

Step 2

Housing: How Is It Paid For?



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PACER's Housing Publications



PACER's Housing Guidebook, Website, Tip Sheets, Navigation Chart
<https://www.pacer.org/housing>

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Three-part Housing Workshop Series



- **Housing: How do we start?**
Monday, **April 10**, 6:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
- **Housing: How is it paid for?**
Monday, **April 24**, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- **Housing: What are the options?**
Monday, **May 8**, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

This workshop will address:

- Process for eligibility for housing services and supports.
- Main funding sources from federal, state and county.
- Rental resources, Public Housing and the Section 8 Program.
- Housing funding supplements and payment examples.



Why should you start thinking about housing and services now?



- The IEP Team must consider independent living as part of the Transition IEP.
- You and your son or daughter are experts about their strengths, gifts and preferences.
- Housing options and supports involve eligibility criteria, timelines and waiting lists.
- Limited availability of affordable housing and support staff....

AND.....

We think you will want your young adult to

...get a **“Life”** AND a **“Home”** not just a **“Place”**



Why is Housing evolving?



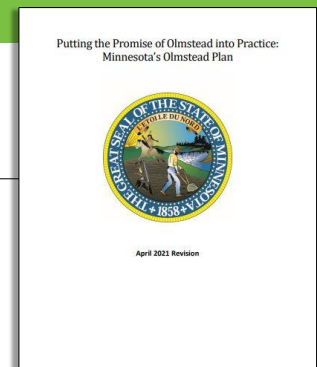
- Parents and individuals with disabilities are demanding housing and services that are integrated and based on person-centered thinking principals.
- The federal governments directive to implement the Olmstead Decision.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services directive to implement the Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) rule
- Separating housing from services.

Minnesota's Olmstead Plan: **The Vision**

Minnesota will be a place where people with disabilities are living, learning, working and enjoying life in the most integrated setting

- Person Centered Planning
- Housing & Services, Employment, Lifelong learning & Education
- Transportation, Healthcare & Healthy Living, Positive Supports, Crisis Services, Assistive Technology, Preventing Abuse & Neglect
- Community Engagement

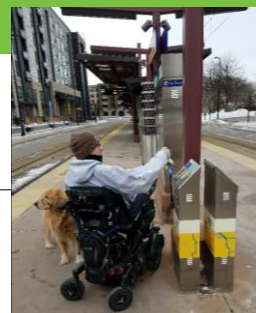
[About the Minnesota Olmstead Plan / Minnesota Olmstead Implementation Office \(mn.gov\)](#)



Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule

Requirements of a Home & Community Based Setting

- Is integrated and supports access to the greater community.
- Provides opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings and engage in community life, and control personal resources.
- Ensures the individual receives services in the community to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid Home & Community Based Services.



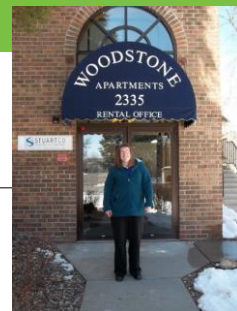
Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule

Requirements of a Home & Community Based Setting

- Ensures an individual's rights of privacy, dignity, respect and freedom from coercion and restraint.
- Optimizes individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices.
- Facilitates choice regarding services and supports and who provides them.



Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule



Additional requirements for provider controlled & operated settings:

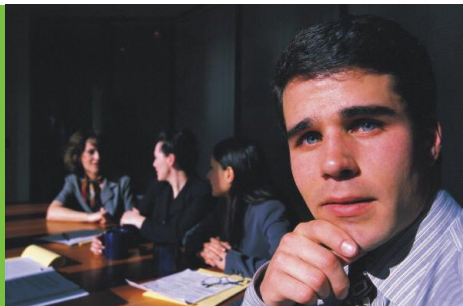
- A person has a lease* in their own home that offer the same responsibilities/protections for evictions & appeals as the tenant landlord law in their state.
- A person has their own living, sleeping, bathing and eating areas.
- A person has privacy in their living or sleeping area and are free to decorate it as they choose.
- A person chooses if they want a roommate and who they are.
- The Individual controls his/her own schedule including access to food at any time.
- The Individual can have visitors at any time.
- The setting is physically accessible to the individual.

How can we use the One Page Profile to plan for services/supports?

The one-page profile captures what is important to the person, important for for the person and how they want to be supported.

“A tool of introduction”:


- For housing providers, support staff
- Finding roommates
- For family members and friends
- For case managers
- For medical providers



How do we start the process?

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PACER's Housing & Services Process Guide

NAVIGATING THE HOUSING AND SERVICES PROCESS 

This guide offers an overview of the main considerations and important steps parents and their young adult with a disability may want to consider when navigating the housing and services process.

The acronyms and their definitions can be found on the back panel. For more information on this topic, refer to PACER's publication "Housing: Where Will Our Children Live When They Grow Up?" For a free copy, call PACER at (952) 838-9000 or order online at PACER.org.

How will your young adult pay for housing and services?

You will need to consider:



- Supports/staff
- Personal needs
- Number of roommates
- Mortgage or rent
- Food
- Current income supplements

What is your young adult's vision for community living?

Create a person-centered plan, a process that:

- Is "person-centered": focused on outcomes, dreams, and visions of the person, not a "system-centered" process driven by programs, stereotypes, and segregated programs like traditional models
- Uses a set of tools that address what is important to a person and for a person to have quality of life, essential to give people more choice and control over the way that they are supported
- Uses a set of tools to capture information, and improve understanding, communication, and relationships
- Gathers information from the people who are important to the person and know them the best: family, friends, neighbors, support workers, and other professionals

Make a request for a Certified Assessor

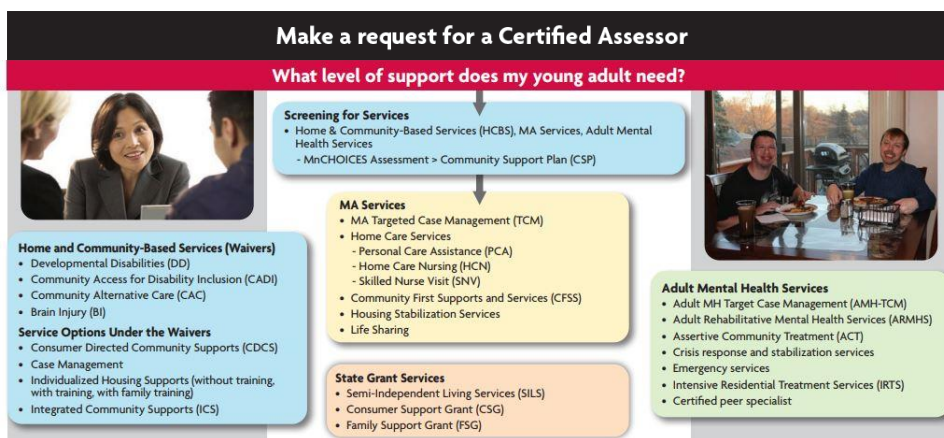



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CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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PACER's Housing & Services Process Guide



