



Housing Stabilization Services: Micro-Grant RFP Now Open

Since the start of the Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) Medicaid benefit in July of 2020, the HSS TA Team has worked with over 50 organizations across Minnesota to increase capacity to be able to access this new and critical benefit. Through our technical assistance we have identified significant challenges that prevent organization from becoming Medicaid billing agencies.

The Challenge

Housing Stabilization Services is a Medical Assistance billable service. This means that agencies who wish to offer and bill for these services have a variety of costly activities that they need to engage in to effectively offer and bill for these services including:

- Enrolling current residents/ tenants in the program
- Enrolling as an agency. Costs per site for 5- year enrollment is \$595 a site.
- Ensure current agency information technology meets program requirements. For many agencies this will mean purchasing and implementing an Electronic Health Record.
- Become HIPPA compliant for record privacy controls
- Utilize consultants to revise agency policies and procedures
- Repurpose staff or hire staff for roles around billing, compliance and quality assurance as required by best practices, HIPPA and to ensure accurate and effective billing practices.

The Opportunity

The Micro-grant funding will help agencies to cover costs related to transitioning to Housing Stabilization Services. Funding can be used for the following purposes:

- Information technology upgrades to ensure successful billing
- Consultant support to develop transition plan, revise policies and procedures and put in place infrastructure needed to support billing
- Staff training including required training on ensuring secure client records as required by HIPPA.

The Funding and Priority

- We welcome funding requests up to \$25,000 to support HSS implementation.
- Priority will be given to Culturally Specific Organization and providers in Greater Minnesota
- The micro-grants will be accompanied by intensive technical assistance from the HSS Technical Assistance Team to ensure the success of participating agencies.

The Application and Timing

- Applications are due Nov 1, 2021 by 5 PM
- Please reach out to HSS-TATEAM@MESH-MN.Org for any questions