SF3445 Statewide Stable Housing **Mediation Grant** Program

Community Mediation Minnesota



Who is Community Mediation Minnesota?

We are a statewide network of certified nonprofit service providers with skilled mediators ready to help Minnesotans caught in conflict.

SF3445

Establishment of statewide stable housing mediation grant program; appropriate \$425,000 for FY23

Objectives of the Stable Housing Mediation Grant Program

→ Provide and expand mediation services to benefit property owners, renters, households, utility providers, and homeowners statewide

→ Provide eviction prevention services that prevent court costs and reduce negative consequences to families, schools, employers, neighborhoods, and communities

Housing Mediations

Our trained mediators guide conversations between property owners and renters when they are in conflict. The issues and needs of both sides are addressed during these sessions.

At the end of a mediation, an agreement is created with the input of both the property owner(s) and renter(s).

Addressing the needs of both sides

When the issue between property owners and renters is unpaid rent, housing mediations can be a way to achieve the following outcomes:

For property owners, mediation is a way to:

- → Provide critical housing in communities
- → Maintain rental income and financial stability
- → Improve communication and relationships with and among renters

For renters, mediation is a way to:

- → Maintain housing stability
- → Create a plan to catch up on past due rent and address repairs
- Improve communication and relationship with the property owner

Housing mediations can also be used to discuss repairs and maintenance needs, lease termination, move-out plans, or other issues.

What property owners have said about the housing mediation process:

"It helped remove some of the amount owed. The resident did continue to pay and has made huge strides in the amount owed." "It allowed the resident to remain housed."

What renters have said about the housing mediation process:

"Thanks, the program was helpful. It help me maintain stability for my family. Thank you." "Grateful there's help out there - grateful for mediations so both parties can express views."

"I would have given up and let them evict me [had it not been for the housing mediation]." "Thank you for all the help you gave for my family!"