

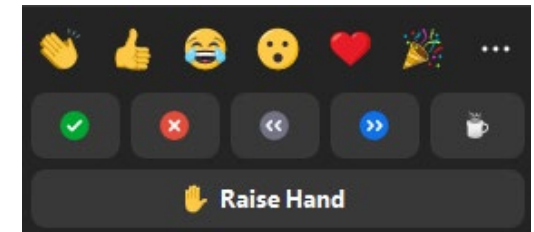
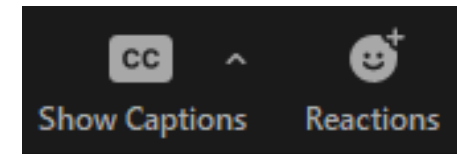
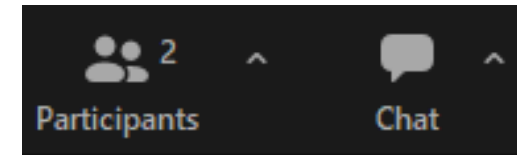
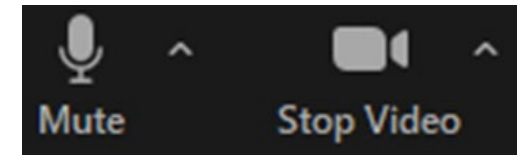
Welcome to the Workgroup on Expediting Rental Assistance!

Please use this time to get settled and test out Zoom features.

- **Mute/Unmute:** Turn your microphone on/off. Use the arrow to adjust settings.
- **Stop/Start Video:** Turn your camera on/off. Use the arrow to adjust settings.
- **Participants:** See who's currently in the meeting.
- **Chat:** Open the chat panel.
- **Show Captions:** Turn on live captions (it only turns on for you, not everyone).
- **Reactions:** Use the Raise Hand feature to show you'd like to talk.

Please ensure Zoom shows your preferred name, and (if you like) add your pronouns.

- Click the “Participants” button.
- Hover your mouse over your name, then click the three dots beside it.
- Click “Rename.” A pop-up box will appear – edit your name and your pronouns.
- Click “Change.”



Management Analysis and Development (MAD)

Who is MAD?

- The state's in-house management consulting group.
- Part of Minnesota Management and Budget.
- Supports public sector organizations.
- Directed by the legislation to facilitate this workgroup.



Karen Gaides
(she/her)



Kristina Krull
(she/her)



Katie Hatt
(she/her)



The workgroup is meeting on Zoom.

- Members and invited presenters should be in the room.



We're livestreaming from Zoom to YouTube for all others.

- The livestream shows Zoom's live captions.
- Members of the public needing other accommodations for future meetings should email MAD at least three business days beforehand.
- Management.Analysis@state.mn.us

1. Legislative charge and overview of materials
2. Member introductions
3. Workgroup overview
4. Break
5. Roles and responsibilities overview
6. Background information on programs in scope
7. Wrap-up and next steps

Legislative charge and overview of materials

Identify what **processes, procedures, and technological or personnel resources would be necessary** to enable agencies administering rental assistance to meet the following goals:

- within **two weeks** of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, make and **issue a determination** on the application; and
- within **30 days** of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, **issue payment** on an approved rental application to the landlord.



Programs in scope:

- Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)
- Emergency Assistance (EA)
- Emergency General Assistance (EGA)



Submit a final report by February 29, 2024, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over housing finance and policy.

The report shall **include draft legislation** required to implement the proposed legislation.

- Name and (if you wish to share) pronouns
- Organization and role
- Questions:
 - What knowledge or experience do you have with EA, EGA, or FHPAP?
 - What is a skill, approach, or trait that you bring to the workgroup?
 - What is something you want to do before summer ends?



Workgroup overview



- We'll discuss this topic more **next month**.
- Before then, members should **share existing reports and materials** from engagement efforts.
- As a first step toward engaging Tribal nations, MAD will likely work with **state tribal liaisons**.
- **Family Housing Fund** is currently finishing some community engagement in the metro.

OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN



FAMILY HOUSING
FUND

Re-imagining

Emergency Financial Assistance

Our Work to Date...

