



West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.

1910 Aga Drive. Suite 206

Alexandria, MN 56308

Phone: 218-405-3073 or 800-492-4805

Fax: 320-391-4224

Email: housing@wcmca.org

wcmca.org

Application for all WCMCA Emergency Housing Programs

Rent and Deposit Assistance

Housing Intake Line: 218-405-3073

Fax: 320-391-4224

1. Priority may be given to those who have not received assistance within the last 12 months.
2. Everyone needs to apply for Emergency Assistance with their county's social service agency prior to applying for WCMCA FHPAP funds.
3. Financial literacy courses are offered to the public and available to all who are assisted with FHPAP. Classes may be required if you have received help from our FHPAP program in the past.
4. Case management and budget counseling are vital parts of receiving these funds. Recipients of FHPAP funds will receive budgeting assistance and may also receive in home case management appointments to help ensure housing stability.
5. Complete and return your application as quickly as possible. A departmental meeting goes through COMPLETED applications once per week (Wednesday's) and decisions are made based on need (criteria established by the advisory committee). Incomplete applications will not be considered.

In order for your application to be complete, copies of the following documents need to be included with the application:

(Exceptions may be approved by your case manager)

- Proof of all income for the last 30 days (employment, SSI, MFIP, child support, etc.)
- Information documenting emergency (late rent notice, notice of eviction, etc.)

After filling out this form on your computer, save it to your computer desktop and then email send the saved copy to housing@wcmca.org Thank you!



WEST CENTRAL MN COMMUNITIES ACTION, INC.
EMERGENCY HOUSING APPLICATION

Last Name: _____ First / MI: _____

Phone: _____ Ok to leave message Emergency Phone: _____

Email: _____

What's your contact preference? Phone Email

Primary Language: _____ Own Home Rent Homeless

Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different from street address): _____

How did you hear about this program: _____

SOURCES OF INCOME AND OTHER ASSISTANCE (Check all of those that apply)

Salary / Wages Retirement / Pension Social Security SNAP (Grocery assistance)
\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Self-Employment Veteran's Benefits SSDI SSI
\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Unemployment Comp Alimony / Child Support DWP MFIP
\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Housing / Rent Assistance Medical Aid
Type: _____ Type: _____

Number of Persons in Household: _____ Number Currently Employed: _____

Do you have pets? Yes No Is your pet a support animal? Yes No

Please provide support documentation for your support animal.

Currently homeless In threat of homelessness Other emergency / essential service

Reasons: Domestic situation On the street Living with family / friends

Eviction Back Rent Other: _____

Have you been without a permanent residence: For over 1 year 4 or more times in the last 3 years

Explanation of situation / emergency: _____

Amount of assistance necessary: \$ _____

Send payment to (address): _____

Contact person: _____

Contact phone: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION (HMIS #s will be assigned by WCMCA staff)

Household Members	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)	Gender	Race	Ethnicity	Disability (Y/N) & Type	Veteran (Y/N)	Medical Coverage (Y/N) & Type	Years of School Completed	Marital Status	Relationship to Head of Household
1. Head of Household Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
2. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
3. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
4. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
5. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
6. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
7. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			
8. Name										
SSN:					Yes		Yes			
HMIS #					No		No			

Client Signature: _____

Date: _____

Staff Signature: _____

Date: _____



Are you currently a victim of domestic violence or have you been in the past 5 years? Y N

How long ago was the last episode? _____ Currently fleeing? Y N

Are you 55 years of age or older? Y N

Are you living with a MH diagnosis that is affecting your ability to maintain housing? Y N

Are you a veteran? Y N Any active duty? Y N

Branch: _____ Enlisted before 9/7/80? Y N Months served: _____

Type of discharge: _____ Homeless Veteran Registry? Y N

Do you currently live in a housing subsidy where your rent is 30% of your income? Y N

Have you ever been homeless before? Y N

If so, when and how many times? _____

Have you been released from an institution in the last 0-3 months or 3-6 months? _____

Type (foster home, jail, prison, treatment facility, etc.): _____

Has anyone in the household, 26 or under, ever been in foster care? Y N

Who? _____

To what extent have you been homeless (according to Minnesota's Definition)?

