

**March 29, 2023**  
**Housing and Homelessness Prevention**

My name is Nancy Miller and I'm writing in support of the Housing finance omnibus bill and increase in funding for the Bridges rental housing assistance program for persons with a mental illness.

I am currently receiving a rental subsidy and it has allowed me to concentrate on my recovery of my mental health issues. It provides me with a stable and safe environment. I also feel like part of the community.

Finding affordable housing has been near impossible for me. I could not afford to live in my apartment if I did not receive help from the subsidy.

While working on my recovery on PTSD, ADHD, Anxiety, and major depression, I have discovered that my executive function is not functioning like it should. Therefore, I am not able to work a full-time job any longer. I am fortunate to have a PT job I enjoy at Touchstone MH. Knowing that I can afford the 30% of my \$980 rent payment makes me feel as if I am a contributing member of society again and it has restored my self-confidence. I feel like there is hope for my recovery to be successful. My anxiety is less knowing that I have a home to go to every night. These are extremely important for my recovery.

The thought of not having a home never crossed my mind. I am sure many of you have not had a reason for that thinking either. Well, I am proof that life can change quickly. I lost my career as a realtor and my home in a matter of a year. My life was turned upside down. I was always able to be the provider of my daughter and myself. It was a tuff journey, with a lot of self-doubts and dead ends. When I was told that I would qualify for help with an apartment, I was a happy woman. I have remained humble as I know how fast life can change, I take great pride in being a chosen recipient, so I follow the rules. Being homeless again isn't a thought I need to have, nor should anyone who receives a subsidy.

Please use this money wisely and invest in the people of MN who would be homeless without the subsidy.

Thank you for your time and your work on preventing homelessness in Minnesota.

Nancy Miller

St. Paul, MN