



FAMILY VIOLENCE REFERRAL

This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by calling the county worker on this form. For TDD users and those with speech difficulties, please contact your county worker through the Minnesota Relay at 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (TDD) or 1-877-627-3848 (Speech-to-Speech Relay).

Client Information

Client Name	Case Number	Date
		10/01/2018

Purpose

This form tells victims of domestic abuse how to get help.

Help for Domestic Abuse

- If you or someone in your home is a victim of domestic abuse **the county can help you.** If you want to know more or want to stop abuse you can talk to your worker or contact:

Agency	Phone Number

Address

City	State	ZIP Code
	MN	

- Some of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) rules do not apply to domestic abuse victims. You must tell us about the abuse and have a special employment plan that includes activities to help keep your family safe. Please talk to your worker or an advocate if you want to know about this. If you plan is approved, you will be excused from some of the rules.
- If you have used 60 months of MFIP you may be able to get more months. Please talk to you worker or an advocate if you want to know about this.
- You can also call the **national domestic violence hot line at 1-800-799-7233 or Legal Aid at 1-888-354-5522.**

Non-citizens

If you are not a United States citizen, but are married to a United State citizen or legal permanent resident, and you are a victim of domestic abuse, you may be able to get help to get permanent residency. Tell your worker if you think you are one of these people. If you qualify, you worker will tell you how to get legal help. Contact the agency below for help getting permanent residence status.

Agency	Phone Number

Address

City	State	ZIP Code
	MN	



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Domestic Violence Information

What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence or abuse is what someone says or does over and over again to make you feel afraid or to control you. People who are elderly, frail, have a disability, or who depend on others for assistance may not be able to protect themselves from domestic violence or abuse. Minnesota has a law to protect and assist people who are vulnerable to abuse or who are not able to care for themselves. The following are some examples of violence or abuse:

- Swearing or screaming at you
- Calling you names
- Taking money or property without permission or against your wishes
- Threatening to hurt you or others you care about
- Failing to provide care for you for someone whose responsibility it is to do so
- Not letting you leave the house
- Blaming you for everything that goes wrong
- Stalking you
- Being touched against your wishes or forced to have sex
- Choking, grabbing, hitting, pushing, pinching or kicking you

What services are available to victims of domestic violence?

Toll free Hotlines have counselors who provide services, such as:

- Crisis counseling
- Safety Planning
- Assistance with finding shelter

Referrals to other organizations such as:

- Legal services support groups
- Advocacy with the police

If you are in danger from domestic violence or abuse and need help, call the National Domestic Abuse Hotline at 800-799-7233, (TTY: 800-787-3224) or the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women at 800-289-6177. The Minnesota Domestic Violence Crisis phone number is 866-223-1111.

The **Safe at Home (SAH) Program** is a Minnesota address confidentiality program that assists survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking by providing a substitute address for people who move or are about to move to a new location unknown to their aggressors. For information on this program contact the Minnesota Secretary of State at 651-201-1399 or 866-723-3035.

Vulnerable adults

Call the Senior LinkAge Line at 800-333-2433 to report concerns and to help a vulnerable adult get needed protection and assistance. For more information, ask your worker for the "Help protect people who are frail or vulnerable" brochure (DHS-2754).

What are domestic violence waivers?

If you are eligible for public assistance and you experience domestic violence, certain program requirements may be temporarily waived, meaning they may not apply in your situation.

Waivers are available for eligible public assistance applicants who apply for the following programs: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), General Assistance (GA), Diversionary Work Program (DWP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Medical Assistance (MA) and MinnesotaCare.

If domestic violence or abuse makes it hard for you to follow program rules, talk to your worker.



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Waivers of SNAP rules

This brochure must be give to all households that apply for SNAP. If your available gross income is less than the SNAP program limits, you may be eligible for benefits. The value of assets and vehicles are not used when determining your eligibility for SNAP.

Waivers of DWP and MFIP rules

There is a Family Violence Waiver available in DWP and MFIP for people who are victims of domestic violence. If you or your child is a victim of past or current domestic violence, you may be able to get a Family Violence Waiver. When you are on DWP, once you have an approved Family Violence Waiver, your family will transition to MFIP. When you are on MFIP with an approved Family Violence Waiver:

- You may not need to follow all employment rules
- You will be exempt from the 60-month welfare time limit while you have this waiver.

To get a Family Violence Waiver you must:

- Tell your county worker you want an MFIP Family Violence Waiver
- Show that the violence occurred by giving your county worker any of these items:
 - Medical records
 - A statement from a battered women’s advocate or a sexual assault advocate
 - A statement from a professional, like a doctor, nurse, clergy, counselor or social worker who you told about the abuse
 - A statement from someone, like a neighbor, family member or a co-worker, who knows about the abuse
 - Photos of injuries or damage to your property
 - A police report
 - A copy of a restraining order, order for protection or a harassment order

If you need help getting any of these items, talk to a domestic violence advocate or your county worker.

- Develop and follow a plan that includes activities to keep you safe.

What is a plan?

Your plan is developed with a person trained in domestic violence prevention and a job counselor or a county worker. The plan will take your situation into account and include activities to help you become employed.

The plan will:

- Make the safety of you and your children a priority
- Include only work and training activities if they are safe for you and your children

Be sure you really can meet the goals in your plan before you agree to it.

The plan does not guarantee your safety.

If you need to change the plan or cannot follow it, contact your county worker as soon as possible.