Call Your County for Services Certified Assessor



- Call your county social services department
- Ask for a MNChoices assessment for your young adult
- If you or your young adult does not have health insurance, inform them
- Apply while your young adult is still in High School (by age 18).
- **Write down:** date you called, who you talked to, what was said*

*See PACER fact sheet *Navigating the Maze of Housing & Services: Advocacy Tips*

Screening for Services Medical Assistance Eligibility

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid administers nationwide, provides funding, approves state plans, ensures compliance with federal regulations.
- In MN, DHS oversees MA program, administered locally by counties.
- Pays for medical services for individuals with disabilities, low-income families, including children and pregnant women, and elderly people over age 65.



Screening for Services Medical Assistance Eligibility

There are 2 ways people are certified disabled:

- Certification by the Social Security Administration
- Certification by the State Medical Review Team (SMRT)



Screening for Services Medical Assistance Eligibility



Certification by the Social Security Administration

- SSA makes determinations of blindness and disability for SSI and RSDI benefits www.socialsecurity.gov

Certification by the State Medical Review Team

- SMRT makes disability determinations for people who are not eligible for SSI or RSDI or whose application is pending
- SMRT makes level of care determinations for TEFRA
 - Contact your county to initiate:
<https://mn.gov/portal/government/local/counties>



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Developmental Disability or Related Condition



Developmental Disability means "Significantly sub-average intellectual functioning" or IQ at or below 70 occurring by the age of 21 yrs.

Deficits in adaptive behavior

Assessments can be used to show "substantial limitations in present functioning" in areas of:

maturation,

- learning,
- personal independence
- social responsibility expected for a person's age level and cultural group



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A Related Condition is:



A **severe and chronic** disability attributable to:

- Cerebral palsy
- Epilepsy
- Autism
- Prader-Willi Syndrome or:
- Other disability (NOT mental health disability)

Substantial functional limitation in **3 or more areas** including:

- Self-care
- Communication
- Learning
- Mobility
- Self-direction, or:
- Capacity for independent living

Children's Mental Health Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED)



Meets one of the following criteria:

- Admitted within last 3 years or at risk of being admitted to inpatient/residential treatment
- MN resident receiving inpatient/residential treatment
- DX by mental health professional of:
- Psychosis or clinical Depression
- Risk of harming self or others as a result of ED
- Psychopathological symptoms as a result of physical /sexual abuse or psychic trauma within past year.
- Significantly impaired home, school, community functioning lasting at least one year or in the written opinion of a MH professional presents a substantial risk of lasting one year.

Adult Mental Health

Acute Mental Illness & Serious & Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)



Acute MH:

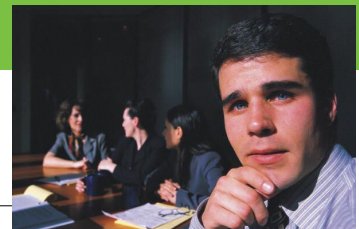
- MH Serious enough to require prompt intervention.

SPMI meets one of the following criteria:

- 2 hospitalizations within 24 months
- Hospitalization/residential treatment exceeding 6 months within preceding 12 months
- DX of schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depression, Borderline Personality Disorder
- Significant impairment in functioning
- Written DX from a MH professional in last 3 years stating adult is at risk of requiring inpatient or residential treatment unless case management/ community support services are provided.
- The adult has in last 3 years been committed by the court as a person who is mentally ill...

Screening for Services: Adult Mental Health

MnCHOICES, Diagnostic & Functional Assessment



Depending on type of screening Team members will include:

- Person with a disability and legal representative (parent/guardian)
- Relative or support person(s)
- Certified Assessor
- County Social Worker
- Mental health professional
- Nurse

<https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/adult-mental-health>

Screening for Services

Certified Assessor

PCA, HCBS Waiver, Homecare Nursing



- **MnCHOICES** is a comprehensive screening process for people of all ages who have **any type of disability** or need for long-term services and supports.
- Replaces other screenings used in the past (DD, LTCC, PCA, Private Duty Nursing)
- Is **person-centered**, based on individual's strengths, goals, preferences and assessed needs.
- Creates a Community Support Plan (CSP) that summarizes the results
- Gives you next steps based on your son/daughter's needs

<https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/long-term-services-and-supports/mnchoices>

Screening for Services

Typical Documents needed



- **One-Page Profile**
- **Legal birth certificate**
- **Social Security Card**
- **Educational Records:** Current (or last) Individual Education Plan (IEP), Functional Behavior Assessment, Section 504 plan, Summary of Performance, Work-Based Learning Plan and/or related employment information
- **Medical Records:** Neuropsychiatric evaluation, Diagnostic Assessment, current health related records and/or related services reports (OT, PT, Speech/Language, Alternative Augmentative Communication (AAC))
- **Social History**

Screening for Services MnCHOICES Assessment



Areas to be assessed are:

- Person Information
- Quality of Life
- ADLs (Activities of Daily Living)
- IADLS ("Instrumental" ADL's)
- Health
- Psychosocial
- Memory and Cognition
- Sensory and Communication
- Safety and Self Preservation
- Employment, Volunteering and Training
- Housing and Environment
- Self-Direction
- Caregiver
- Assessor Conclusions

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Screening for Services Functional Assessment - Mental Health



A key eligibility requirement (with Diagnostic and Level of Care Assessments)

- Mental health symptoms and needs presented in diagnostic assessment
- Self-care and independent living capacity
- Medical and dental health
- Social Functioning, including use of leisure time
- Interpersonal functioning, including relationships with the adults family
- Vocational and educational functioning
- Financial assistance needs
- Housing and transportation needs
- Current living conditions
- Use of drugs and alcohol (if applicable)
- Other needs/problems

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The Screening Process

Level of Care Needed?



