

Group Residential Housing
&
Minnesota Supplemental Aid

John Petroskas, MN DHS

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2015

Group Residential Housing (GRH)

- GRH is 100% state-funded, administered by counties
- Individual income supplement to purchase "room and board" (and services in some cases)
- Goal is to prevent or reduce institutional residence or homelessness
- Over 20,000 people receive GRH each month
- The total cost of GRH in FY2014 was \$140,000,000
- GRH is a unique income supplement in that it is not paid directly to the recipient

Eligibility FOR GRH

- Meet a Basis of Eligibility for **SSI** (over 65, blind, or have a disability as determined by Social Security Administration)
- OR**
- Meet a Basis of Eligibility for **GA**

GA Bases of Eligibility (9/1/15)

- Permanent/Temporary Illness (medical opinion form)
- ~~• Needed in the home to care for another person~~
- Requires services in residence (Professional Statement of Need)
- ~~• Women in battered women's shelters~~
- Unemployable (vocational assessment)
- Developmental disabilities or mental illness (medical opinion form)
- Pending application or appeal for SSI or SSDI
- Advanced age (55 or older) impacting employment
- ~~• Full-time student eligible for displaced homemaker services~~
- ~~• Performing court-ordered services impacting employment~~
- Learning disability impacting employment
- ~~• Child under 18; emancipated, with social service plan & county approval~~
- ~~• High school student age 18 and older; primary language not English~~
- Drug/alcohol addiction (medical opinion form)

Eligibility: Income and Assets

- Countable Income: Less than maximum benefit
- Assets:
 - SSI Basis of Eligibility: \$2,000
 - GA Basis of Eligibility: \$1,000 (plus additional \$2,000 in Earned Income Savings account, until 9-30-2015)
 - **Increasing to \$10,000 June 1, 2016** (remains \$2,000 for people on SSI)

GRH Housing Rate

- **GRH Housing Rate**
(Room and Board, Rate 1, Base Rate, MSA Equivalent Rate)
- \$891, eff. 7/1/15
- Rent, Utilities, Food, Household Supplies
- Anything left: Other things necessary to provide room and board
- NOT services, clothing, medical costs

GRH Housing Requirements

- Must be Licensed or Registered
 - MN Department of Health, or
 - MN Department of Human Services, or
 - Tribal Government, or
- Pass habitability inspection (LTH)
- Providers must always have a GRH Agreement with their County (beds, rates, food, minimum provider qualifications, terms of payment, etc.)

Types of GRH Housing Statewide

- Adult Foster Care (4104) **More than half of GRH recipients statewide live in adult foster care**
- Board and Lodge (235)
- Board and Lodge w/ Special Services (282)
- Supervised Living Facility (56)
- Non-Certified Boarding Care (16)
- Housing w/ Services Establishment (520)
- Housing w/ Services Establishment: Homeless (372)
- Metro Demo (15)
- Tribe Certified (0)
- **NEW: GRH Supportive Housing**

GRH Supplemental Service Rate

- Also known as: (Service Rate, Rate 2)
 - \$482.84, eff. 7/1/13
(or higher if Legislature authorized exception)
- Supportive Services (required)
 - Assistance with Transportation
 - Arranging meetings and appointments
 - Arranging medical and social services
 - Medication reminders
 - Up to 24-hour supervision
 - Health Supervision (optional, requires nurse on site)

Eligibility for GRH Service Rate

- Only if ineligible for waiver or PCA services
- Must have illness or incapacity which prevents them from living independently in the community and requires services in the residence
- Professional Statement of Need signed by qualified professional or county designee

GRH Supplemental Service Rate

- Board and Lodge only and Adult Foster Care settings are not eligible
- Moratorium on new service rates, unless...
 - Banked Beds, or
 - Legislative exception, or
 - GRH Supportive Housing

GRH Supportive Housing

- Qualified shelter stay is no longer required
- Verification of long-term homelessness at application
 - Use MN Housing LTH verification form
- Verification of Coordinated Entry assessment to need supportive housing at application
 - Coordinated Entry "receipt" when applicable
- Habitability Inspection Form, and
- Professional Statement of Need

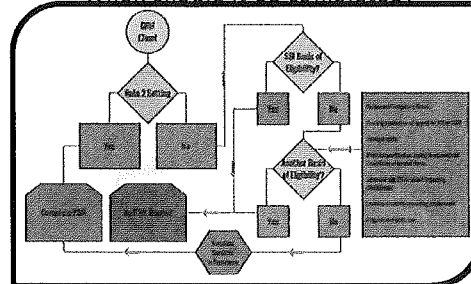
Professional statement of need

- DHS "Professional Statement of Need" will replace the GRH Service Plan to:
 - Establish a GA/GRH basis of eligibility, **and/or**
 - Authorize a supplemental service rate (Rate 2)
- Must be signed by a "Qualified Professional" or a designee of the county
- Reviewed annually to maintain eligibility

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Professional statement of need

When should it be completed?