(multiple times or first time, does it meet long-term definition?): _____

What was your previous living situation? _____

Length of stay in previous place? _____

Did you stay less than 7 nights? **Y** **N**

What was your last permanent residence (place last lived at for 90 or more days, not including shelter or time-limited housing)?

State (location of prior residence): _____

County of prior residence (MN only): _____

City of prior residence (MN only): _____



Household Budget Estimate

Household Name: _____ Date: _____

Household Name: _____ Date: _____

Budget Summary

Income	Amount	Subtotals from Below	Amount
Wages		Housing expenses	
Unemployment		Loans / Credit	
MFIP / GA		Vehicle / Transportation	
SNAP		Insurance	
Social Security		Personal expenses	
SSI		Taxes / Child support	
Monthly Income Total		Monthly Expenses Total	

Monthly Summary

Housing Expense	Amount	Insurance	Amount
Rent / House Payment		Health / Medical	
Heat		Assistance	
Electricity		Disability	
Telephone / Cell		Dental	
Water / Trash Pickup		Vehicle	
Cable TV / Internet, etc		Household	
Repairs / Maintenance		Life	
Other		Other	
Subtotal		Subtotal	
Loans / Credit	Amount	Personal Expenses	Amount
School		Food at home & household	
Personal		Food away from home	
Credit Card		Household supplies	
Automobile		Clothing purchases / Haircuts	
First Premier		Education - Personal	
Other		Education - Children	
Other		Pets - food, vet, licensing	
Other		Medicines / Doctor - Dentist, etc	
Other		Gifts / Contributions / Dues	
Other		Tobacco / Alcohol	
Subtotal		Other	
Vehicle / Transportation	Amount	Subtotal	Amount
Bus / Taxi - per month		Taxes / Child Support	Amount
Down / Extra payments		Federal / State Income	
Gas / Oil / Lube		(If self-employed)	
Tires / Battery / Filters		Property	
Repairs - average monthly		Other	
Licensing - per month		Child Support	
Subtotal		Subtotal	

Tennessee Warning

Your Rights to Data Privacy

This tells you about your rights under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act ("the Act"). This Act protects your privacy, but also lets us give information about you to others if a law requires it AND we tell you before we do it. The information below tells why and when we will ask for and give information about you.

What kind of information do we collect?

Generally, we only ask for two types of information from you - public information and private information. Public information is information about you that is available to anyone. Private Information is information about you that can be shared only if you give us your permission or if a law allows or requires us to share the information. We use summary information for reports that does not identify you or anyone else by name or other identifying information.

Why do we ask you for this information?

We may ask you for information so we can:

- Tell you from other persons by the same or similar name
- Decide if you can receive services from us and what or how much you can get
- Help you get financial or social services from other agencies
- Make reports, do research, audits, and evaluate our programs
- Collect money from government for help we give you

Do you have to answer the questions we ask? What will happen if you do not answer the questions we ask?

Generally, you do not have to give us information. However, if you do not give us the information, we may not be able to determine whether we can help you or get help for you from other agencies.

Whom shall we share the information about you?

We may give information about you to the following agencies if they need it to help you or help us help you. This does not mean we always share the information about you with these people.

- MN Dept of Human Services (OHS) agency to provide services
- Dept of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) • Other government agencies who have or may provide you with help
- MN Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) • Members of agencies of a local collaborative
- US Dept of Housing Urban Development (HUD) • Guardian, conservator or a person who has power of attorney for you
- Clay or Douglas County HRA or local governments with whom we work with
- Anyone under contract with us or a government • Anyone else the law says we can give the information

You have the right to copies of information we have about you.

- You may ask if we have any information about you.
- If we have information about you, you may ask for copies.
- You may give other people permission to see and have copies of private data about you.
- If you do not understand the information, you may ask to have it explained to you.

How do you appeal if you think information is not accurate or complete?

Your objection must be in writing and sent to: **Missy Becker-Cook, Chief Executive Officer, 411 Industrial Park Blvd, Elbow Lake, MN 56531**. You must tell us why the information is not accurate or complete. You may send your own explanation of the facts you disagree with. Your explanation will be attached any time that information is shared with another agency. For more information on how to do this, ask the staff person working with you.