- The assessor must consider the level of care (LOC) needed by the person whenever the person is at risk of placement in:
 - Hospital, Neurobehavioral Hospital
 - Nursing Facility
 - Residential or Regional Treatment Center
 - Intermediate Care Facility for Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DD)

The Screening Process

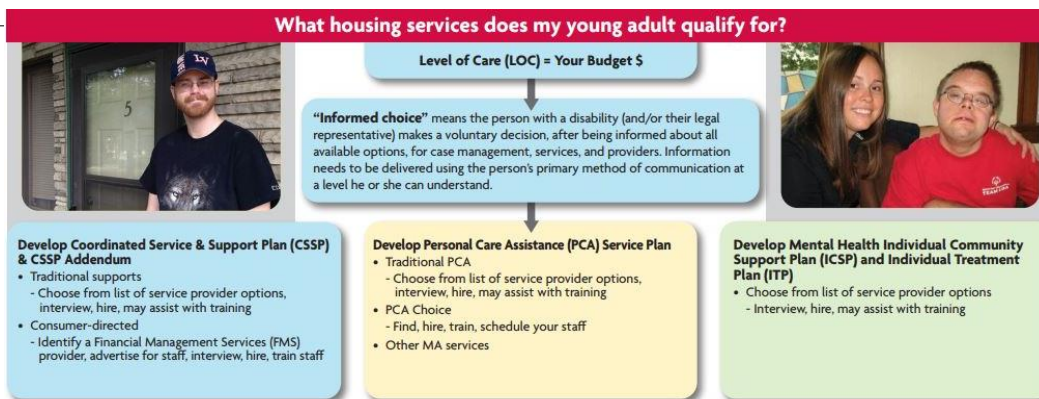
Considerations



During the screening process parents should consider:

- What is the functioning level of my young adult **without any support on their worst day?**
- Assessments and rating scales convert to “level of care” = \$ dollars/budget
- Budget and rates are set by the state
- Data from your young adult’s doctor and related services team members is important when submitting assessment information.

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What Services & Supports Does My Young Adult Qualify For?



Informed Choice!

"The person with a disability (and/or their legal representative) makes a voluntary decision, **after being informed about all available options, for case management, services and providers.** Information needs to be delivered using the person's primary method of communication at a level he or she can understand."

- What is the funding stream called that my young adult qualifies for?
- What is the menu of services under that funding stream they have access to?

What Services & Supports Does My Young Adult Qualify For?



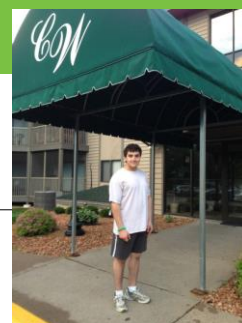
- Personal Care Attendant (PCA)
- Homecare Services
- Homecare Nursing
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Respite
- HCBS Waiver
- Individualized Home Supports with and without training
- Individualized Home Supports with Family Training
- Integrated Community Supports
- Behavior Specialist Services
- Independent Living Skills Therapies (ILS)
- Community First Services & Supports (CFSS) *Will replace PCA*
- Consumer Directed Community Supports (CDCS)
- Consumer Support Grant (CSG)
- Family Support Grant (FSG)
- Housing Stabilization Services
- Life Sharing
- Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS)
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
- Certified Peer Specialist Services
- 24-Hour Emergency Assistance

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Home & Community-Based (HCBS) Waivers



What is a waiver?

- Medical Assistance programs allow the state to “waive” the typical requirements of MA.
- Called **Home and Community-Based Service (HCBS) waivers**.
- Used to provide services in Home and Community Based settings instead of restrictive settings like hospitals, nursing homes and ICF/DD’s
- Can be used to pay for additional services beyond MA
- States decide how to target specific populations
- HCBS waivers are a primary funding stream for housing services and are not used for rent, room & board costs.

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ARHMS: Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services “Rehab Option”

- **Rehab Option** created with federal Medicaid dollars for those falling through the cracks.
- Individuals don't necessarily have to have had a hospitalization but **can be at risk for being placed in an institution**
- Services are to instruct, assist, and support the recipient Interpersonal communication skills, independent living skills, medication education/monitoring, mental illness symptom management skills/relapse prevention, employment-related skills, and transition to community living services, crisis response services, and housing assistance.

Writing the Support Plan CSP, CSSP, PCA, ICSP/ITP

Developed by person with a disability/their legal guardian:

- Goals based on assessment of **person-centered service needs** and **informed choice**.
- What indicators will be used to measure outcomes of goals?
- Specific services to be provided including amount, frequency, duration, budget and who will provide service.
- Agreed upon times to review the plan (at least annually) to address progress of attaining outcomes

Mental Health: ICSP (above) to coordinate with the ITP

- ITP: Intervention, treatment, and services developed by provider under the supervision of a mental health professional.



The Need for Guardianship, Conservatorship



- Begin the process 6 Months before 18th Birthday
- Guardianships are court-ordered protective arrangements
- A parent, relative, friend or court appointed person, manages the personal life affairs, as needed, for a person with a disability .
- The need for a guardian or conservator must be based on the person's skills and abilities to make decisions on his or her own behalf not just on their disability.
- New changes were made to the guardianship laws in 2020.
- Changes include strengthening the Bill of Rights and alternatives to guardianship, "supported decision making" before considering restricting rights through guardianship.
- **MAGiC:** <https://www.minnesotaguardianship.org/education>
- **The Arc MN:** <https://arcminnesota.org/resource/arc-guide-to-guardianship>
- **Wings MN:** <http://wingsmn.org>

Appeals Process



- If you do not agree with the decision, you can appeal in writing to the Commissioner or Department of Human services (DHS)

DHS Appeals:

<https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/health-plan-appeals-hearing-grievances.jsp>

MN DHS Appeals Division

PO Box 64941

St. Paul, MN. 55164-0941

Phone: 651-431-7523

- Your appeal must be submitted in 30 days of your receipt of the county's written denial (or 90 days with "good cause").

Contacts for Support



Your County Social Services Director/Supervisor of DD or MH

at: <https://mn.gov/dhs/general-public/about-dhs/contact-us/county-and-tribal-nation-offices>

Regional Resource Specialists:

Main number: 651.431.4300 or 866.287.7655

<https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-4850B-ENG>

Ombudsmen for DD, Mental Health

Main number: 651-757-1800 or 1.880.657.3506

<http://mn.gov/omhdd>

Contacts for Support

Ombudsman & Regional Resource Specialists



Ombudsmen are a consumer advocate, paid by the state, who can be called if there are **concerns, complaints** and **questions** about:

- Quality of Services
- Consumer safety, welfare and rights
- Access and referral to appropriate services
- Need for information concerning services
- Ideas for making services better

Ombudsmen are assigned to regions of the state



What housing options
does my young adult want?