- Launched our court –based eviction prevention work to streamline services for families facing eviction (2018)
 - Highlighted the complicated process to secure emergency financial assistance
- Administered three COVID emergency financial assistance programs that gave us practical expertise (2020 – 2022)
 - Understanding of the viewpoints of many stakeholders and the shared goals across stakeholders
 - Developed keen understanding of what worked well and what didn't
 - Federal emergency gave us flexibility to remove obstacles for faster processing

As a result, we committed to work on reimagining how we provide emergency financial assistance

Phase 1: April - September

- Contract with design firm Imagine Deliver ✓
- Interviews with government stakeholders (state and metro counties) ✓
- Listening sessions
 - 2 with rental property owners & managers ✓
 - 1 with ERASE Campaign ✓
 - 3 with community-based service providers
 - 3 with renters and individuals with lived experience
- Pop-up & survey at MCH Conference
- Ongoing survey on our website

Phase 2: October - November

- Synthesis report of learnings from Phase 1
- Public webinar to share synthesis report findings
- Co-design workshops
 - Shaped by Phase 1 findings
 - Roughly 2 days

December

- Final report with policy recommendations for state and local governments
- Webinar to share final report with participants & other stakeholders



Thank you

Ellen Sahli

President

ellen@fhfund.org

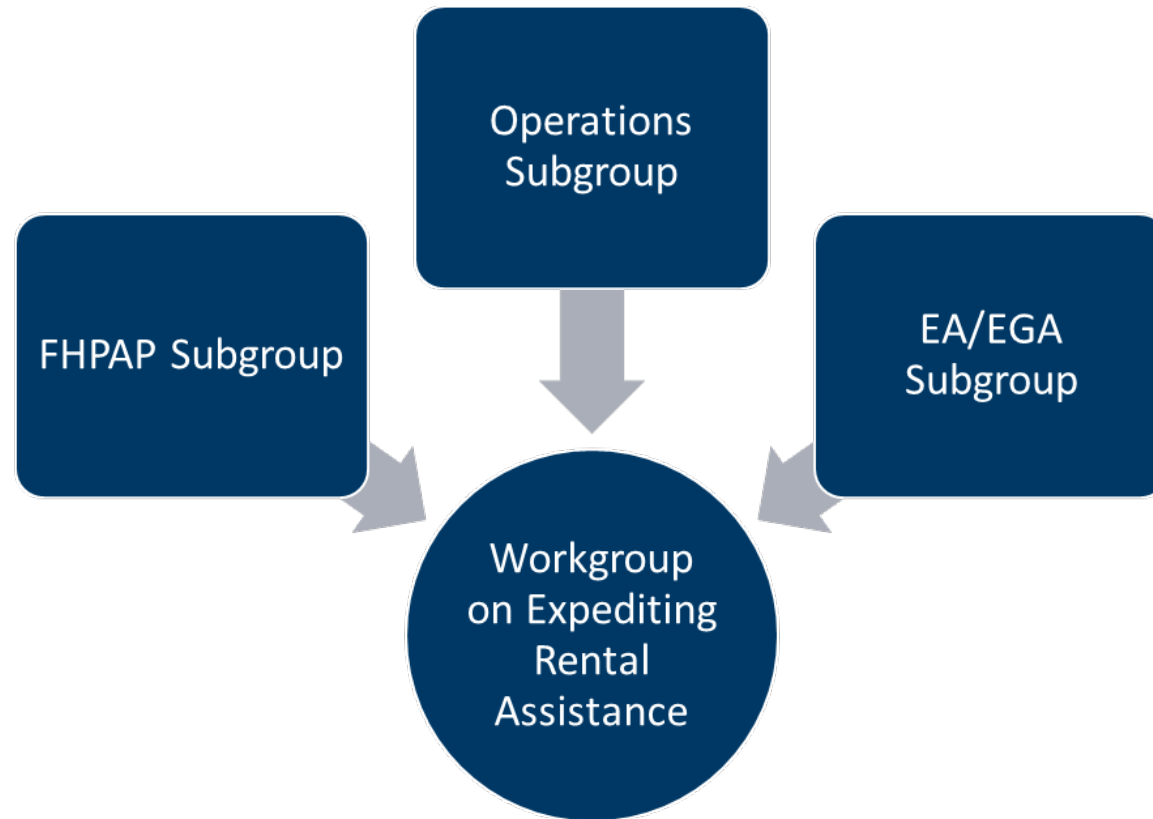
612-274-7689

Family Housing Fund

www.fhfund.org

Roles and responsibilities overview

Today we are forming the three main WERA subgroups:



Process to sign up for subgroups

- Ideally all workgroup members will be on a subgroup.
 - You can join more than one subgroup.
- After we review the subgroup roles, you'll sign up for subgroups by Zoom poll.
- The poll will have four options, and you can pick more than one:
 - Operations subgroup
 - FHPAP subgroup
 - EA/EGA subgroup
 - “Put me where you need me”

Note: If we have uneven numbers in the subgroups, MAD facilitators may ask permission to shift some members between groups.