If you have any questions about the information on this form, ask the staff person who is working with you.

My signature below affirms the data in this application is correct. I understand that:

- I have read the Tennessee Warning above;
- I may appeal the agency decisions about my application;
- I may have to prove my statements; and
- I may be prosecuted if I knowingly provide false information.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



**West Central MN Communities Action, Inc.
Discrimination Policy**

West Central MN Communities Action, Inc. will not discriminate. Our service will not discriminate against persons based on:

- Marital status
- Color
- Status with regard to public assistance
- Creed
- Disability
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- National origin
- Age
- Gender
- Race

If you need some type of assistance or accommodation in order to fully use our services, please tell any staff member. If you believe West Central MN Communities Action, Inc. has discriminated against you, or, if you believe we have not accommodated your need, you may file a complaint with:

Missy Becker-Cook, Chief Executive Officer
WCMCA, Inc.
411 Industrial Park Blvd ElbowLake, MN56531
Phone: 218.685.4486
Toll-free: 800.492.4805

I have discussed West Central MN Communities Action, Inc.'s Discrimination Policy and have been given a copy of this policy for my records:

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Minnesota CAP60 Notice & Consent

We collect personal information about the people we serve and store this information in the CAP60 computer system.

WHY?

- To determine eligibility in our program and suggest other programs you may be eligible for.
- So we can report the number of individuals our agency has served and continue to receive funding for those services.
- So we can determine the services needed by individuals in our communities.

YOUR RIGHTS

- You have the right to see and obtain copies of the data maintained on you. (Unless we cannot give it because of certain legal proceedings).
- You have the right to be told the contents and meaning of the data.
- You have the right to challenge the accuracy and completeness of the data

To exercise these rights, contact, in writing:

Missy Becker-Cook, Chief Executive Officer
WCMCA, Inc.
411 Industrial Park Blvd
ElbowLake, MN56531

For: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

(Print first and last name)

My signature shows that I understand the language in this document above; that I agree with these terms; and that I permit WCMCA to enter my personal information into the CAP60 computer system.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Minnesota's HMIS Release of Information

For: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____
(Print first, middle and last name – Complete one form for each adult)

Your personal information will be collected in Minnesota's HMIS and, with your consent, shared with other service providers / homeless agencies. If you do not give permission for this agency to share your information, no other agency in the network will have access to it.

Why share your information?

- Sharing reduces the amount of time you have to spend answering basic questions about your situation.
- Sharing allows agencies to focus on meeting your unique needs more quickly.
- Sharing makes it easier for multiple agencies to coordinate housing and services for you and your family.

What information might be shared?

- Family / Household information
- Name, birthdate, social security number
- Gender, race, ethnicity
- Reasons for seeking services
- Living situation and housing history
- Services you receive
- If you are homeless or not
- Your income and income sources
- Public benefits you receive
- History of domestic violence
- Education background
- Employment information
- Military history
- Health information, including physical health, HIV, behavioral health

Please check (✓) at a box:

SHARE: I consent to have the information collected about me shared through Minnesota's HMIS with other partner agencies in order to improve services to me and the services offered to others.

DO NOT SHARE: I do **not** want **any** of the information about me in Minnesota HMIS shared with any other service providers / homeless agencies. I understand that not sharing my information may affect the ability to quickly and appropriately identify services for me.

When you sign this form, it shows that you understand the following:

- We will **not** deny you help if you do not want us to share your personal information. At the same time, sharing data does not guarantee that you will receive assistance.
- If you permit us to share your information, this consent is value until cancelled by you.
- If you permit us to share your information, you may change your mind and cancel this consent at any time. If you cancel this consent, your information will no longer be shared from that date forward.

Signature of client or guardian

Date

Signature of agency witness

Date

Please treat information about my children, aged 17 or younger, the same as mine.

Verbal consent obtained by phone:

Signature of Agency Staff

Date

**West Central MN Communities Action, Inc.
Release of Information**

Read First: Before you decide whether or not to let WCMCA share some of your confidential information with another agency or person, an advocate at WCMCA will discuss with you all alternatives and any potential risks and benefits that could result from sharing your confidential information. If you decide you want WCMCA to release some of your confidential information, you can use this form to choose what is shared; how it is shared; with whom; and for how long.