How will they pay for them?

PACER's Housing & Services Process Guide

What housing options does my young adult want?

Residential Settings

- Apartment, condo, townhome, house
- Assisted Living
- Community Residential Settings
- Family Residential Settings
- Life Sharing



"A Person's Own Home": Rent, Owned by Individual(s)

- Apartment, condo, townhome, house
- Cooperative, Co-Housing
- Affordable housing development
- Public Housing
- Subsidized Private Housing
 - HUD Section 8, 811, 42, 202
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit
- Bridges Certificates

Family, young adult, provider, and county collaborate to implement the plan

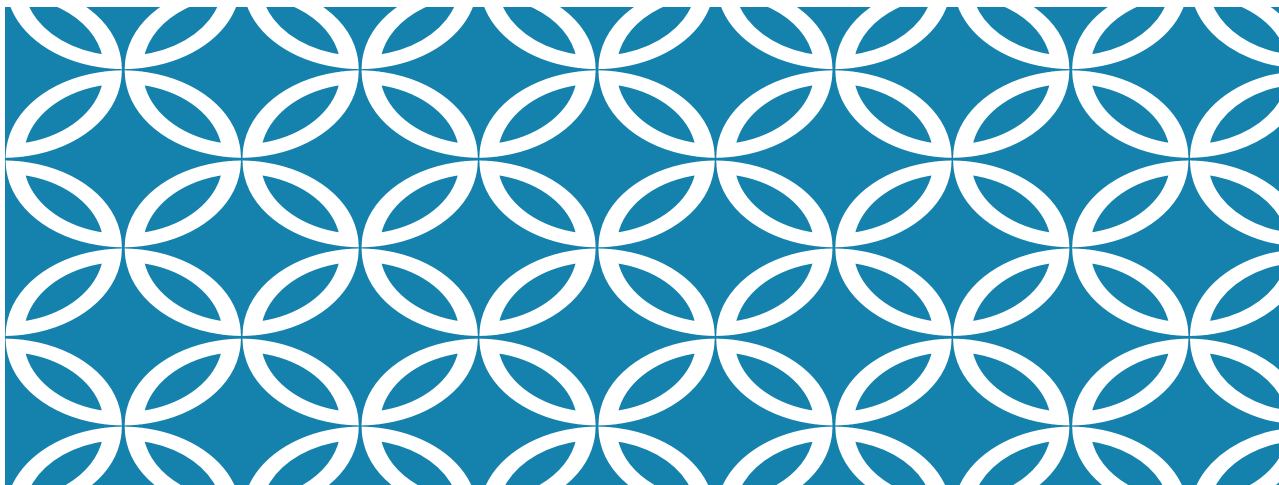
Funding for Housing Supplement

- Housing Support



Funding for Housing Supplement/Rent/Mortgage

- MSA + MSA Housing Assistance
- Other housing assistance
 - MHFA Home Improvement Loans, Land Trust
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), phone, and utility assistance



SOME HOUSING OPTIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

John Petroskas
Minnesota Department
of Human Services

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OBJECTIVES

- **Basic overview of affordable housing options**
- **Some housing search tools**
- **How Housing Support and MSA Housing Assistance can help pay for housing**

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MARKET-RATE HOUSING

- **Home ownership**
- **Rental housing**
 - Apartments
 - Rooms
 - Shared housing

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SITE-BASED HOUSING SUBSIDIES

- **Public Housing (some is scattered-site)**
- **Project-based Section 8 (HUD funds Section 811 for people with disabilities and Section 202 for elderly persons)**
- **Residents pay 30% of income for rent**

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SITE-BASED “REDUCED RENT” HOUSING

- **Low Income Housing Tax Credit (also known as Section 42)**
- **Rent is less than market rate, but may be more than 30% of income**
- **Must have income below certain standards (usually some % of the area median income)**

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VOUCHER-BASED HOUSING SUBSIDIES

- **Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers**
 - **Funded by the federal government**
 - **Waiting lists are long (if open at all)**
 - **HCV are “portable” so recipients can move**
- **Various state rental subsidy programs**
- **Recipients pay 30% of income for rent**

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HousingLink

Email
 Password [Forgot Password?](#)
[Create Account](#) [LOGIN](#)

[Subsidized Housing](#) [Property Owners & Managers](#) [Housing Resources](#) [Data & Research](#) [About Us](#)

Housing Authority Waiting List

This page has the status of Section 8 Voucher and Public Housing waiting lists in the Twin Cities. Click on the links below to see details of each open waiting list.
 Subscribe to the Housing Authority Waiting List; email alerts here!

Open Waiting Lists

- Bloomington HRA
Rental Home for Future Home Buyers
- Dakota CDA
Section 8 Housing: Choice Vouchers
Workforce Housing: 1, 2 & 3 BR
Senior Housing: 2 BR
- Minneapolis PHA
Public Housing: Disabled
Public Housing: Near Elderly (Age 50-61)
Public Housing: Senior (Age 62+)
- South St Paul HRA
Public Housing: Seniors

Closed Waiting Lists

- Bloomington HRA
Public Housing
Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers
- Columbia Heights HRA
Public Housing
- Dakota County CDA
All Public Housing lists
Family Affordable Housing
- Hopkins
Public Housing
- Mental Health Resources
Section 8 Vouchers

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Public Housing

What is the Public Housing program?

Public Housing is a government-funded program that provides rental housing to low-income households. Renters in Public Housing units pay 30% of their income for rent* while some units may have a low fixed rent amount. Some of the buildings are older and more basic. This subsidy generally stays with the building; when you move, out you no longer have the rental assistance.

* Example of rent at 30% of income: Household with one full-time worker at \$7.25/hour might pay \$348 per month.

How does it work?

You apply at a housing authority for a unit based on the bedroom size needed to accommodate the number of members in your household. Some units are reserved only for households that are elderly or disabled. The waiting list you apply for may be long and it may take several months for your name to get to the top of the list. Once you are selected from the waiting list you may be offered a small selection of units to choose from as there may be a limited number of available units.

Do I qualify?

To qualify you must fall within the Department of Housing and Urban Development's required income limits.

