



# Bulletin

**NUMBER**

16-48-02

**DATE**

March 31, 2016

**OF INTEREST TO**

County Directors  
Social Services Supervisors  
and Staff

Tribal Human Services  
Directors

Income Maintenance  
Supervisors and Staff

**ACTION/DUE DATE**

Please read information  
and prepare for  
implementation as specified  
in the bulletin.

**EXPIRATION DATE**

March 31, 2018

## **Group Residential Housing 2015 Legislative Changes Status Update**

**TOPIC**

An update on the changes from the 2015 legislative session to the Group Residential Housing (GRH) program.

**PURPOSE**

Provide information and instructions on policy changes.

**CONTACT**

Submit questions to Policy Quest.

**SIGNED**

*CHARLES E. JOHNSON*

Deputy Commissioner

Minnesota Department of Human Services

**TERMINOLOGY NOTICE**

The terminology used to describe people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

## I. Background

During the 2015 legislative session, the Minnesota Legislature enacted policy changes to the Group Residential Housing (GRH) program. See below for updated information and dates for several of the policy changes becoming effective in 2016.

To view the complete legislation and all of the changes visit [Laws of Minnesota 2015, Chapter 71, Article 1, Sections 3, 6, 9, 15-40, and 120.](#)

## II. Updated effective dates

The following areas have upcoming effective dates, please see the corresponding areas below for more information:

Item	Effective Date
Work Incentive: Six-Month Reporting for people with earned income	<b>June 1, 2016</b>
Supplemental Service providers enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs system	<b>July 1, 2016</b>
Supplemental Service providers billing in Minnesota Health Care Programs system	<b>January 1, 2017</b>
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Coordinated Entry for supportive housing	<b>July 1, 2016 (as possible)</b>

## III. Updates on Changes

### A. Work Incentive: Six-Month Reporting for People with Earned Income

**Updated Effective Date**

***Effective June 1, 2016.***

Recipients who do not receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will report any earned income every six months, and will keep any increases in income that occur during that time period. Recipients may report decreases in earned income as they occur to allow for budget recalculation at the start of the next month. Counties will calculate payments based on estimated future earned income instead of on actual earned income. Additionally, counties will pay benefits at the beginning of the month instead of waiting for reports, verifications, and authorizations. Work incentives for people with SSI who work will remain the same.

There will be additional information prior to implementation.

## **B. Supplemental Service providers enrollment in Minnesota Health Care Programs system**

*Effective Date for enrollment is July 1, 2016*

In order to continue to receive Supplemental Service payments, providers must be enrolled in the Minnesota Health Care Programs system before 7/1/16. In-person training was provided in January and February of 2016 for how to enroll. If you missed the trainings please contact [dhs.dhs.grh@state.mn.us](mailto:dhs.dhs.grh@state.mn.us) for more information.

*Effective Date for billing is January 1, 2017*

By January 1, 2017, Supplemental Service providers will bill for services using the Minnesota Health Care Programs system). They will no longer receive supplemental service payments from MAXIS. Housing payments will continue to be paid from MAXIS.

## **C. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

*Effective Date to be determined*

Emergency shelters, and supportive housing settings that serve people who are long-term homeless, are required to participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This is a database used to standardize information to better understand homelessness and improve housing and services in order to end homelessness in Minnesota. Currently, the HMIS system does not have capacity to include Group Residential Housing data, so providers are not yet required to enter Group Residential Housing information.

More information will be provided when an effective date is known.

## **D. Individual eligibility for supportive housing**

*Effective date is July 1, 2015*

Individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness and began receiving Group Residential Housing funds after June 30, 2015 in a Group Residential Housing supportive housing setting must be referred through the Coordinated Entry system in their region. Coordinated Entry is a centralized process to coordinate intake, assessment and referrals to state and federal housing resources for people who are homeless. Coordinated Entry systems are still being implemented across the state, so this requirement only applies where the system is active.

For more information about a regional Coordinated Entry system, please contact the HUD Continuum of Care coordinator for the area.

<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states/minnesota/homeless/mnccc>

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory**

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling (651) 431-3941 (voice) or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.