I understand that WCMCA has an obligation to keep my personal information, identifying information, and my records confidential. I also understand that I can choose to allow WCMCA to release some of my personal information to certain individuals or agencies.

I, _____, authorize WCMCA to share the following specific information with:
(Name)

Who I want to have my information:	Name: Specific office at agency: Phone number:
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The information that may be shared: in person by phone by fax by mail by email
I understand that electronic mail (email) is not confidential and can be intercepted and read by other people.

What info about me will be shared:	List as specifically as possible - for example: name, dates of service, any documents
Why I want my info shared (purpose):	List as specifically as possible - for example: to receive benefits

Please note: there is a risk that a limited release of information can potentially open up access by others to all of your confidential information held by WCMCA.

I understand:

That I do not have to sign a release form. I do not have to allow WCMCA to share my information. Signing a release form is completely voluntary. That this release is limited to what I write above. If I would like WCMCA to release information about me in the future, I will need to sign another written, time-limited release.

That releasing information about me could give another agency or person information about my location and would confirm that I have been receiving services from WCMCA.

That WCMCA and I may not be able to control what happens to my information once it has been released to the above person or agency, and that the agency or person getting my information may be required by law or practice to share it with others.

This release expires on: **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____
Expiration should meet the needs of the client, which is typically no more than 15-30 days, but may be shorter or longer.

I understand that this release is valid when I sign it and that I may withdraw my consent to this release at any time, either orally or in writing.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Witness: _____ **Time:** _____

Reaffirmation and Extension (if additional time is necessary to meet the purpose of this release)

I confirm that this release is still valid and I would like to extend the release until:

Signature: _____ **New Date:** _____

Witness: _____ **New Time:** _____

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Signature: _____ **New Date:** _____

Witness: _____ **New Time:** _____

What is the study about?

This is a follow-up survey aimed to make sure that we are providing quality assistance, to see if you need any more assistance, and to see how you are doing.

Why are you asking me?

You are being asked to complete the survey because of the housing supports that you received. We want to have a better understanding of how our services benefitted you, or where we can provide more assistance. With your lived experience, through our program you have a unique perspective and can provide us with informational data.

What are the dangers to me?

There are no known dangers with completing this survey. Any questions or concerns regarding that survey can be directed to the office and contacted by the phone number 218-405-3073.

How will you keep my information confidential?

Your survey responses will only be viewed at West Central Minnesota Communities Action by staff. More information on Survey Monkey's (Momentive) Privacy Notice can be found on their website or at https://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/legal/privacy/?ut_source2=en%2Fcreate%2Fconsent-statements-privacy-notices&ut_source3=inline. Any personal data collected from them in the survey may be transferred to various countries, including the United States and other locations Momentive has offices.

Are there any benefits to society as a result of me taking part in this research?

Your participation in this survey can benefit the society by providing us with data on how we can better serve clients in the future.

Are there any benefits to me for taking part in this research study?

Benefits of completing this survey would be receiving more information on programs offered, and the possibility of West Central Minnesota Communities Action being able to assist you further if you qualify for the programs.

Will I get paid for being in the study? Will it cost me anything?

There are no costs to you, or payments made for participating in this survey.

What if I do not want to complete the survey?

You have the right to refuse to participate without penalty.

Voluntary Consent by Participant:

By signing this consent form, you are agreeing that you read, or it has been read to you, and you fully understand the contents of this document and are willing to take part in this survey. By signing this form, you are agreeing that you are 18 years of age or older and are agreeing to participate in this survey.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Are you in a Housing Crisis?

Agencies resources are limited. Here are some possible solutions to your housing crisis:

1. Talk to you Landlord/Apartment Manager:

- a. Let the landlord know you are having difficulty paying your rent before your rent is due. Discuss how you plan on getting caught up. Request a payment plan, for example: you will pay half of the rent on the 1st and then the rest on the 10th. Make sure to get this payment plan in writing.
- b. Ask your landlord if you can pay some of your rent with each paycheck.