Background information on programs in scope

During the presentation, put your questions in chat:

- What specifically do you want to know more about?
- What would inform your understanding of the workgroup scope on improved timeliness of rental assistance determination and payment?

Ask about the presentation or anything else you want to know on this topic.

After each presenter, MAD will flag questions they might be able to answer now.

After the meeting, MAD will collect all other questions and share them with members. You'll be able to add more questions to the list.



Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)

<https://www.mnhousing.gov/rental-housing/grant-programs/active-funding/fhpap.html>

Our Mission: The Core Purpose

Housing is the foundation for success, so we collaborate with individuals, communities and partners to create, preserve and finance housing that is affordable.

FHPAP eligible expenses

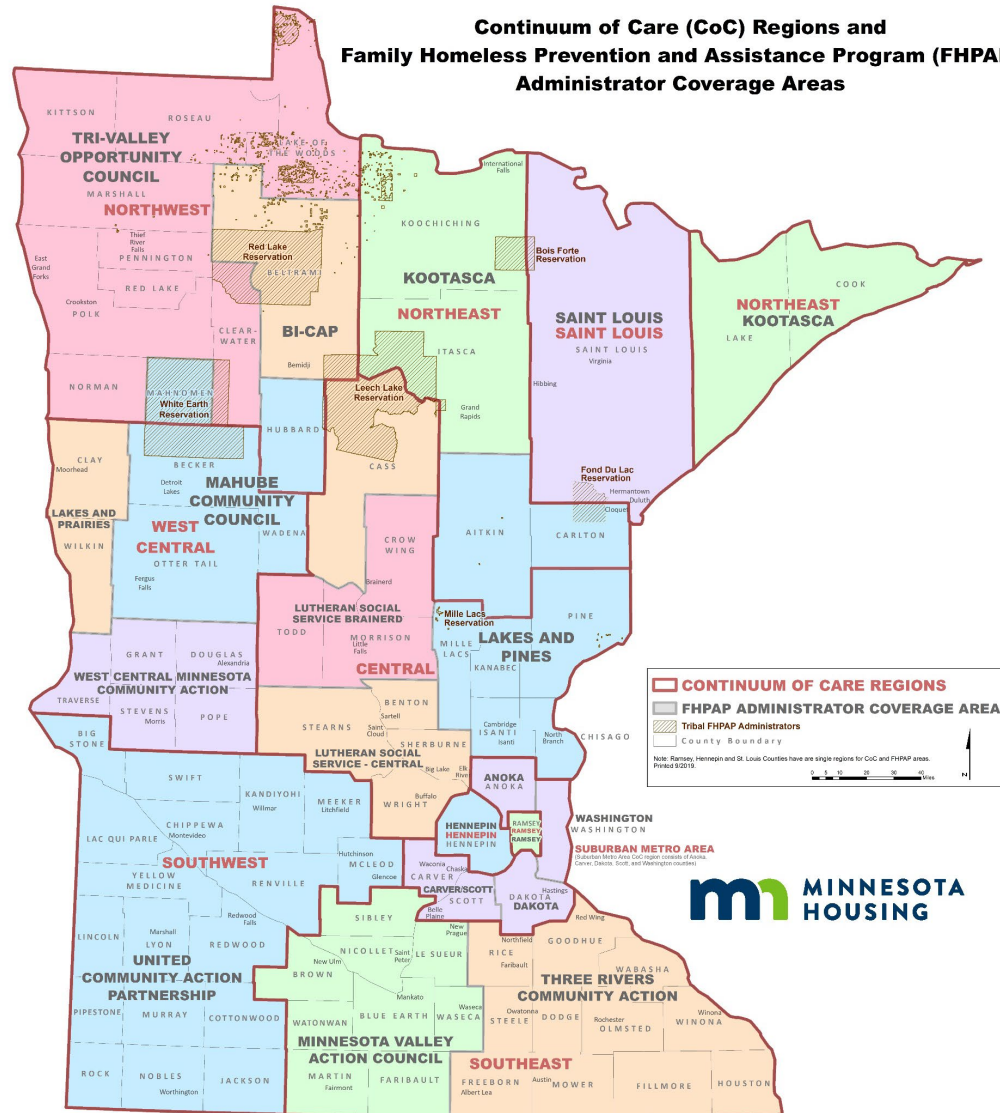
- Rental deposit
- Rent payment
- Mortgage payment
- Utilities
- Other expenses that keep people in housing
- Services, such as case management

