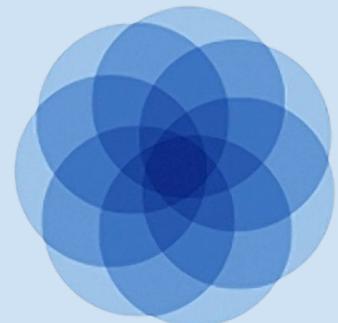


HF3287

Statewide Stable Housing Mediation Grant Program

Community Mediation Minnesota



Testifiers:

Beth Bailey - Community Mediation MN

Sharon Sund - Property Owner/Mediator

Dana Amundson - Housing Program Coordinator/Mediator

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.

HF3287

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 renters, property owners, households, utility providers, and homeowners statewide

- Provide eviction prevention services that prevent eviction 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 (prevent eviction/displacement)
- 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.



HF 3287 is endorsed by Homes for All.

Homes for All: a statewide coalition that advances shared policy initiatives that lead to housing stability for all Minnesotans.

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!"