



Womanspace COVID Emergency Housing Project

Through this project, Womanspace will provide housing assistance to victims of domestic violence who are clients of other social service providers in Mercer County.

Eligibility: Victims of domestic violence in Mercer County with a stated need for housing assistance. Both single individuals and those with children will be served. Applicants are not required to be currently homeless or permanent residents of the county. Undocumented victims can be served as well, and Spanish-speaking staff are available.

Note: All other available funding in the community should be researched/attempted before referring clients for this program.

Services Offered:

1. **Relocation:** Survivors are eligible for up to \$ 5,000 in relocation costs, which can include transportation to a safe location, moving expenses, purchase of furniture, security deposits on housing, 1st month's rent, storage unit rental, P.O. Box fees, and utility startup costs.
2. **Rental assistance:** Victims can be provided with security deposits and rental assistance for a period of 6-12 months, depending on continued need and availability funds.

***Rental properties must have certificates of occupancy.**

***Rents must within the FY2020 HUD Fair Market Rent Amounts**

Referral Procedure: Contact: Isabel, Linda or Darlene at 609-394-9000. Staff should be calling to refer clients, and will be asked to complete a referral form. Please do not refer clients to Womanspace directly.

Clients will be required to:

- Obtain a lease
- Furnish proof of income (if any)
- Maintain regular contact with Womanspace staff

Womanspace will:

- Provide relocation and rental assistance funding
- Provide safety planning for each survivor
- Provide information regarding Womanspace programs and the services available

Expectations of Other Social Service Agency:

- Assist clients with their housing search and obtaining a lease
- Provide ongoing case management to clients after they are housed if desired by the client
- Maintain confidentiality regarding all client information.

Womanspace will follow with all relevant federal, state, and local laws; health and safety codes; and inspection requirements, including the NJ Division of Community Affairs policies and procedures.