Other important things to know

- If you do not follow your plan and do not notify your job counselor or case manager, you may be sanctioned. This means your MFIP grant may be reduced or closed.
- If you have questions about the MFIP Family Violence Waiver, call the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women at 800-289-6177 (this is not a crisis number). If you are in a crisis, call 651-646-0994.
- If you are denied a waiver, or if your waiver is canceled, you can appeal.
- You may be able to get legal advice or help with an appeal from your local legal aid office. To contact your local legal aid office, call 888-354-5522.

If you have questions

For questions about the MFIP Domestic Violence Waiver, contact the human services office in your county.

For TTY service, call the Minnesota Relay at 711 or 800-627-3529 and ask them to call your county human services off. For the Speech-to-Speech Relay, call 877-627-3848.



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How do I appeal?

If you don't agree with the action the county takes on your application, tell your county worker. Ask the worker to explain the reasons for the action.

You may see the policy manuals, rules or laws that give the reasons for the action. If you still do not agree, you may appeal. Your county worker will help you ask for an appeal hearing or contact:

Minnesota Department of Human Services	Metro: 651-431-3600 (Voice)
Appeals Office	Outstate: 800-657-3510
P.O. Box 64941	TTY: 800-627-3529
St. Paul, MN 55164-0941	Fax: 651-431-7523

You should bring any facts to the hearing that will help you explain why you do not agree. You may bring a friend or a lawyer. If you want a lawyer, ask your worker for information about free legal services. You may bring people to the hearing to give information about the facts. After you and the county have talked about your case, the human services judge will decide the case. You will get the decision in the mail.

If you are not satisfied, you have 30 days to appeal to the state district office.

Your right to Privacy

Most of the time, the facts asked for by the human services office are called "private". This means that you may see facts about yourself, but they are not open to the public. Certain other government agencies may see them too. You have the right to question what you think is wrong in your file.

For more facts about data privacy, ask your county worker or write the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Discrimination is against the law

You have the right to file a complaint if you believe you were treated in a discriminatory way by a human services agency. You can contact any of the following agencies directly to file a civil rights complaint:

The **Minnesota Department of Human Services**, Equal Opportunity and Access Division, prohibits discrimination in all of its programs because of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, sexual orientation, public assistance status, age or disability. Contact the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Equal Opportunity and Access Division, directly at P.O. Box 64997, St. Paul, MN 55164-0997. Telephone 651-431-3040 or use your preferred relay service.

The **Minnesota Department of Human Rights** prohibits discrimination in public services programs because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or public assistance status. Contact the Minnesota Department of Human Rights directly at Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Freeman Building, 625 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. Telephone 651-539-1100 and Toll Free 800-657-3704. TTY 651-296-1283.

The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'** Office for Civil Rights prohibits discrimination in its programs because of race, color, national origin, disability, age, and in some cases sex and religion. Contact the Human Services' Office for Civil Rights directly at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights, Region V, 233 North Michigan Avenue, Suit 240, Chicago, IL 60601. Telephone 312-886-2359 and Toll Free 800-368-1019. TTY 800-537-7697.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture** prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, martial status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html , or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at "mailto:program.intake@usda.gov" program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339; or 800-845-6135 (Spanish).

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at 800-221-5689, which is also in Spanish or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers found online at http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/contact_info/hotlines.htm. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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Agencies that Assist with Employment Plans

Agencies Contracted with Hennepin County to Assist with MFIP Family Violence Waiver Services

Provider	Contact Person	Phone
Tubman	MFIP Family Violence Waiver Advocate	612-767-6633

Many of the agencies serve a specific population and have limited staff/office hours.

Call to make an appointment.

= Agency assists women * = Agency assists men

<u>SHELTERS</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
# Alexandra House	612-780-2330
# Ann Peirce Rogers	651-768-0216
# Casa de Esperanza	651-772-1611
# Central Minnesota Task Force for Battered Women	1-800-950-2203
# Cornerstone	952-884-0376
# Eagles Nest	651-222-5836
# Harriet Tubman	612-825-0000
# Hill Home	651-770-0777
# Home Free	763-559-4945
# Lewis House	651-452-7288
# Sojourner/Hopkins Project	952-933-7433
# The Women's Center	651-385-8600
# Asian Women United/House of Peace	612-724-8823
# Missions Inc Programs	763-559-9008
<u>LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAMS</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
# Brian Coyle Center	612-338-5282
* # Cornerstone Intervention (South Suburbs Only)	952-884-0330
# Harriet Tubman Legal Advocacy	612-825-3333
* # Hennepin County Domestic Abuse Service Center	612-348-5073
# Home Free Community Programs (NW Hennepin County)	612-545-7080
* # Minneapolis Intervention Project	612-673-3526
* # Project Place (Crystal, Brooklyn Center, Maple Grove, Robbinsdale) 24 hour crisis # is 763-536-1850	763-533-0733
* # Sojourner Community Advocates (West Suburbs)	952-935-1004
# Sojourner Intervention (Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park)	952-933-7422
# Women of Nations	651-222-5836
<u>COUNSELING AND REFERRAL</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
# African American Family Services	612-871-7878
# Community-University Health Care Center (CUHCC) (Asian Families Only)	612-638-0700
* # Division of Indian Work (Native American Women, Men, Children)	612-722-8722
# Domestic Abuse Project	612-874-7063
* # Eastside Neighborhood Services	612-781-6011
* Men's Center	612-822-5892
* # Outfront Minnesota	612-822-0127
* # Phyllis Wheatley Community Center	612-374-4342
* # Sexual Violence Program	612-626-9111
# Women's Advocates	651-227-8284