2. Increase Your Income

- a. Review your W4. Are you claiming all the allowances which you are eligible for? Consider increasing your allowances. Fewer taxes are deducted from paychecks so net pay will be larger. (Tax refund will be smaller). To determine how changing your W4 affects your paycheck check out:
<http://www.paycheckcity.com>
- b. Ask for more hours at work and/or get a second job. Visit your local Work Force Center to access computers and attend Creative Job Search classes. Register with temporary employment agencies.

3. Decrease Your expenses and Use Income Wisely

- a. Prioritize your bills. Imagine a week without a cell phone; now imagine a week without a home.
- b. Cancel or reduce thing that are not necessities such as cable, internet or landline phone.
- c. Attend a Financial Literacy Class that is offered through WCMCA, call **800.492.4805** for more information.
- d. Are you paying too much or receiving too little in child support? Use the tool below to calculate.
<http://childsupportcalculator.dhs.state.mn.us>
- e. Move to a less expensive unit if you can't afford your current one. Read your lease and give your landlord proper notice. Find housing that is about 30% of your income. People who spend over 50% of their income on housing are more likely to lose that housing.

4. Tax Return & Renters' Credit:

WCMCA offers free tax assistance and preparation, for more information call **800.492.4805**. Tax refunds are usually received February-April and renter's credits are received in mid-August. The average Renter's Credit is \$518.00. Use these payments to get caught up on rent, pay your rent in advance or start a savings account so you are prepared for a future emergency. For information on the Earned Income Tax Credit & the Working Family Credit go to: <http://bridgetobenefits.org>

5. Increase Resources which enable you to put more of your cash resources towards rent.

- a. Access a screening tool for the programs listed below: <http://bridgetobenefits.org> to apply for most of these programs and to apply for cash assistance programs - Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the Diversionary Work Program (DWP) & General Assistance (GA) contact your county human services office.
- b. WCMCA's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) assists income eligible households with payments towards their gas and/or electric bills. The program runs from October through May. Grants are based on household size, the past 3 full months' income and how much energy it took to heat the unit last year.
- c. Food shelves. Find out the number of times you can use your local food shelf and utilize them when needed.
- d. Fare for all. Purchase fresh produce and frozen meats up to 40% savings.
<http://www.fareforall.org> > **1.800.582.4291**
- e. SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Food Support. Contact the county you live in to determine if you are eligible to receive SNAP. You may also contact WCMCA if you need help completing

the SNAP application.

- f. WIC: Women, Infants and Children provide vouchers for food, infant formula, and baby food. Pregnant and Breastfeeding women and their children are eligible. Visit <http://www.health.state.mn.us/wic/> to determine if you might be eligible and find a WIC office near you.

6. Apply for Long-Term Rental Assistance

- a. Income-based Housing and Subsidized Housing.
- b. Alexandria HRA-320.762.1311
- c. Douglas County HRA 320.762.3849
- d. Public Housing/subsidized housing-some units are based on income, others offer below market rents.
<https://www.hud.gov/states/minnesota/renting>
www.publichousing.com/city/mn-alexandria

7. Eviction Notice

- a. Talk to the landlord to discuss your options or ways to avoid going to court. Evictions go on your public record and will prevent you from finding housing in the future.
- b. To understand tenants' rights in an eviction go to www.lawhelpmn.org or visit the Attorney General's website to view Landlord/Tenants Rights Handbook at www.ag.state.mn.us/Office/Publications.asp
- c. For representation in an eviction proceeding, contact Legal Services of Northwest MN > **320.762.0663**

8. Friends & Family Plan

Can you borrow money from family or friends; can you use your savings or sell something?

9. Homeless Households

- a. Family and/or friends - can you live with them? Make an agreement concerning the length of time you plan to stay, how you will assist with housing costs and household chores. Establish a savings account so you have money for deposit and rent when it is time to move.
- b. Place of Hope Ministries - provides community meals and shelter for those experiencing homelessness: **511 9th Ave N, St. Cloud MN > 320.203.7881**
- c. Salvation Army Shelter - they provide a hot meal daily to anyone, emergency overnight shelter and a food shelf. **400 U.S. Highway 10 S, St. Cloud > 320.252.4552**
- d. Anna Marie's Alliance - Shelter and other supportive services to persons experiencing domestic violence. **320.253.6900 or www.annamaries.org**
- e. Statewide shelter list: <https://www.hud.gov/states/minnesota/homeless>