FHPAP eligible recipients

- Household income must be at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines (FPG)
 - \$60,000 for family of four
- Minnesota resident or a household otherwise approved by Minnesota Housing
- Be homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness and in need of services and/or financial assistance due to a housing crisis

- 22 administrators beginning October 1, 2023
 - 80 subgrantees
 - Tribal nations, counties, nonprofits
- Statewide coverage
- Typical base funding \$10,269,000
 - 55% awarded to Twin Cities metropolitan area
 - 45% awarded to Greater Minnesota and Tribes
 - \$95 million additional for 2024-2025

FHPAP map of administrators



- Local administrator and subgrantees are access points
- Households must find the access point
- Minimal marketing due to demand versus resources
- Household application paperwork varies, and includes:
 - Income documentation
 - Rental payment, deposit or utilities documentation
 - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) demographics
- Payment is made by the local administrator and subgrantees to property owner/utility or mortgage company

Target Metrics

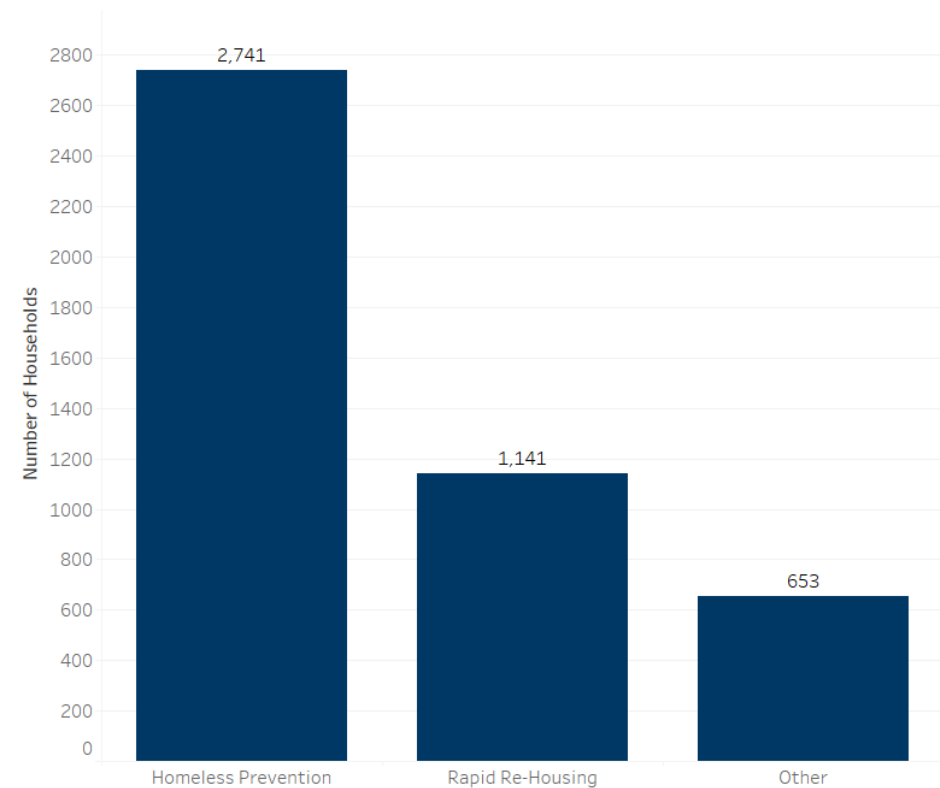
- “Within two weeks of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, make and issue a determination on the application.”
 - Currently not being measured or reported.
- “Within 30 days of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, issue payment on an approved rental application to the landlord.”
 - FHPAP “Fast Track” funds: Grantees and subgrantees must process eligible payments within 30 days from the receipt of all required documentation. In addition, they will track, verify, and document that eligible payments were made within this timeframe.
 - FHPAP “Standard” funds: Currently not being measured or reported.

