



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROGRAM (HPP)

NORWESCAP Homelessness Prevention covers Somerset County.

The purpose of the **Homelessness Prevention Program** is to provide temporary assistance to households who face imminent loss of housing due to eviction because they are temporarily without adequate funds for reasons beyond their control. Aid is temporary therefore applicants are given budget counseling and must document the ability to meet housing expenses after the program assistance ends. This is a once in a lifetime assistance program.

The **Program cannot aid applicants who have a housing subsidy of 30% of their income or live in an “affordable housing unit”**. Clients eligible for **TANF, GA, and SSI** are to be referred to their county Board of Social Services.

Basic eligibility requirements:

- Must have a court eviction summons with a docket # and a court date to demonstrate imminent danger of homelessness and have resided in their rental unit at least four months having paid the Sec Dep and first three months on their own.
- Applicants facing eviction have to prove No Fault of their own as the reason for inability to pay their rent:
 - Loss of employment (client must have applied for Unemployment compensation and been found eligible from date of claim without penalties).
 - Medical emergency/ disability due to sudden illness or injury within the last 6 months.
 - Loss/ delay in benefits.
 - Natural disaster. Must be documented by third party such as Red Cross, fire marshal or police report. Report must include the name of Head of Household and all family members.
 - Crime (reported to police at time of the occurrence).
 - Victims of Domestic Violence must have a final restraining order and letter of referral from Domestic Violence agency working with them.
 - Substantial and permanent change in household—proof that person that moved out was on the lease and where they are currently living.
 - Unexpected/ unusual expense – it should EQUAL the amount of the unpaid rent according to eviction summons, example Car Repairs to replace or repair engine or transmission.
- If homeless or doubled up with friends client will have to prove that they were evicted within the past 6 months and where they have resided since that time. (copy of Warrant of Removal or proof of hotel stay, transition housing, etc)

LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE

RENT ARREARS- Maximum of 3 months back rent, 3 months late fees, court filing fees and attorney fees, if program assistance would put tenant at \$0 balance. Assistance is provided in a form of a grant and check is made out to landlord.

RELOCATION- Security Deposit (up to 1 ½ months) and First month's rent if have a Warrant of Removal with lock out date within the last six months and need to move to a less expensive residence.

Security Deposit Only- for first time recipients of Section 8 voucher, Head of Household permanently disabled and never assisted by our funding.

For more information or to receive an application please contact:

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2018-2019 Income Limits for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing 2 Program (HPRP2)								
County	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Somerset	\$22,650	\$25,900	\$29,150	\$32,350	\$34,950	\$37,550	\$40,150	\$42,750
2018-2019 Income Limits for the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)								
County	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Somerset	\$53,100	\$60,700	\$68,300	\$75,850	\$81,950	\$88,000	\$94,100	\$100,150
HPRP 2 Maximum Gross Rent (2019 FMRs) Rent + Utilities								
County	0 bedrm	1 bedrm	2 bedroom	3 bedroom	4 Bedrooms			
Somerset	\$1,148	\$1,360	\$1,746	\$2,213	\$2,600			