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Professional statement of need

Who is a Qualified Professional?

Indicate type of disabling condition. (Check one)		
X	Disabling condition	Allowable qualified professional
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developmental Disability	Licensed psychologist, certified school psychologist, or certified psychometrist under the supervision of a licensed psychologist*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disability	Licensed psychologist or school psychologist with experience determining learning disabilities*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental illness	Licensed psychiatric registered nurse, licensed psychiatric nurse practitioner, licensed independent clinical social worker (LICSW), licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC), licensed psychologist (LP), licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), or licensed physician*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical illness, injury, or impairment	Licensed physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, certified nurse aide/aide or licensed therapist*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemical dependency	Treatment director, alcohol and drug counselor supervisor, licensed alcohol and drug counselor (LADC), or licensed physician*

*A county human services agency may designate other qualified professionals

county designees

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Professional statement of need

- County designee
 - May be available when a Qualified Professional isn't
 - Things to keep in mind
 - Optional appointment by county
 - Use should be based on client's best interest
 - Not meant to be a "gatekeeper"
 - List maintained by DHS

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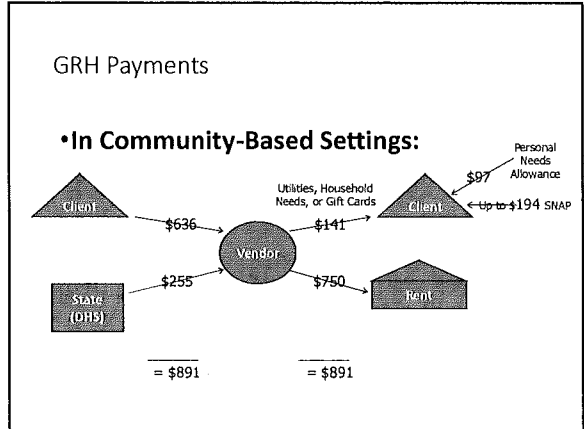
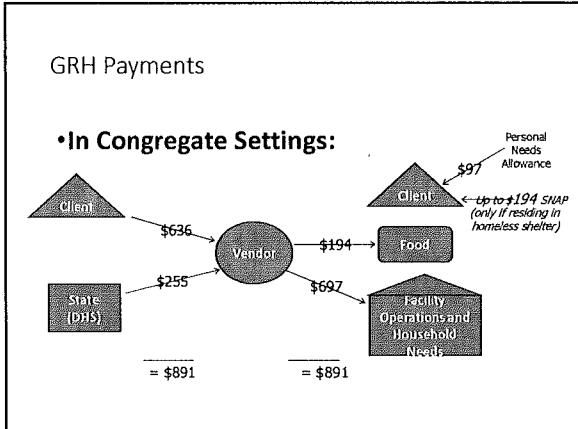
Application

- Required to apply for other programs for which they appear eligible
 - Interim Assistance Agreement
 - SOAR/SSI advocacy
 - Good Cause exception

Client obligation

- GRH Client Obligation (Countable Income)

GROSS INCOME	GA example	SSI example	RSDI example	
SSI Standard (FBR)/RSDI	+\$		733.00 815.00	
Earned Income	+\$			
DEDUCTIONS				
Personal Needs	-\$	97.00	97.00 97.00	
Other (example: rep payee)	-\$			41.00
CLIENT OBLIGATION	=\$	0.00	636.00 680.00	
GRH PAYMENT		876.00	240.00 158.00	



New uniform earned income disregard

- GRH Recipients with a GA basis of eligibility who earn income will keep the first \$65 they earn each month, plus half of the rest of their earnings.
- This is the same disregard that people on SSI/SSDI get if they earn income.
- Takes effect October 1, 2015
- Asset limit changes (April 2016)