Program outcomes (1/2)

- FHPAP served 4,535 households in 2022
 - Prevention and Rapid Rehousing assistance: 86% of households
 - Coordinated Entry and Street Outreach: 14% of households
- FHPAP served 59% households of color
- Adult or youth families (with children):
 - 49% of households
 - 74% of total individuals
- A slight majority (53%) of households were in Greater Minnesota

Data source: Homeless Management Information System

Number of Households in Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program, 2022

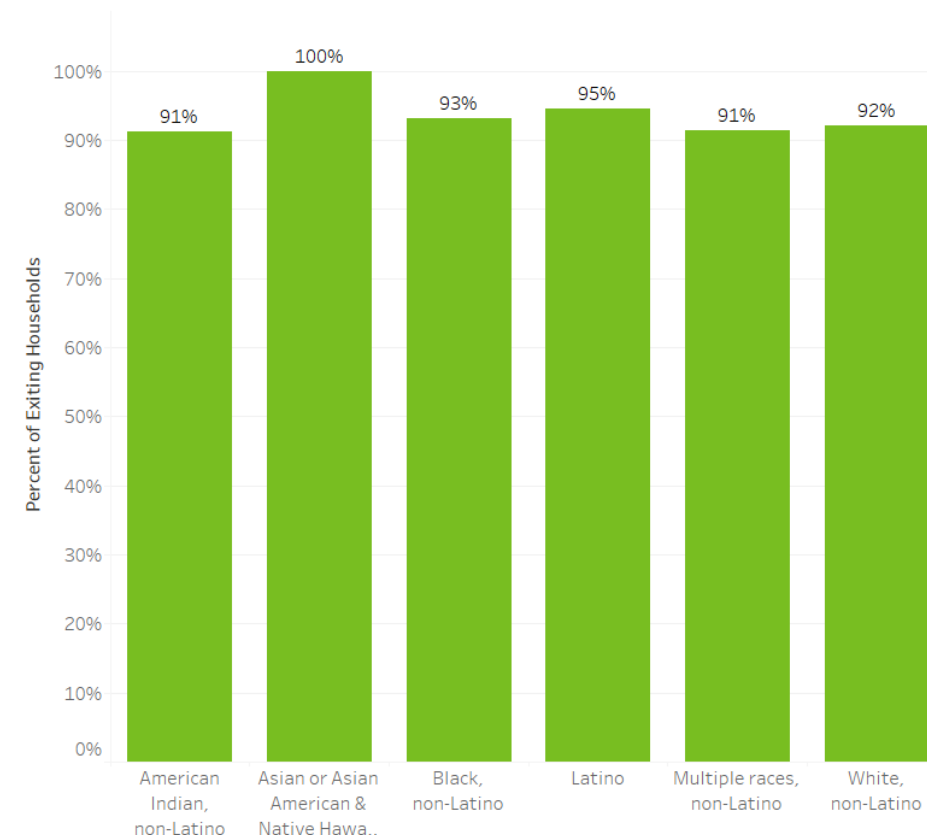


Program outcomes (2/2)

- The median length of time in the program is one month for homeless prevention households and four months in rapid rehousing:
 - Rapid rehousing households move into housing within a week of starting the program, on average
- 95% of homeless prevention and 85% of rapid rehousing households exited to permanent destinations at program completion
- 99% of homeless prevention and 97% of rapid rehousing households that exited to permanent destinations do not return to homelessness within a year of exiting the program

Data source: Homeless Management Information System

Percent of Exiting Households to a Permanent Destination by Race and Ethnicity, 2022



Questions on FHPAP?



Emergency General Assistance &
Emergency Assistance

Emergency General Assistance (EGA)

- Emergency General Assistance (EGA) is part of the General Assistance (GA) program.
- GA is Minnesota's income support program for single adults and childless couples who are unable to work.
- GA and EGA are entirely state-funded – no federal funds
- EGA usually serves 6-7,000 recipients annually
- EGA is administered by 87 counties and 1 Tribe (White Earth Nation)

- Statutory authority for EGA is in Minn. Stat. [256D.01 subd. 1e](#) and [256D.06 subd. 2](#)
- Administrative rules for EGA are in Minn. Rules [9500.1261](#)
- For eligibility workers, EGA policies are primarily in CM [04.01](#) and [04.03](#)
- There are no provisions for expedited processing of an application for EGA. CM [04.06](#): “If an emergency situation is imminent or already present, offer the interview on the same day the unit submits the CAF. If there is emergent and ongoing need, process the application as soon as possible.”

