losing one's home and having to start over.

Crisis Housing Funds cover housing-related expenses a person is paying, but cannot now pay because their income is being used for treatment OR due to the loss of income while in treatment, they have no other resources from which to pay housing related expenses. Housing expenses that can be covered while a person is in treatment include:

- Rent or mortgage
- Heating fuel
- Electricity
- Water and sewer
- Garbage disposal
- Basic phone service

Funds only cover the person’s current housing and cannot be used to pay past due bills that occur outside of the treatment period or as down payment for new housing. Crisis Housing funds may be requested by an Applicant Agency on behalf of the person assisted and are usually disbursed within a week.

Crisis Housing Funds are available to people who meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Persons diagnosed with a mental illness which meets criteria for serious mental illness;
- Persons with community housing that is rental or ownership based;
- Persons of low or moderate income, as determined by HUD; AND
- Persons admitted to a mental health treatment facility (including a facility for chemical dependency) and receiving treatment for 90 days or less.

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