

Rent Supplement Program



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CMHA Kenora Rent Supplement Programs

- Provides rent subsidies to individuals living in Kenora with mental health & addiction issues
- Provides rent subsidies to individuals who have been involved with the criminal justice system or who are currently involved with the criminal justice system
- Provides financial support and housing case management to support individuals in obtaining and maintaining safe, suitable housing
- Operates in partnership with the KDSB and private landlords in Kenora to provide affordable housing options
- The program is transitional with a duration of 3 years; clients may reapply if there's need



Two Streams to Suit Individual Needs

Mental Health & Justice

- Individuals who are living with mental illness, as well as current or past involvement with the Criminal Justice System through;
 - Mental Health Court Diversion
 - Following release from a provincial correctional facility
 - Involvement with the Post-Custody Enhancement Program and/or probation

Mental Health & Addictions

- Living with mental illness or addiction challenges and experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless





Available to individuals, couples, and families

- 16 years of age or older
- Residing in Kenora
- Who have a mental health diagnosis (MH&A)
- Who have addictions issues (Both MH&A and MH&J)
- Can live independently, while being appropriately managed through community-based housing case management services
- Must be receiving income (Ontario Works, ODSP, Employment, OAS)



Housing Case Manager Roles



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- Provide housing case management to assist client in accessing and maintaining suitable housing
- Provide referral to community services, supports and resources if not already linked to services upon referral
- Collaborate with other community services already involved in client care to provide wrap-around supports
- Schedule regular in-unit wellness checks and unit inspections with clients (2-3 times a week)
- Develop a transition plan for clients based on recovery goals (3 -year window)



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Housing Coordinator's Role

- Collaborate with housing providers and landlords in the Kenora area, and ensure they are satisfied with services received by CMHAK's Rent Supplement Program
- Ensure rent payments are set up and are processed each month
- Look for new units for waitlist clients
- Manage the Rent Supplement Program waitlist
- Act as a support to landlords to ensure any tenancy issues are dealt with promptly, effectively and efficiently.
- Maintain regular contact with landlords (minimum monthly)
- Client intakes to the program
- Maintain contact with clients on the waitlist (minimum monthly)
- Ensure completion of clinical assessment tools (VI-SPDAT, OCAN, HARM-CV, etc..)
- Oversee housing case manager's workloads/ conduct staff supervisions



Transitional Justice Unit

- Furnished one-bedroom transitional unit available for **8 months** for those being released directly from a correctional facility or who have justice involvement. (Maples Apartment)
- Designed to provide short-term intensive supports to allow for stabilization, Monday – Friday support from the Mental Health & Justice Housing Case Manager
- Mental Health & Justice Housing Case Manager works with clients to identify the supports needed and ensure connections are made to establish wraparound supports are in place as the client transitions out following the 8-month period.
- Mental Health & Justice Housing Case Manager supports clients with completing housing searches, arranging rent payments, obtaining furniture, and organizing the move-in and move out process.



Multi-bedroom Head Lease Unit & 10 Matheson Units



- Furnished three-bedroom unit in partnership with the KDSB. Access to furniture depot if additional household items are needed
- Clients from both streams can access this unit
- Housing Case Managers work with clients to identify the supports needed and ensure connections are made to ensure wraparound supports are in place
- House Rules and Guest Policies are built into the Tenant Agreement, and weekly unit inspections are in place to troubleshoot any housing issues as they arise
- Internet, Cable and Landline phone provided for tenants to use



What's New/Current?



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- ▶ 10 Mental Health & Addiction Clients
- ▶ 7 Mental Health & Justice Clients
- ▶ 21 individuals on the waitlist - these clients have completed an intake

Thank you!

Questions?



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