A Home of One's Own

Presented by The Arc Minnesota:

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Housekeeping Items

- All participants have their microphone off during the presentation.
- There will be time at the end for Q&A, but you may ask questions using the chatbox function at any time.
- If you are having any technical issues, please send us a chat and we will do our best to assist you.
- Please fill out survey at the end of webinar to let us know of future topics you’d like to learn more about.
A Home of One's Own

Search for
Less Restrictive Housing

The Arc Minnesota has been providing housing navigation services since 2009.

To date, we have assisted over 3,000 adults who have disabilities with moving to homes of their own.
Impacts on individuals

- Well-being
- Self-determination
- Self-Advocacy
- Belonging
- Capacity
Early 2000's: Housing Access Coordination (HAC) begins as a HCBS Waiver Service

2009: The Arc Minnesota receives a grant from MN DHS to provide Housing Access Services (HAS)

2016: Changes to the HAC waiver service are made based on the successful outcomes of the HAS grant

2020: Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) replaces HAC as a HCBS Waiver service, and is also made available for people without Waivers
To be eligible, **both** programs require that participants:

- Be a resident of Minnesota
- Be 18 years or older
- Have a disability that can be documented
- Receive Medicaid
In both programs, activities include:

- Creating a housing focused Person Centered Plan
- Assisting the person with finding long term housing of their choice
- Having the person at the center of all services
Both programs can help people move into market rate, project-based section 8, subsidized public housing, Section 42, housing that accepts housing vouchers, and many other settings.
Housing Access Services: A Brief History

• Housing Access Services began in 2009 and was the result of inspired thinking and planning between staff at The Arc Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

• Housing Access Services is funded through the Minnesota general appropriations fund and was codified through Minnesota legislative action. In 2018, the statute was changed to broaden eligibility.
Housing Access Services (HAS)

- This program is for people with disabilities who are living in their own home or family home and who do not have a Waiver

- Requires that a participant
  - Not be homeless
  - Not be at risk of homelessness
  - Not currently living in a congregate setting and not at risk of institutionalization

- Does not allow moves to provider-controlled settings
Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)

• A billable housing navigation and housing sustaining service
• Approved by the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS)
• Administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services via Medicaid enrolled providers
• Funded by a participant’s Medicaid
Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)

• Requires that a participant:
  • Have a Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver living in any setting, OR
  • Be homeless, OR
  • Be at risk of homelessness, OR
  • Be living in a congregate setting, OR
  • Be at risk of institutionalization
Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)

Allows people to move to less restrictive settings:

• Moves from nursing homes/institutional settings into assisted living, group homes or adult foster care
• Moves from assisted living, group homes or adult foster care into a home of their own
Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)

**Stage One: Transition**
- Create a Housing Plan
- Search for new housing
- Work with landlords
- Assist with application process
- Apply for benefits
- Understanding a lease
- Expunging records
- Set up disability services

**Stage Two: Sustaining**
- Developing or modifying a support and/or crisis safety plan
- Helping to create positive relationships with neighbors or landlords
- Assisting with linking the person with community resources and supports, including other financial benefits to retain housing
- Arranging for adaptive housing accommodations
- Can be provided long-term after a move
HSS Impact

• HSS eligibility criteria makes it easier for people to access services sooner

• For someone experiencing homelessness, often their first connection to get assessed for disability services

• Billing is allowed time spent connecting people to disability services and other benefits to sustain their housing

• When people move out of congregate settings, it creates space for people that have a greater need for that type of setting

• HSS is not paid out of the persons waiver budget, so more funding available in their waiver budget for in home service needs
One time mover costs are vital to get people into their own home

- Allows $3,000 for a qualified move, every three years
- This funding does NOT come out of the persons waiver dollars
- This service is only for people who have a waiver

Uses include:
- A deposit
- Movers
- Essential Furniture
- Household Goods
- Utility set up fees
- Pest and allergen treatment
- Window Coverings
Paying for Your Own Home

- Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers
- Mainstream Vouchers
- MSA Housing and Cash Assistance
- SSI/SSDI
- Employment
  - Helping the person find schooling or training
  - Enrolling in school or a work program such as Vocational Rehabilitation
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- General Assistance (GA)
- Other housing tenant-based vouchers (VASH, Bridges etc.)
- Project based subsidy
- Energy Assistance Program
The Arc Minnesota has been able to make a significant impact in reaching people who are Black, Indigenous & Other People of Color (BIPOC) through our Housing Services.

BIPOC communities have been disproportionately affected by the lack of affordable housing and fair housing issues.

52% of participants in the Metro area are BIPOC; statewide 34% are BIPOC (Minnesota BIPOC population is 21.9%).

Our housing programs help to address these inequities.
Karli's Story

Housing Access Services First Mover
Questions?