

Mooreville Housing Authority/Mooreville Affordable Development

Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking

Emergency Transfers

The Mooreville Housing Authority/Mooreville Affordable Development (herein referred to as Authority) is concerned about the safety of its tenants, and such concern extends to tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In accordance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Authority allows tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from the tenant's current unit to another unit. The ability to request a transfer is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. The ability of the Authority to honor such a request for tenants currently receiving assistance, however, may depend upon a preliminary determination that the tenant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and on whether the Authority has another dwelling unit that is available and is safe to offer the tenant for temporary or more permanent occupancy.

This plan identifies tenants who are eligible for an emergency transfer, the documentation needed to request an emergency transfer, confidentiality protections, how an emergency transfer may occur, and guidance to tenants on safety and security. This plan is based on a model emergency transfer plan published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Federal agency that oversees that **public housing and project-based vouchers** is in compliance with VAWA.

Eligibility for Emergency Transfers

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if: the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unit. If the tenant is a victim of sexual assault, the tenant may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer.

A tenant requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan.

Tenants who are not in good standing may still request an emergency transfer if they meet the eligibility requirements in this section.

Emergency Transfer Request Documentation

To request an emergency transfer, the tenant shall notify the **Authority's** management office and submit a written request for a transfer to the **Authority**. The **Authority** will provide reasonable accommodations to this policy for individuals with disabilities. The tenant's written request for an emergency transfer should include either:

1. A statement expressing that the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same dwelling unit assisted under the **Authority**'s program; OR
2. A statement that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer.

Confidentiality

The Authority will keep confidential any information that the tenant submits in requesting an emergency transfer, and information about the emergency transfer, unless the tenant gives the Authority written permission to release the information on a time limited basis, or disclosure of the information is required by law or required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance from the covered program. This includes keeping confidential the new location of the dwelling unit of the tenant, if one is provided, from the person(s) that committed an act(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant. See the Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women's Act For All Tenants for more information about the Authority's responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of information related to incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Emergency Transfer Timing and Availability

The Authority cannot guarantee that a transfer request will be approved or how long it will take to process the request. The Authority will however, act as quickly as possible to move a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to another unit, subject to availability and safety of a unit. If a tenant reasonably believes a proposed transfer would not be safe, the tenant may request a transfer to a different unit. If a unit is available, the tenant must agree to abide by the terms and conditions that govern occupancy in the transferred unit. The Authority may be unable to transfer a tenant to a particular unit if the tenant has not or cannot establish eligibility for that unit.

If the **Authority** has no safe and available units for which a tenant, who needs an emergency transfer, is eligible, the **Authority** will assist the tenant in identifying other housing providers who may have safe and available units to which the tenant could move. At the tenant's request, the **Authority** will also assist tenants in contacting the local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are attached to this plan.

Safety and Security of Tenants

The tenant is urged to take all reasonable precautions to be safe while the transfer is under review and while awaiting the transfer, if approved.

Resources

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, the following resources are available to provide assistance.

Domestic Violence

Diakonos, Inc – PO Box 5217, Statesville, NC 28687 - 704-872-4045 – www.fifthstreetministries.com

My Sister's House – 704-872-3403

24-Hour Crisis Center Lines

My Sister's House	704-872-3403
Espanol	704-880-1042
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233 1-800-787-3224 (TTY) www.TheHotline.org
NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence	1-888-232-9124 www.nccadv.org

Sexual Assault

Fifth Street Ministries – 1421 5th Street, Statesville, NC 28677 - 704-872-4045
www.fifthstreetministries.com

My Sister's House – 704-872-3403

24-Hour Crisis Center Lines

My Sister's House	704-873-3403
National Sexual Assault Hotline	1-800-656-4673 https://ohl.rainn.org/online/

Stalking

National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center located at
<https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.