

Housing Help Workers make great partners with Landlords and Tenants

Housing Workers can...	Can Housing Workers...
<p>1. Access Basic Needs Access basic needs such as food, clothing and furniture and transportation assistance.</p>	<p>1. Pay Rent or Act as a Guarantor? Housing workers can support clients with budgeting, advocate for direct payment, refer clients for Rent Bank and for trusteeship programs. They do not have direct access to funds for rental payments, nor do they have the authority to act as a guarantor.</p>
<p>2. Assist with Income Supports Assist clients to access specialty funds, utility funds, the Rent Bank (for working households in arrears), trusteeship programs, and/or regular social assistance programs.</p>	<p>2. Evict a Problem Tenant? Housing workers can mediate problems and work with tenants to resolve any issue that threatens the landlord/tenant relationship; they do not evict.</p>
<p>3. Secure Housing and Sustain Tenancies Assist clients in searching, finding and securing housing.</p>	<p>3. Guarantee Direct Payment of Rent? With the approval of the client, a housing worker can advocate with a social assistance office for direct payment of rent, though social assistance staff has the authority to refuse to make this arrangement.</p>
<p>4. Provide Third Party Mediation Promote problem solving by facilitating a discussion that focuses on clear communication and achievable solutions between clients and landlords.</p>	<p>4. Provide Confidential Information Without Consent? Housing workers can act as a third party between landlords and tenants, though without the signed client's consent, a housing worker cannot disclose information about the prospective tenant to the landlord.</p>
<p>5. Offer Application Assistance Assist clients to complete rental applications as well as other required documentation such as applying for personal identification documents, healthcare requests, training, jobs, etc.</p>	
<p>6. Make Links and Referrals Assist clients with connections to all other resources required to keep clients housed, such as healthcare, family support, immigration, training and employment.</p>	<p>5. Guarantee Problem-Free Tenancies? Housing workers conduct thorough assessments in order to create the best match of tenant and housing unit that they can. If problems arise, housing workers can use their knowledge and skills to support the best possible outcome for the tenant and landlord.</p>
<p>7. Provide Information Provide information to tenants and landlords around resources, education and legislation as these contribute to the common goal of sustaining successful tenancies for the long term.</p>	