



Housing Working Group Meeting Notes

Wednesday, February 9th, 2022

9:00-10:30am

Agenda items:

- **Workgroup Member Updates/News:**

Jake Grussing is leaving Scott County to lead the Ramsey County library system. Jake served as a chair for our LLE Project Coordinator, and we're all appreciative of his leadership with both our library system and broader LLE work.

Dan Lauer-Schumacher is leaving Scott County as well. He will be transitioning into housing development work for seniors and people living with disabilities with AbleLight. Thanks for all of your expertise in this space, Dan!

- **Education & Advocacy Next Steps:**

- *Maxfield Study Reporting Update*

SCALE Tech Team is reviewing the updated study in February, and we are anticipating that our committee will have an opportunity to review it further during our next (March) meeting.

- *Housing Video Production Presentation*

Script: Seeking for this to be between 4-5 minutes

2 voiceover talents for the script: Mature, Latino male & college-aged female

Intended Audience: SCALE Partners: elected officials, appointed staff, etc. This is intended for this audience who have identified their struggles and concerns to articulate this information to their respective constituencies. "Talk to someone as if we're talking to the general public" to assist SCALE members to articulate this information to those in their communities

Identified that it would be helpful to give the policy makers bullet-points that they can further share with the community
If there were 5 things that you could take-away from this video, would you be able to articulate them after watching the video? How can we ensure that folks walk away with takeaways from this?

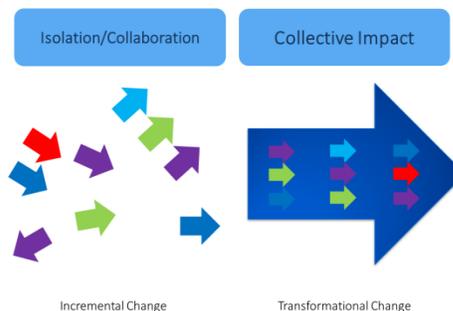
Would it make sense to shift this to community members, while also retaining talking points that can be directed to SCALE partners?

Intending to potentially create accompanying documents/materials that can be used in conjunction with this video.

Commissioner Beard: Avoid being browbeating. Seek to shed light, present facts & information.

Appreciated the inclusion of assurance that this doesn't impact property values.

Concerned over the suggestion around the cultural shift that folks deserve a home, identified a concern that this insinuates that responsibility for the provision of home is shifted away from the family to the government. Suggested the



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benefit/need to get response from community members directly who can offer their insight around the desires/opinions of the electorate.

Additional Committee Suggestions:

1. Last slide: Focus on 5 bullets that we'd hope to impart to the audience
2. Reducing the focus of the video on information about Maxfield and/or Live Learn Earn – focus on creativity, and be inviting of the solutions that work

We reviewed the 6th version of the video script and Kevin recorded feedback to make some further edits with Lisa. Intending to complete an update of the script to bring back to us for further review.

Next steps:

- We should be able to distribute an updated version of the script on Tuesday, 02/15/22
- Committee members will have an opportunity to review this script and to share feedback further with the subcommittee working on this video
- Feedback will be requested by Friday, 02/18/22
- Feedback will be collected, compiled & shared with the subcommittee for further edits
- Final script should be ready by our March meeting

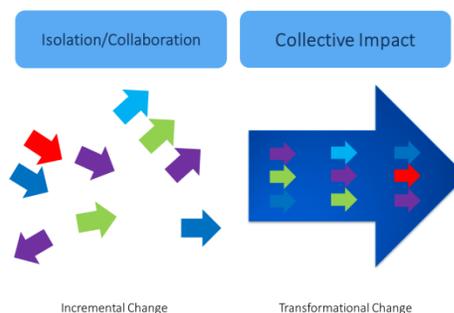
- *Housing Briefing – Southwest News Media*

As a component of the release/availability of this video and the Maxfield Study, there will likely be some benefit to meeting with a reporter from SWNewsmedia ahead of the SCALE Meetings in April and May to ensure that they're apprised of the information that will be discussed during that meeting.

