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MPHA teams with Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County to support families facing sudden displacement

Landlord's loss of licenses affects 57 low-income families

Families in 57 properties owned by the same Minneapolis landlord find themselves forced to move out by February 28, after the owner lost his rental licenses for repeated violations of city procedures. The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) and Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC) have mobilized on short notice to provide services and direct financial support to help these families find new homes and maintain stability through a difficult and unwelcome transition.

MPHA will provide each family an emergency rental subsidy of up to \$500 per month for up to 12 months, as long as they qualify as "low-income" under federal guidelines. CAP-HC will make these payments directly to landlords, along with screening and other administration of the program. CAP-HC will also connect families to its full range of economic and social assistance services, including food support, energy assistance, and other renters' resources.

"These families are facing a housing crisis they did nothing to cause," said Kyle Hanson, MPHA's Director of Housing Choice Vouchers. "The additional \$500 a month toward rent should provide vital reassurance to both the families and prospective landlords."

Families will also have streamlined access to social services from Hennepin County. To enable a swift move-in, the City of Minneapolis will conduct prompt inspections of prospective units. While MPHA typically conducts its own inspections, in this case MPHA will issue the rental subsidy following satisfactory inspection results from the city.

"CAP-HC is excited to partner with MPHA to support tenants in crisis," said Suzanne Shatila, CAP-HC Director of Program Operations. "This is a chance for a private and public entity to pool resources to ensure that each tenant receives the support and financial assistance they need to limit the impacts of the crisis on their daily lives while working to achieve family and economic stability."

Affected families should contact CAP-HC's Housing Stabilization Program Advisor (952-999-4439 or 952-356-2783, or xmatos@caphennepin.org). # # #

Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC) works to establish services, programs and partnerships that address poverty and increase family and economic stability in Hennepin County. CAP-HC is a non-profit organization established in 1986 to provide opportunities to community members that will help identify and overcome economic barriers.

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) manages 6,000 units of public housing and 5,000 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, serving more than 27,000 people in Minneapolis. Our mission is to promote and deliver quality, well-managed homes to a diverse low income population and, with partners, contribute to the well-being of the individuals, families, and community we serve.