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NEW BUDGETING/REPORTING PERIOD

- Six-month budgeting and reporting period for GRH recipients with GA basis of eligibility:
 - GRH benefits based on estimate of future earned income
 - Increase in earned income does not increase client obligation
 - Report decreases in earned income immediately
 - Earned income reported on Household Report Form every six months, report other changes within 10 days
 - Changes will take effect April 2016

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GRH Payments

- **Pre-Pay**
 - Issued at the beginning of an eligibility month
- **Post-Pay**
 - Issued after the end of an eligibility month
 - Required when:
 - Residence is expected to last 30 days or less
 - Clients are monthly reporters

Absent Days

Continue GRH payment for up to 18 days per absence, not to exceed 60 days per calendar year

- County approval required unless...
- No county approval required when crisis, illness, or injury

Concurrent Eligibility

•General Assistance (GA)

- Common to get both GA and GRH
- GA grant changes from \$203 (community) to \$97 (GRH settings)
- If a person loses GA eligibility, they don't lose GRH eligibility
 - Personal Needs Allowance would be allowed in GRH Budget, but not paid out on EBT

Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA)

- Monthly cash supplement to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment
- Average monthly caseload of 30,000 people receiving MSA in 2012
- Over 75,000 Minnesotans between the age of 18 & 65 receive SSI

MSA Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for MSA a person must be:

- Over age 18 (or under 18 and blind), and
- Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI),
OR
- Would be receiving SSI except for excess income.
If not receiving SSI must be:
 - Age 65 or older, or
 - Blind, or
 - Disabled

MSA Monthly Benefit

\$81

(individual)

(MSA=\$111 for couples)
(additional \$ for special needs)

MSA Special Needs

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| • Special Diets | CM 23.12 |
| • Restaurant Meals | CM 23.18 |
| • Guardian/Conservator Fees | CM 23.15 |
| • Representative Payee Fees | CM 23.21 |
| • Home Repairs | CM 23.06 |
| • Household Furnishings & Appliances | 23.09 |
| • <u>Housing Assistance</u> | CM 23.24 |

MSA Housing Assistance Eligibility

- A person must:
 - Be eligible for MSA, **and**
 - Be under age 65 (grandfathering allowed), **and**
 - Have monthly shelter costs in excess of 40% of gross monthly income, **and**
 - Apply for rental assistance, **and**

Continued on next slide

MSA Housing Assistance Eligibility

- Be relocating from institution (hospital, RTC inpatient services, a nursing facility, or an ICF-DD) or an intensive residential mental health treatment program,
or
- Eligible for self-directed MA PCA services, or
- Be receiving waived services (CAC, CADI, BI, DD) in their own place

MSA Housing Assistance Benefit

\$733 (SSI FBR)
+ 81 (MSA)
+194 (MSA Housing Assistance)
\$ 1008 Total Income

- **+ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

MSA Housing Assistance

- Recipients can choose where they live – no “licensed or registered setting” requirement
- They can use the money in whatever way they choose
- Great tool to assist people who want to live in a less restrictive setting (leaving nursing homes, group residential housing, intermediate care facilities, prison, etc.)

Application

- Combined Application Form (CAF) or applies online at www.applymn.org w/ required verifications (income, assets, etc.)
- Phone interview is ok, in-person interview not required
- Counties recertify eligibility at least once every 12 months
- Individuals have 10 days to report changes that affect eligibility

GRH Frequently Asked Questions

- **To ask a question**
 - Email the GRH Reform Team at dhs.dhs.grh@state.mn.us
- **To subscribe to GRH Provider FAQ updates**
 - Click “subscribe” button on the [GRH & MSA Updates page](#).
 - Enter your email address and password.
 - A confirmation email will be sent to you. Click on the link in your email.
 - Go to the My Profile tab, click Edit Profile, then from there select “yes” for the FAQs.
 - Send your questions to GRH Reform Team!

Thank you

- Kristine Davis, GRH Policy Lead
 - kristine.davis@state.mn.us
 - 651.431.3845
- Jeremy Galley, GRH Policy Specialist
 - jeremy.galley@state.mn.us
 - 651.431.4983
- John Petroskas, GRH Policy Specialist
 - john.petroskas@state.mn.us
 - 651.431.5644

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http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/dhs16_190087