- EGA funds are provided annually to counties/tribes based on a direct allocation from the Legislature.
- The amount of the annual allocation is \$6,729,812
- For SFY2024, the EGA allocation to each agency is detailed [here](#)
- Utilization summaries are updated periodically on [CountyLink](#)
- Agencies track their real-time EGA use on the MAXIS eligibility system

To be eligible for EGA, a person must meet all the following conditions ([CM 04.03](#)):

Criteria

- Have not used EGA within 12 months following each use after 7-1-03. Anyone in the unit receiving EGA makes the entire unit ineligible for the 12-month period. Also, see 0004.01 (Emergencies - Program Provisions).
- Be in an emergency situation in which it is without, or will lose within 30 days after application, a BASIC NEED item as defined in 0002.05 (Glossary: Assistance Standard...). An emergency situation must require immediate financial assistance. The financial assistance required by the emergency must be temporary and must not exceed 30 days.
- Have an emergency that threatens the unit members' health or safety and meet the written criteria adopted by the county agency.
- The applicant and family, if any, must have a current net income under 200% of the federal poverty guidelines for the previous year. See 0016.18.01 (200 Percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines).
- The unit must not have received or be eligible for emergency aid from the County Consolidated Fund within 12 months of application for EGA.
- At least 1 person in the EGA unit must meet GA or GRH citizenship or immigration status requirements listed under 0011.03 (Citizenship and Immigration Status).
- For a single person, a childless married couple, or a family, at least 1 person must have lived in Minnesota for at least 30 days.
- The unit must not currently be eligible for or receiving MFIP.
- Disqualification from GA or MFIP must not have caused the emergency.
- Eligibility may not exceed 30 days.
- Aid is subject to the availability of funds.





Applying for EGA

People must apply for EGA:

- Online at [MNbenefits.mn.gov](https://mnbenefits.mn.gov)
- In person at a human services agency office
- By mailing, faxing or dropping off a [Combined Application \(DHS-5223\)](#)
- By calling a human services agency office

What type of assistance would you like to apply for?

Check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/>  Food (SNAP) Money to buy food for you and your family
<input type="checkbox"/>  Cash programs Programs like GA and MFIP that help families and single adults meet basic needs
<input type="checkbox"/>  Child Care Assistance Helps pay for childcare while you pursue work or school
<input type="checkbox"/>  Emergency Assistance Helps with rent and utility payments to stop eviction

Clear Form



Combined Application Form

Apply online at: <https://mnbenefits.mn.gov>

Do not use this application to apply for health care coverage. The soonest your SNAP (food) or cash benefits can start is the date the agency receives your application. We can set your application date if we have your name, address and signature on page 1. For your application to be complete, answer all questions on the application. Tell someone if you need help filling out this application. Be sure to sign and date the application on pages 1 and 9.

CASE NUMBER

PERSON 1			
APPLICANT'S LEGAL NAME - LAST	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	OTHER NAMES YOU USE (family name, nickname, etc.)
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	GENDER <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	MARITAL STATUS* <input type="radio"/> N <input type="radio"/> M <input type="radio"/> S <input type="radio"/> L <input type="radio"/> D <input type="radio"/> W
ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE (if you do not have an address, write "homeless")	APT. NUMBER	CITY	STATE ZIP CODE
MAILING ADDRESS (if different from address where you live)	APT. NUMBER	CITY	STATE ZIP CODE
PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER	OTHER PHONE NUMBER	Do you live on a reservation? <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes - which one?	
Do you need an interpreter? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	What is your preferred spoken language?	What is your preferred written language?	
LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED	MOST RECENTLY MOVED TO MINNESOTA (mm/dd/yyyy) Date: From:		
CITIZENSHIP <input type="radio"/> U.S. Citizen or U.S. National <input type="radio"/> Naturalized U.S. Citizen or Derived U.S. Citizen <input type="radio"/> Not a U.S. Citizen			IMMIGRATION STATUS
What program(s) are you applying for? <input type="checkbox"/> SNAP (food) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash programs <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Assistance <input type="checkbox"/> None			
Are you applying for cash assistance from MN Housing Support Program? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			HOUSING SUPPORT VENDOR NAME AND NUMBER (if known)
ETHNICITY (optional) Hispanic? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	RACE** (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> W	Is anyone in your household pregnant? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If yes, Who?	
Has anyone in your household ever received cash assistance, commodities or SNAP benefits before? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If yes, When? Where? What?			
Do you need help right away? Questions 1-4 below will help us decide if you can get help with food right away.			
1. How much income did or will your household get this month? \$			
1a. Are you self-employed? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
2. How much does your household (including children) have in cash, checking or savings? \$			
3. How much does your household pay for rent/mortgage per month? \$			
3a. What utilities do you pay? <input type="checkbox"/> Heat <input type="checkbox"/> Air conditioning <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> None			
3b. Do you receive energy assistance? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
4. Is anyone in your household a migrant or seasonal farm worker? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
I have looked over my answers and believe they are all true and correct to the best of my knowledge.			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	DATE	AGENCY/TRIBAL SIGNATURE	DATE RECEIVED