- **Move Minnesota Forward – Housing Stability Budget**

Governor Walz's budget recommendations include investments of \$1B in improving access to affordable housing and supporting people facing housing crises over the next three years. [This document](#) describes the proposed investments listed by agency and by whether they are investments in the capital or operating budgets. A summary table of all proposed funding levels appears at the end of the document.

There will likely be opportunities for legislative advocacy in the days/weeks/months ahead, which might present an opportunity for further advocacy and education opportunities for our committee.



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- **RentHelpMN & HomeHelpMN Updates**

RentHelpMN Updates:

The RentHelpMN emergency rental assistance program has closed their application portal as of Friday, January 28th at 9pm. The deadline will not impact existing submitted applications, which will continue to be processed, subject to funding availability. Please note that applications that have been started but not submitted by January 28th will be considered withdrawn. They will not be processed, and an incomplete application will not provide protection from eviction. Applications that are being processed will continue to protect an applicant from eviction even after the January 28 deadline. Renters who receive an eviction notice must appear at their court date.

MHFA has prepared a list of resources that they're pushing forward publicly for households struggling with past-due or current housing expenses. These resources incl:

FHPAP, County Emergency Assistance/MnBenefits and the Energy Assistance Program (EAP)

RentHelpMN Dashboard Data (Current as of 01/28/22) **included with notes**

HomeHelpMN Updates:

Minnesota Housing eNews (received 01/21/22) - Minnesota Housing received word late last week that the HomeHelpMN program plan has received approval from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. We are now working on the next steps to implement this plan and anticipate the program will be available to accept applications in the second quarter of 2022.

Scott CDA Homeownership Support Program

Agency receives notification of households in pre-foreclosure status and is able to work alongside them to support stability

Upcoming/Past Events or Articles:

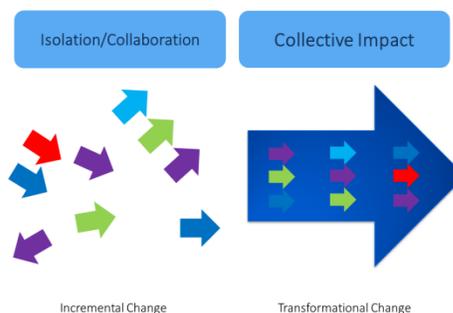
[Housing costs swell, hampering home buyers and pushing up rents](#) (NY Times 01/12/22)

[St. Louis Park favors affordability](#) (Finance & Commerce 02/01/22)

**Please remember that notes are being posted after our meetings to the [Live Learn Earn website](#)

Housing Vision Statement: Create housing options that give people in all life stages and of all economic means viable choices for safe, stable, and affordable homes.