How do I apply?

Although the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides funding for Public Housing, local housing authorities administer the program. Waiting lists for public housing can often be long or closed. View the [Housing Authority Waiting List](#) to find out about openings in the metro area. Below are the phone numbers of Housing Authorities in the metro area with public housing programs.

Subsidized Housing Info

["The Big 3" Subsidized Housing Programs By Number](#)
[Housing Authority Waiting List](#)
[Housing Terms](#)
[Abbreviations Used In Housing](#)

Bloomington HRA	952-563-8937	Mound HRA	952-472-5078
Carver County CDA	952-448-7715	Minneapolis PHA	612-342-1400
Columbia Heights HRA	763-706-3800	Scott County CDA	952-402-9022
Dakota County CDA	651-675-4400	South St Paul HRA	651-554-3270
Forest Lake HRA	651-464-4406	St Louis Park HA	952-924-2579
Hopkins HRA	952-548-6345	St Paul PHA	651-298-5158
Metro HRA	651-602-1428	Washington County HRA	651-458-0936

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Ramsey County, MN, U Distance None Bedrooms Apartment Subsidize...


Seniors & Disabled Accessibility Pets Amenities Screening Bathrooms

Update Listings List View Map View Save Search

Options Selected: Clear Selections Print All Listings

X Subsidized Housing (% of Income, Project Based Section 8, Public Housing, Section 811/PRAD) X Apartment

Listings Found: 11 Sort by: Distance Show 25 per page




Property Detail
Arlington Gardens
110 Arlington Ave W
St Paul MN 55117

1.6 miles from search location

Rent: Subsidized
1 Bedroom Apartment
Open Waiting List: Public Housing
Deposit: 1x rent
Application Fee: 50
Background Checks: Criminal, Credit, Rental history
Minimum Age: 62
Maximum Occupants: 2
Utilities Resident Pays: Electric (lights)
Pets: No Pets
Accessibility: No step approach, Automatic door entry, more...

800-466-7722
Share Listing
Email Landlord
Apply Online

Section 8
NO X



Property Detail
Como by the Lake Senior
Apartments
901 Como Blvd E
St Paul MN 55103

2.9 miles from search location

Rent: Subsidized
2 Bedroom Apartment
Open Waiting List: Project-based Section 8
Estimated Wait: No Wait
Application Fee: 50
Background Checks: Criminal, Credit, Rental history
Minimum Age: 62
Minimum Income: 0
Maximum Occupants: 4
Utilities Resident Pays: Electric (lights)
Pets: Cats okay, Dogs okay, Other pets okay
Accessibility: No step approach. Automatic door entrv. more...

651-489-3392
Share Listing

Section 8
NO X

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HousingLink Streams

Return to main site

Streams (Data through 12/31/2020)

About Streams

Search by Property Name or Address

Or Search by HUD, MN Housing, Public Housing, USDA/RD, or Tax Credit ID

Or filter by:

Funding Source

Federal

State

Local

Philanthropic

Funding Categories

Project-Based Subsidy

Public Housing

Tax Credit

Tax Credit (LIHTC 4%)

Tax Credit (LIHTC 9%)

Subsidized-Other

Groups Served

Family

Elderly

Disabled

Obligation End Year

Start Year

End Year

Last Finance Year

Start Year

End Year

First Finance Year

Start Year

End Year


New Construction

Other

Show Results

Clear All

Map Search City Search Greater MN



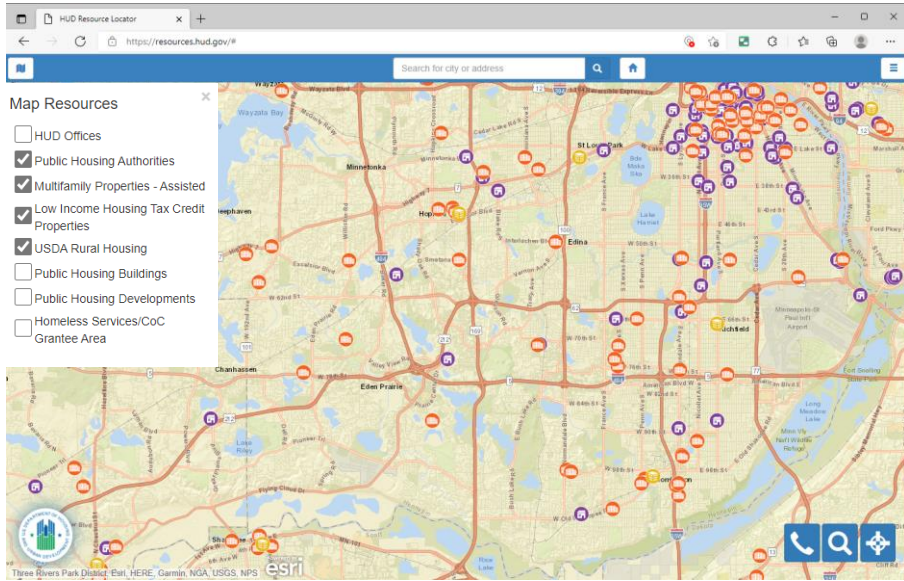
Too many properties to display. Zoom in to see properties.

Send us feedback

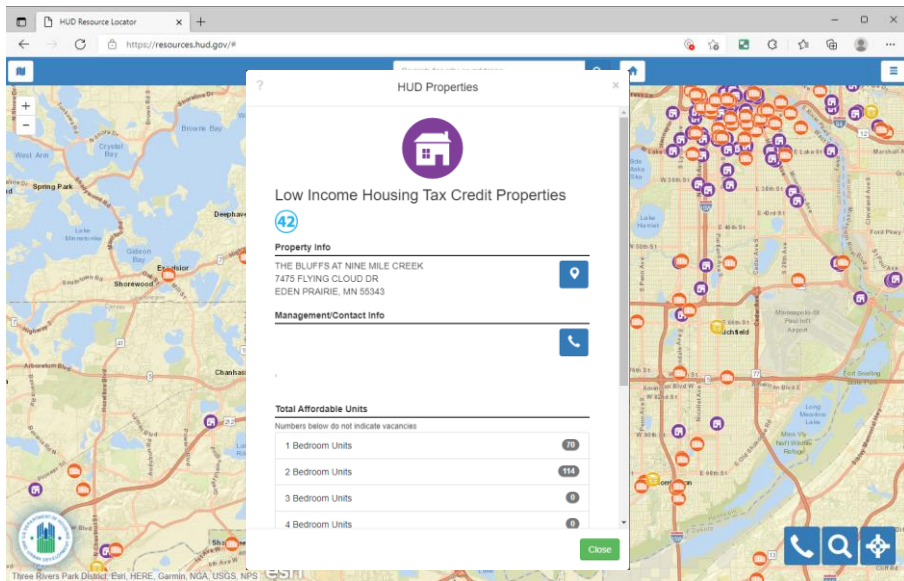
Property Search Summary

Properties	Total Units	30% AMI*	50% AMI*	60% AMI*	80% AMI*	Total Aff Units*
3,154	147,584	43,946	25,293	54,648	5,923	129,710

52



53



54

The Hub | DB101 | HB101 | Contact Us: 1-866-333-2466 | Chat | Email

Housing Benefits 101
Your Home. Your Choice.

