



Tracy Brewer Awarded WAHA Scholarship



Congratulations to Tracy Brewer, a Dodge County Voucher Program participant. She has been awarded a \$500.00 scholarship from the Wisconsin Association of Housing Authorities.

Scholarship application requirements include a grade point average of 2.75 or higher, a letter of recommendation and an essay submitted by the applicant.

Several program participants in Dodge County submitted applica-

tions. Selections were made at the district level before the final selection of 3 applicants at the state level.

Tracy is enrolled in the Drug and Alcohol Counselor program at Moraine Park Technical College and is pursuing a career as a certified counselor.

Through her hard work and dedication Tracy is reaching her goals. Congratulations Tracy!



Utility Costs & Payments

Some rental properties include all utilities in the rent. More often some or all of the utilities are the tenants responsibility in addition to the rent.

This year utility costs were very high. It was a long heating season and the cost for electricity, natural gas and propane were at record prices.

If you are having trouble paying your utility bills, you may be eligible for energy assistance. You can contact Energy Assistance at (920) 887-7990.

Most importantly you need to contact the utility company. They may be willing to set up a payment arrangement or budget plan.

It is a violation of the rental assistance program to not pay your utilities regardless of whether you are actually disconnected.

If you are facing disconnection we urge you to contact the utility company immediately. Your apartment will fail an inspection if proper utilities are not connected.

An allowance is factored for the utilities you are responsible for when your rental assistance is calculated.

This allowance is adjusted each year and is based on an average of usage and costs for utilities in Dodge County. Your actual utility cost could be higher or lower than this average but this is the amount that we are required to use.



A note about rent increases

A landlord may need to increase rent to offset additional costs in property taxes or maintenance.

The landlord is required to request the increase from our office in advance of it taking affect so that we can process your certification at the new rent amount. The new rent amount will be shown on the certification letter.

It is the landlord's responsibility to notify us of the increase. However, if your landlord notifies you of a rent increase, feel free to mention it to our office.

The rent the landlord charges you must be the same as the rent shown on Section 12, Line 12k of the 50058 rent calculation form that we send with your certification letter.

The exception is if you pay garage rent, monthly pet fees, additional costs for air conditioning or some other charge that is not subsidized.

If you have a question about the amount of rent that our records show, you can check your most recent certification letter and 50058 or call the office.

Utility Costs & Payments (continued)

You receive additional rental assistance to the landlord so that you will have money to pay your share of the rent and the utility bills.

If you are not using that utility allowance to pay your utility bills, you are keeping assistance that has been designated for your utility payments. This is a fraudulent use of program funds.

Your utility allowance is shown on section 12, line 12m of the 50058 form that is included with your certification letter. This is the amount that is factored for your utilities each month.

If we are notified by the landlord or utility company that you are behind on your utility bills, we will monitor you utility account to verify that you are using the utility allowance to make payments.

Failure to pay your utility bills will result in your removal from the rental assistance program.

If you are not current on your utility bills, you need to contact the utility company to set up a payment plan.

We consider a payment plan an effort to

If you would like to discuss your utility situation, contact us at (920) 386-2866.

DODGE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

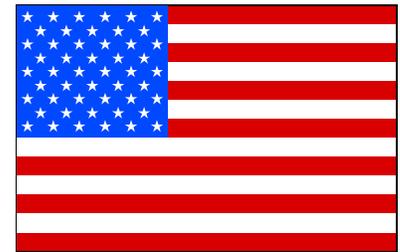
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Board Chairman

Serving the county since 1972



The Housing Authority will be closed on Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day and Friday, July 4th.