

**- Housing First Rent Support Program -  
Rent Summary & Landlord Support Letter**

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AS OF:

FROM:

TO:

RE: Rent Payments for:

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To Whom It May Concern:

\_\_\_\_\_, is/are a participant(s) in the Housing First Program and is applying/has applied to be a tenant at the following address:

Unit Address (#, Street Name):                      Suffix:                      Unit #:                      Postal Code:

We understand the client's rental amount each month is \$\_\_\_\_\_ and we wanted to communicate to you that rent will be paid through a combination of sources:

- \$\_\_\_\_\_ **will be issued by our subsidy provider, the Housing Help Centre**
  - \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be issued by Ontario Works (3<sup>rd</sup> Party sent directly to you)
  - \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be issued by ODSP (3<sup>rd</sup> Party sent directly to you)
  - \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be issued directly from the tenant
  - \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be issued directly from \_\_\_\_\_
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ = TOTAL AMOUNT

**Payments:**

- Expect payments to be received by your company in the mail before or on the first of the month.

- If any of this information is incorrect (payment amount, payment address) or if these payments are not received, please contact Steven Rimmington our Housing First Rent Support Program Coordinator at the Housing Help Centre immediately (905) 526-8100 Ext.312 or by email: [steven@housinghelpcentre.ca](mailto:steven@housinghelpcentre.ca)

- If there are any changes in this arrangement in the future (change of payment address, account information) please let the Housing Help Centre know as soon as possible so that they can arrange timely payments.

### **How the Housing First Rent Support Program Works:**

Through their Housing First Program, tenants are eligible for the Housing First Rent Support Program (Housing Allowances) for up to 5 years. The details:

- Tenants pay a portion of the rent while they will receive a Housing Allowance through the Housing First Rent Support Program administered by the Housing Help Centre
- The Program provides monthly rental subsidies until such time that a tenant has secured sufficient income and/or no longer requires assistance or has been in the Program for 5 years
- The remainder of the rent is provided through income supports or directly from the tenant. Third party payment can be arranged with forms of government assistance such as with Ontario Works or ODSP
- Rent cheques are mailed directly to the landlord or directly deposited in their account on or prior to the first of each month by the Housing Help Centre

### **An Example of How the Housing First Rent Support Program Works:**

*Take a single individual renting a 1 bedroom unit where rent is \$800/month:*

*Each month a cheque (or direct deposit) for \$550 is provided by Ontario Works. Also, a cheque (or direct deposit) for \$250 is provided by the Housing Help Centre of Hamilton as part of the Housing First Rent Support Program. Combined, these two sources cover the total monthly rent.*

*The result is mutually beneficial. The landlord is fully compensated and through the program is assured the tenant has a long term stable source of income that is dedicated towards paying a portion of the rent; the tenant (program participant) receives the subsidy and now has access to an additional \$250 of disposal income per month that would have previously been earmarked for rent, but can now be used to pay for the day-to-day costs of living and other essentials.*

### **Our Continued Role:**

The staff at Supporting Our Sisters will continue to provide Intensive Case Management services as part of the Housing First program. While the Housing Allowances provided through the Housing First Rent Support Program are a helpful tool, we will continue to be providing the day-in-day-out wrap around supports that are core to the Housing First Program so people they can achieve long term housing stability.

It is our sincerest desire that Housing First Program participants are successful in their tenancy. We endeavor to ensure that participants and landlords are well served and that all parties prosper in this relationship.

For any matter that is not related to payments, please contact our staff at the number below

**- The Supporting Our Sisters Team**

**Good Shepherd Centres**

**(905) ###-####**