Sign In | Register

HOME | SITUATIONS | PROGRAMS | **PLACES** | MY VAULT | GLOSSARY | PARTNERS

HB101 Places
Find the Right Home + Services For You.

Don't need services with your housing? Find affordable housing on HousingLink.

For places with services in Hennepin County, use Hennepin Housing Key.

Quick Start

How-to | About

Filters:

Sort by: distance

Vacancy: Has vacancies

Save as...

Load a saved filter set...

Location:

Enter a location...

All miles

Show:

Has vacancies

For:

Map showing 68 programs in Minnesota and surrounding areas.

Found: 68 programs

Sort by: distance | Find: Find within program summary...

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DHS HOUSING PROGRAMS

- **Housing Support (formerly called Group Residential Housing or GRH)**
- **Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) Housing Assistance**

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APPLYING FOR ASSISTANCE

You must **apply for** Housing Support and MSA:

- **Online** at [MNbenefits](https://mnbenefits.mn.gov) ([MNbenefits.mn.gov](https://mnbenefits.mn.gov))
- OR
- **Call or visit** your county human services agency
- OR
- Complete the **Combined Application Form (CAF)** [DHS-5223](#) and return by mail, fax, or drop box.

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[MNBENEFITS.MN.GOV](https://mnbenefits.mn.gov)

MNbenefits is an online portal that simplifies the process of applying for public assistance in Minnesota.

It's fast, easy to use, and allows document uploading.

What do you need help with today?

Check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> 🍌 Food (SNAP) Money to buy food for you and your family
<input type="checkbox"/> 💰 Cash programs Programs like GA and MFIP that help families and single adults meet basic needs
<input type="checkbox"/> 👶 Child Care Assistance Helps pay for childcare while you pursue work or school
<input type="checkbox"/> 🏠 Emergency Assistance Helps with rent and utility payments to stop eviction
<input type="checkbox"/> 🏠 Housing Support (GRH) Also called Group Residential Housing. Helps seniors and adults with disabilities pay for housing

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Combined Application Form

Apply online at: www.applymn.dhs.mn.gov

Do not use this application to apply for health care coverage. The soonest your SNAP (food) or cash benefits can start is the date the agency receives your application. We can set your application date if we have your name, address and signature on page 1. **For your application to be complete, answer all questions on the application. Tell someone if you need help filling out this application. Be sure to sign and date the application on pages 1 and 10.**

CASE NUMBER

PERSON 1			
APPLICANT'S LEGAL NAME - LAST	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	OTHER NAMES YOU USE (family name, nickname, etc.)
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	GENDER <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	MARITAL STATUS* <input type="radio"/> N <input type="radio"/> M <input type="radio"/> S <input type="radio"/> L <input type="radio"/> D <input type="radio"/> W
ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE (if you do not have an address, write "homeless")		APT. NUMBER	CITY STATE ZIP CODE
MAILING ADDRESS (if different from address where you live)		APT. NUMBER	CITY STATE ZIP CODE
PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER	OTHER PHONE NUMBER	DO YOU LIVE ON A RESERVATION? <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes - which one?	
DO YOU NEED AN INTERPRETER? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED SPOKEN LANGUAGE?	WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED WRITTEN LANGUAGE?	
LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED	MOST RECENTLY MOVED TO MINNESOTA (mm/dd/yyyy) Date: _____ From: _____		
CITIZENSHIP <input type="radio"/> U.S. Citizen or U.S. National <input type="radio"/> Naturalized U.S. Citizen or Derived U.S. Citizen <input type="radio"/> Not a U.S. Citizen		IMMIGRATION STATUS	
If you are applying for the Minnesota Housing Support program:			
WHICH HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAM ARE YOU APPLYING FOR?		HOUSING SUPPORT VENDOR NAME AND NUMBER (if you know it)	
WHAT PROGRAM(S) ARE YOU APPLYING FOR? <input type="checkbox"/> SNAP (food) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash programs <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Assistance <input type="checkbox"/> None			
ETHNICITY (optional) Hispanic? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		RACE* (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> W	
Has anyone in your household ever received cash assistance, commodities or SNAP benefits before? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		If yes, When? _____ Where? _____ What? _____	
Do you need help right away? Questions 1-4 below will help us decide if you can get help with food right away.			
1. How much income did or will your household get this month? \$ _____			
1a. Are you self-employed? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
2. How much does your household (including children) have in cash, checking or savings? \$ _____			
3. How much does your household pay for rent/mortgage per month? \$ _____			
What utilities do you pay? <input type="checkbox"/> Heat <input type="checkbox"/> Air conditioning <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> None			
4. Do you receive energy assistance? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
4a. Is anyone in your household a migrant or seasonal farm worker? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
I have looked over my answers and believe they are all true and correct to the best of my knowledge.			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	DATE	AGENCY/TIBRAL SIGNATURE	DATE RECEIVED



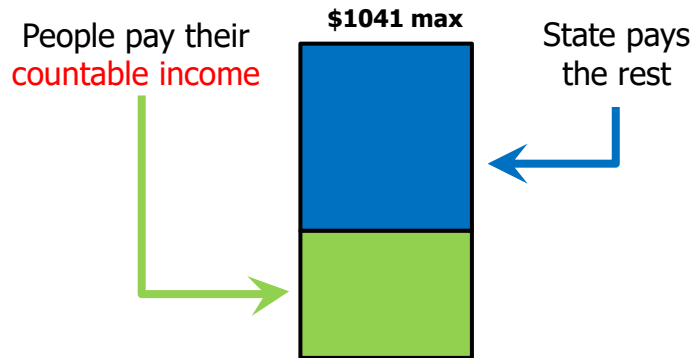
HOUSING SUPPORT PAYS FOR:

Room and board costs in licensed or registered settings (adult foster care, board and lodge facilities, boarding care homes, housing with services), or

Rent and utility expenses in supportive housing (for people who have experienced long-term homelessness), and sometimes

Supportive services for people in certain settings who are not receiving waived or other services.

