

New Mexico Eviction Prevention & Diversion(NMEPD)



Number of Qualifying Individuals Served: 26 out of 24 in application

- ≈ 19 qualifying individuals served w/ rental assistance
- ≈ 7 qualifying individuals served ONLY with Community Justice Worker service
- ≈ ADD'L 7 non-qualifying individuals served

Services Provided

- ≈ Prevented homelessness / eviction of Older Adult households (62 & older)
- ≈ Provided \$15K in rental assistance
- ≈ Provided Access to Justice to Older Adult Households via groundbreaking Community Justice Worker services
- ≈ Jointly developed Housing Stabilization Plans

69-Year-Old, Single African American Woman Positively Impacted:

"It is so important to help. I see how hard it is when something happens. What happened to me was that I was a caretaker and had 4 clients; 2 left the area, and 2 died within a month. There went my money to pay bills. Then my car blew up, and now I have a car payment. You helped me tremendously. It scared me. I was crying and praying. You are angels. You are there for people"

Successes



- Stabilized housing for **15 Older Adult Households**
- **Significantly less cost** to City, courts, owners / landlords, & community than if these individuals became unhoused
- Generally **lower per household rent support** needed than anticipated
- **Leveraged Santa Fe County Resources** to better assist (more) households
- **Housing Stabilization Plans set goals & Community Justice Workers provided accountability** to pave a smoother course going forward
- In-depth knowledge of **cases identified / confirmed most-at-risk Older Adult households in City of Santa Fe**

Challenges



- Targeting Older Adult Households demonstrated that those **most in need are single-person households, especially older women**
 - NMEPD set grant goals based on more 2-person households
- Several referrals did not to meet **NMEPD's self-established City grant guidelines**
 - Lived in the County or not quite age 62 (recommend age 60)
- **Acts of other institutions** are sometimes the first domino to fall, triggering a path to housing instability
- **A few uncooperative landlords**
- **Financial numbers for some Older Adult households simply no longer work with today's increased costs**
 - SSI at one time allowed for rent payment & other expenses – no longer
 - Health conditions mean that working part-time to supplement income is not always realistic