Our March meeting is scheduled for March 9th, 2022, from 9-10:30am

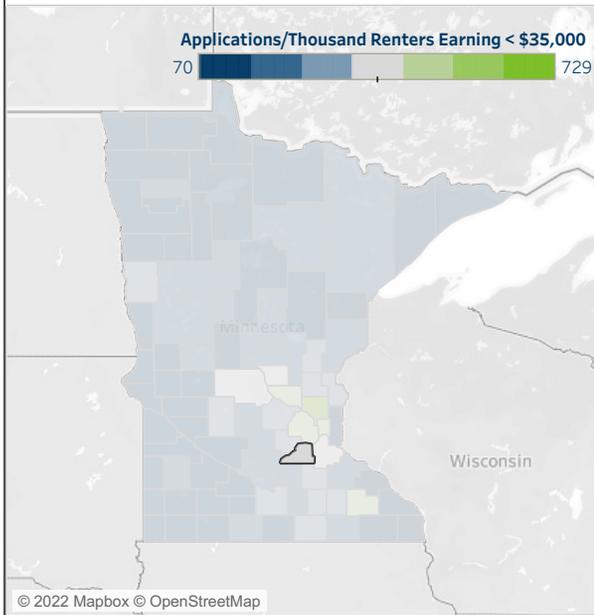


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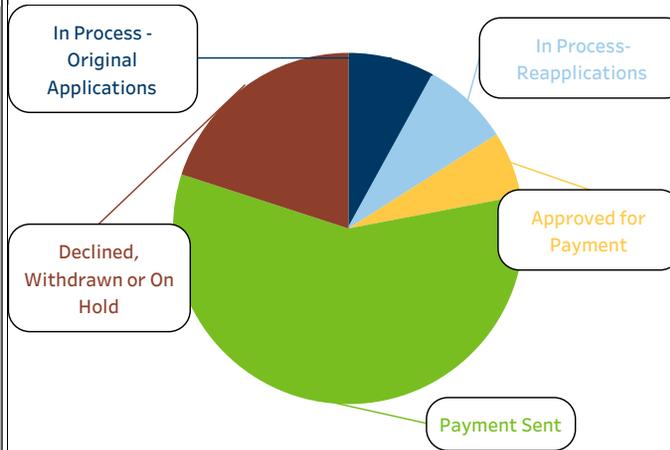
RentHelpMN Submitted Applications*

(*data current as of January 28, 2022 and are subject to change as applications are processed)

Applications by County



Application Processing Bins



1,444*
submitted applications

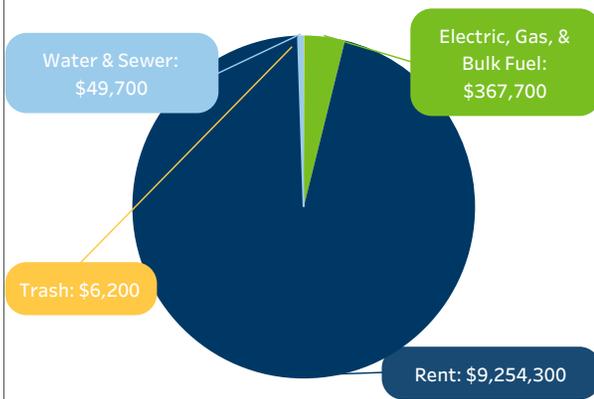
\$9.67M*
in assistance requested by applicant

59%
of applicants that provided Race/Ethnicity identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC)

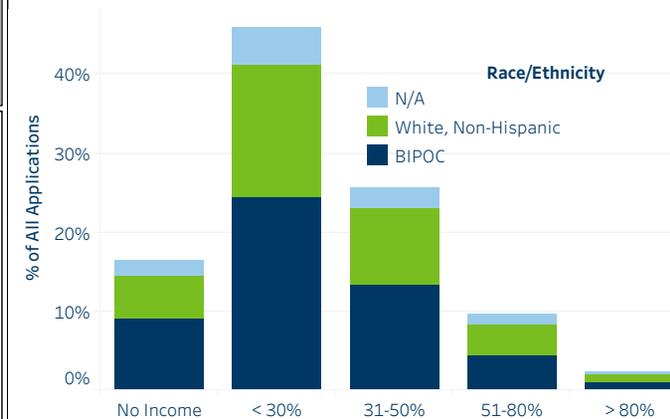
40%
of responding applicants say they have experienced recent unemployment

45%
of applying households have minor children

Requested Amount by Assistance Type



Applications by Area Median Income



RentHelpMN has paid **more than \$374.3 million** statewide in assistance to Minnesotans in need through **more than 84,160 payments**** (\$9.1m in 2,530+ payments since February 1)

Notes: Data include applications submitted to the statewide RentHelpMN program that have been completed and review has begun. It does not include applications being directly processed by RentHelpMN partners of Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington counties and Minneapolis and Saint Paul applications accepted directly by the nine Tribal Nations in MN. Income data used to determine AMI status, assistance request amounts, race/ethnicity, unemployment, and presence of children are applicant entered. "Declined, Withdrawn or On Hold", "Payment Sent", and "Approved for Payment" application processing bins include both original applications and reapplications. Not all requested assistance will be eligible for payment. . .