In July 2023:

- EGA served 539 individuals
- 52% Black, 35% White, 5% American Indian, 4% Hispanic, 1% Asian, 3% unknown
- 57% female, 43% male
- Median age was 45, with age range evenly distributed from 20s to 60s
- 42% indicated they had a disability/disabling condition

Emergency Assistance (EA)

- Emergency Assistance (EA) is part of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Minnesota's income support program for families
- MFIP is federally funded through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant
- Counties have the option to use the MFIP Consolidated Fund to offer EA to their residents, and nearly all do so
- The purpose of EA is to stabilize families in financial crisis
- EA is administered by counties and 1 Tribal Nation (White Earth Nation)

- Statutory authority for EA is in Minn. [Stat. 256J.626](#).
- Counties and Tribal Nations have the flexibility to set policies at the local level including frequency and the maximum amount allowed per family.
- EA eligibility is subject to funding availability.

To be eligible for EA, applicants must:


- Be a family with children
- Have income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Not have received EA within the 12 months preceding the date of application


People must apply for EA:


- Online at [MNbenefits.mn.gov](https://mnbenefits.mn.gov)
- In person at a human services agency office
- By mailing, faxing or dropping off a [Combined Application \(DHS-5223\)](#)
- By calling a human services agency office


What type of assistance would you like to apply for?

Check all that apply.

 **Food (SNAP)**
 Money to buy food for you and your family

 **Cash programs**
 Programs like GA and MFIP that help families and single adults meet basic needs

 **Child Care Assistance**
 Helps pay for childcare while you pursue work or school

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 Helps with rent and utility payments to stop eviction

Clear Form



Combined Application Form

Apply online at: <https://mnbenefits.mn.gov>

Do not use this application to apply for health care coverage. The soonest your SNAP (food) or cash benefits can start is the date the agency receives your application. We can set your application date if we have your name, address and signature on page 1. For your application to be complete, answer all questions on the application. Tell someone if you need help filling out this application. Be sure to sign and date the application on pages 1 and 9.

