



## Do you own rental properties in the metro Twin Cities area?

Join our Landlord Circle to provide housing for victim-survivors of domestic violence.

# Domestic Violence — IS A — Housing Crisis

57% of homeless women report domestic violence as immediate cause of homelessness.\*

### When you join the Landlord Circle, you'll benefit from:

- A quick response to fill a unit.
- Financial security with rent being paid consistently for 6-12 months.
- Women's Advocates providing direct assistance to help the tenant plan for paying rent, budgeting, and mediation if there are issues with the unit or tenant.
- Knowing you've helped a family in crisis find a safe home free from abuse.

\*Source: Safe Housing Partnerships



#### Ways You Can Help Make a Difference as a

# Landlord

## Families

How our Housing Stability

**Program Supports** 

#### Promote healthy relationships:

 If your tenant knows you care about them, they are more likely to let you know if abuse is occurring within their family and seek life-saving resources.

#### Create community connections:

- Organize events that help tenants get to know each other.
- Reflect on ways you can create a sense of community among your tenants or link them to the broader community to reduce feelings of isolation.
- Develop positive relationships with police.

#### Know warning signs of abuse:

- Broken locks or doors, smashed lights, broken windows or mirrors, holes punched, or kicked in walls
- · Repeated late payment of rent
- · Noticeable injuries
- · Fewer visitors
- Change in tenant's normal behavior

#### Support victim-survivors:

- Believe them if they share their experience with you.
- Help connect them to our 24/7 services.
   Crisis Line: 651-227-8284
   Live Chat: www.wadvocates.org/find-help
- Help relocate them to another unit if possible to keep them or their family safe if an abuser is harassing or stalking them.



Most victim-survivors of domestic violence who become homeless suffer from financial vulnerability. If their abuser is the sole financial provider, victim-survivors may hesitate to leave or don't leave at all.



An abusive partner often ruins a victim-survivor's credit score by using their cards to rack up debt and to create a tremendous financial burden for the victim-survivor. This makes finding a place to rent significantly more difficult.



Victim-survivors may be struggling with their mental health due to the trauma they have endured. We have a Mental Health and Wellness Therapist on-staff to provide their support.



Housing Stability Advocates will advocate on the participant's behalf to practice positive landlord engagement and relationships.



Participants build their own lease with a landlord/property manager in a community-based location as they're exiting our emergency domestic violence shelter while receiving support from a Housing Stability Advocate.



Email housing@wadvocates.org to join the Landlord Circle or learn more.



# About Us

Women's Advocates was founded as the first shelter in the nation for victim-survivors of domestic violence in 1974. Our mission is to walk with victim-survivors and our community to break the cycle of domestic violence. We provide shelter and services for victim-survivors and their families, crisis intervention and referrals through our 24/7 crisis line and live chat, and raise awareness about domestic violence in our local Twin Cities community and beyond.



#### Women's Advocates'

## Housing Stability Program

Our full-time Housing Stability Advocates work with families after leaving our shelter or finding us through community referrals to help mitigate risks to their safety and independence. Participants work with a Housing Stability Advocate to continue navigating legal systems, housing challenges, and employment searches, as they continue to seek safety from abuse. Women's Advocates provides financial assistance for 6 to 12-months for participants, as well as support and advocacy services for up to 24 months.

## Why should you rent to a victim-survivor and their family:



38%

of all victim-survivors of domestic violence become homeless at some point in their lives.



90%

of homeless women have experienced severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives.



85%

of victim-survivors entering shelter identified finding safe housing they can afford as a need.

Source: National Network to End Domestic Violence

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