HOW DOES HOUSING SUPPORT WORK?



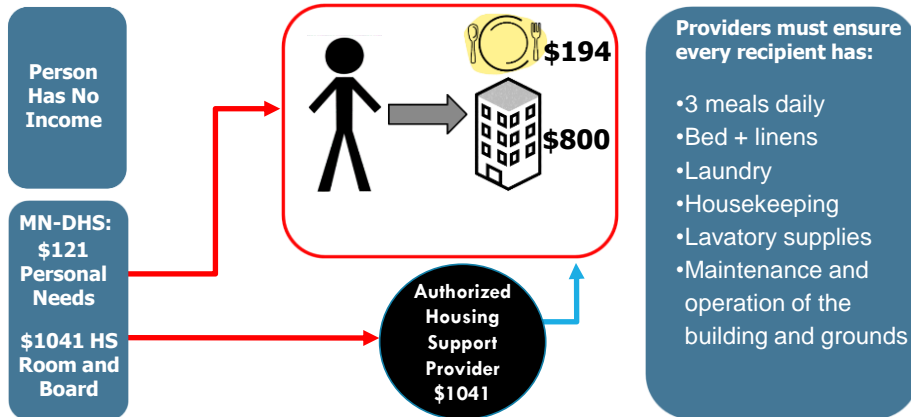
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ELIGIBILITY FOR HOUSING SUPPORT

- **Eligible** for SSI or General Assistance and
- **Income** below certain limits and
- **Assets** below certain limits:
 - SSI: \$2,000
 - GA: \$10,000

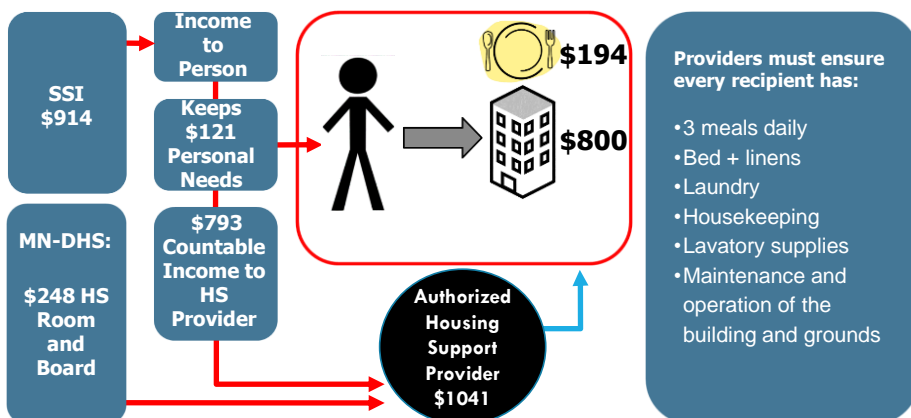
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HS group setting – person with no income



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HS group setting – person with SSI income



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WHAT IS COUNTABLE INCOME?

Countable income, from work or benefits, is what remains AFTER certain deductions.

For Housing Support, deductions include a \$121 “personal needs allowance.”

For earnings, we disregard the first \$65, the \$121 PNA, and half the remainder.
Example: \$500 earned - \$65 - \$121 = \$314/2 = \$157 countable income

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MN.DB101.ORG

The Hub | DB101 | HB101 | Chat | 1-866-333-2466 | Email

Disability Benefits 101 | Minnesota | Sign In | Register

Home | Work & Benefits | Programs | Youth | My Vault | Search

See how work and benefits go together
You can make work a part of your plan.

- See how benefits support work →
- Find programs that can help you find work →
- Discover ways to save up money while working →

ALL WORK & BENEFITS →

Benefits Planning Estimators
Check the numbers to see how you can have more money when you work.

- Benefits and Work Estimator
- School and Work Estimator
- MA-EPD Estimator

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WORK INCENTIVES CONNECTION

Goodwill's Work Incentives Planning & Assistance Program helps explain Social Security work incentives.

Must be a Social Security recipient with a disability.

- Call 1-800-976-6728
- Email workincentivesconnection@gesmn.org
- Go to goodwilleasterseals.org and look for Disability Services

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MINNESOTA SUPPLEMENTAL AID (MSA)

MSA is a monthly cash supplement for some recipients of SSI and/or RSDI benefits.

To be eligible, you must be:

- **Over age 18 (unless blind) and**
- **Receive SSI, OR**
- **Would receive SSI but for excess income (and over 65, or Blind, or Disabled)**

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MSA BENEFITS

\$914 SSI + \$81 MSA = \$995 total

Some people may be eligible for additional MSA “special needs” benefits, including:

- Representative payee fees (\$25/month)
- Guardian/Conservator fees (up to \$100/month)
- Special diets (prescribed by doctor; amounts vary)
- MSA Housing Assistance

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COMBINED APPLICATION

24. For Minnesota Supplemental Assistance only: Does **anyone** in the household have any of the following expenses?

Representative payee fees	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Guardian or conservator fees	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Medically-prescribed special diet	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
High housing costs	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

3/2/2018

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MSA HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Must be:

- Eligible for MSA, **and**
- Under age 65 when applying, **and**
- Monthly housing costs (rent & utilities) exceed 40% of gross monthly income

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MSA HOUSING ASSISTANCE

and one of the following...