CASE NUMBER

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PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER	OTHER PHONE NUMBER	Do you live on a reservation? <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes - which one?	
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CITIZENSHIP <input type="radio"/> U.S. Citizen or U.S. National <input type="radio"/> Naturalized U.S. Citizen or Derived U.S. Citizen <input type="radio"/> Not a U.S. Citizen			IMMIGRATION STATUS
What program(s) are you applying for? <input type="checkbox"/> SNAP (food) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash programs <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Assistance <input type="checkbox"/> None			
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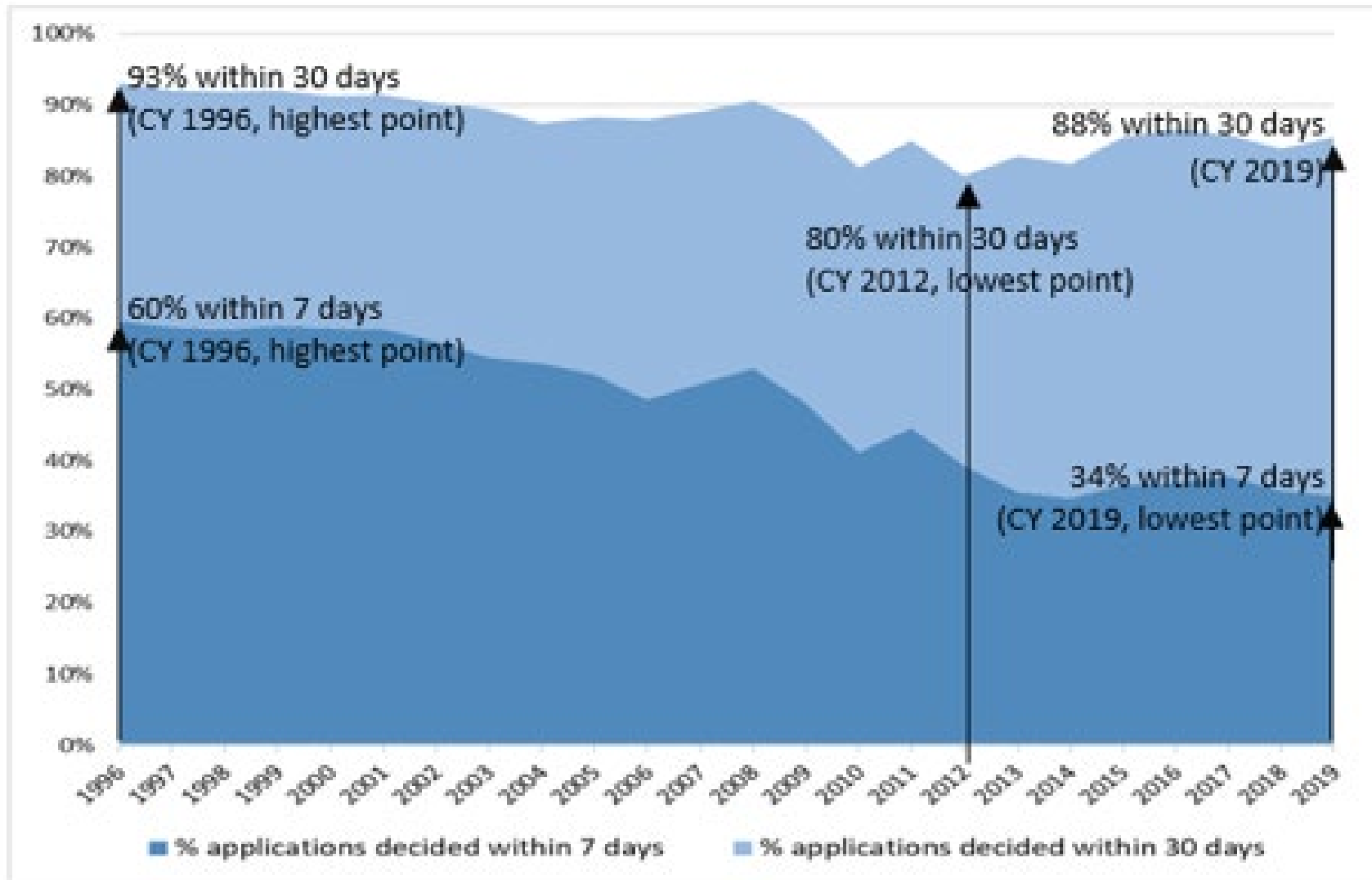
A 2019 EAESD Research project ([eDoc 6373M](#)) found that:

- EA payments made in 2019 served over 8,700 families with an average payment of \$1792 per family.
- Payments were used to stabilize permanent housing, avoid utility shut-off, cover damage deposit, payments made to cover shelter costs and transportation.
- 40% of the families receiving EA were enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP).

A 2019 EAESD Research project ([eDoc 6373M](#)) found that:

- 68% of those receiving EA had a non-white head of household
- Three out of every four families (74%) had a parent living outside the household
- Only 26% of families receiving EA also received child support payments
- 40% of the families receiving EA were enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- 43% of all head of households had received EA as a child

EA time to approval



John Petroskas
GA/MSA policy specialist
MN Department of Human Services
John.Petroskas@state.mn.us
651-431-5644

Wrap-up and next steps

Share existing background information.

- Share existing reports and materials from engagement efforts and other background information.
- MAD will email members explaining where to store them.

Continue to add your questions.

- MAD will collect questions from the chat and share them with members.
- You'll be able to add more questions to the list.

- **Next workgroup meeting** is Thursday, September 14, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.
- MAD will email **meeting minutes** to members and post them on the website.
- MAD will email members information about the **assignments**.
- MAD will **schedule** the Operations and program subgroup meetings.

Thank you!

Contact us:

Karen.Gaides@state.mn.us

Kristina.Krull@state.mn.us

Katie.Hatt@state.mn.us

Workgroup website:

<https://mn.gov/mmb/mad/clients/expediting-rental-assistance/>