- Relocating from an **institution** (hospital, nursing facility, RTC inpatient, or ICF-DD) or intensive residential mental health treatment program, **OR**
- Eligible for Personal Care Assistance (PCA) services, **OR**
- Receiving waived services, **OR**
- Transitioning from Housing Support

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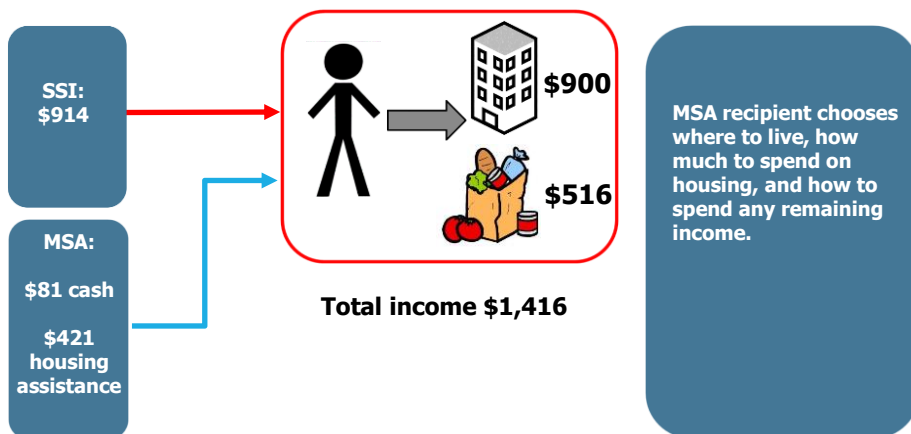
MSA HOUSING ASSISTANCE

\$914	SSI
+ \$81	MSA
+ \$421	MSA Housing Assistance*
<hr/>	
\$ 1,416	Total Income

When MSA benefits go up, SNAP benefits may go down. The amount depends on many factors.

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MSA HOUSING ASSISTANCE



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CRISIS HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Short-term assistance (rent or mortgage, utilities) to people with serious mental illness whose income is being used to pay for inpatient psychiatric treatment of 90 days or less. The goal is to retain the client's housing.

The Crisis Housing Assistance Program is administered by The Arc Minnesota. To apply, call 952-915-3698 or [apply online](#).

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ABLE ACCOUNTS

ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) accounts allow people who became blind or disabled BEFORE age 26 to save money to pay for many different disability-related expenses, including housing.

- Maximum annual contribution is \$15,000.
- Balances up to \$100,000 are excluded from the SSI resource limit.
- MN ABLE Plan: www.savewithable.com/mn

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John Petroskas

MN Department of Human Services

John.Petroskas@state.mn.us

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In Closing....



- Educate yourself! NETWORK, NETWORK!
- It is beneficial to start the application process for social services in your high school years.
- Plan time to start your person-centered plan with your young adult about housing services and options.
- Time is an advantage due to limited funding, availability of supports & services, and affordable, accessible housing.

Next workshop:

- **Step 3 - What are the options?**
Monday, May 8th, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

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Resources

PACER's Housing Project:

www.PACER.org/housing

Contact Person: Susan Shimota

Phone: 952-838-9000

Email: susan.shimota@PACER.org

Hennepin County Social Services

Jerry Mellum, Senior Planning Analyst

Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department

Phone: 612-596-7094

Jerry.Mellum@hennepin.us

PACER's National Parent Center on Transition & Employment:

<https://www.PACER.org/transition>

[Transitioning to Life After High School - PACER Center](#)

Disability Hub MN

disabilityhubmn.org 1.866.333.2466



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Resources

Person Centered Planning:

Helen Sanderson and Associates www.helensandersonassociates.co.uk

The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices

<https://tlpcp.com>

MN Department of Human Services > Person Centered Practices

<https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/program-overviews/long-term-services-and-supports/person-centered-practices>

ARC Minnesota: Planning & Coaching

<https://arcminnesota.org/ways-we-can-help/planning-your-future>

Phone: 952-920-0855, ARC Statewide: 833-450-1494

Email: <https://arcminnesota.org/ways-we-can-help/ask-an-advocate>

MN Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

"Its My Choice":

<http://mn.gov/mnddc/extra/publications/Its-My-Choice.pdf>



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Resources



Minnesota's Olmstead Plan

<https://www.pacer.org/housing/gettingstarted> > Minnesota's Olmstead Plan
https://mn.gov/olmstead/assets/2022-04-olmstead-plan_tcm1143-526399.pdf

The ARC of MN - Housing Resources

<https://arcminnesota.org> <https://arcminnesota.org/learn-connect/learning-center/housing>

Phone: 952-920-0855, ARC Statewide: 833-450-1494

Metropolitan Center for Independent Living, Inc.

<https://www.mcil-mn.org> 651.646.8342



Resources



MN Department of Human Services Main Page

<http://mn.gov/dhs>

- People with Disabilities > Services > Home and Community Services
<https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities>
- Healthcare > Child & Adult Mental Health:
<http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care>
- Housing
<http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/adults/economic-assistance/housing>
- Housing Benefits 101 <https://mn.hb101.org>
- HB101 Places <https://mn.hb101.org/places.htm>
- Disability Benefits 101 <https://mn.db101.org>



Resources



MN Department of Human Services – Housing Stabilization Services

<https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/policies-procedures/housing-and-homelessness/housing-stabilization-services/housing-stabilization-services.jspf>

MN Department of Human Services (DHS) Community-Based Services Manual

<https://tinyurl.com/sn9pmt6>

[CBSM - Resource: Life sharing matching process and ongoing support options \(state.mn.us\)](#)

“Find Choose & Keep Great DSPs (Direct Support Professionals) Toolkit”

https://ici.umn.edu/index.php?products/view_part/375

“Questions to ask Providers When Making Decisions about Residential Supports for Family Members with Disabilities” <http://rtc.umn.edu/questions/index.html>

Metro Crisis Coordination Program (MCCP) Residential Openings List <https://mnopenings.org>



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Resources



Housing Link

Housing Rental Listings, Public Housing, Section 8, Waitlists & Newsletter

www.housinglink.org

Housing Link “Streams” Database: <https://www.housinglink.org/Streams/>

TAC- Technical Assistance Collaborative

www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/publications/e-books/section-8-made-simple

Voucher Database for MN: <http://www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/vouchers-database/?state=MN>

HUD - Information for Disabled Persons: https://www.hud.gov/topics/information_for_disabled_persons

HUD Resource Locator <https://resources.hud.gov>

HUD Reasonable Accommodations & Rights for Individuals with Disabilities:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/reasonable_accommodations_and_modifications

HUD File a Complaint: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/online-complaint

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Resources

"20 Revealing Questions that Every Renter Should Ask"

<https://www.apartments.com/rental-manager/resources/article/20-revealing-questions-that-every-renter-should-ask>

MN Housing Finance Agency

<https://www.mnhousing.gov>

MN Home Ownership Center

<https://www.hocmn.org>

Homes for All

<http://homesforallmn.org/>

<https://www.hocmn.org/homeownershipopportunityalliance>

Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability> <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/links-to-spotlights>

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PACER CENTER 
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES™