

# MILWAUKEE RENTAL HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

A Groundbreaking Approach to  
Address Rental Housing  
Instability in Milwaukee

January 12, 2021



**Rental Housing**  
Resource Center

# MKE RHRC: A PHYSICAL & VIRTUAL SPACE

- ➔ A socially-distanced, trauma-informed facility to address digital equity in the community
- ➔ A virtual tool for tenants and landlords to navigate resources and get support



[renthelpmke.org](http://renthelpmke.org)



Legal Action of Wisconsin



Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee



Apartment Association of  
Southeastern Wisconsin



City of Milwaukee  
Department of  
Neighborhood Services



COMMUNITY ADVOCATES  
Where Meeting Basic Needs Inspires Hope



Mediate Wisconsin



Urban Economic Development  
Association of Wisconsin



Milwaukee County



Hope House



IMPACT

# MEET THE PARTNERS

a collaborative, cross-sector effort

# OUR HISTORY

“Housing is absolutely essential to human flourishing. Without stable shelter, it all falls apart.”

*Matthew Desmond*

## **The Evolution of MKE RHRC**

- *Evicted*, 2016
- Eviction Prevention Task Force
- “No Place Like Home” report 2018
- Eviction Prevention Coalition
- “Home is Where Our Health Is” report 2020
- COVID 19 Response

# OUR MODEL



**A virtual and physical one-stop shop for tenants and landlords in need of assistance to maintain or provide stable rental housing**

Nine co-partner organizations are working together more effectively through the process of developing the RHRC

# OUR APPROACH

## **Streamlined intake**

A central intake process will allow clients to submit their information to multiple organizations simultaneously

## **Cross-sector collaboration**

Includes many facets of the rental housing system

## **Engaging both tenants and landlords**

Acknowledging that both are important to promote and preserve stable housing

# RESULTS TO DATE

**\$ 39 million** in Emergency Rental Assistance

**\$11,115,500** leveraged to support RHRC co-partners since  
6/1/20

**11,372 households** served

**6,000 landlords** engaged

At least **3500** evictions prevented



# WHAT WE'VE LEARNED SO FAR

Increasing access to rental housing services is best served through **coordination**

Access to **rent assistance** is critical

We need one source of **consistent, trusted information** on rental housing

**Collaboration** is hard work but ultimately more effective, especially at the systems level

**Communication with landlords** is key to success



# OUR PLANS

An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The foreground shows several houses with green lawns and trees. In the middle ground, there are more houses and a street with a yellow school bus and a black car. In the background, the city skyline is visible across a body of water under a blue sky with white clouds.

**This is just the beginning!**  
RHRC co-partners are exploring additional possibilities to support the rental housing system in Milwaukee and engage other stakeholders

# JOIN US

**Renthelpmke.org**

**[info@renthelpmke.org](mailto:info@renthelpmke.org)**

**414-895-RENT (7368)**

## **Follow the RHRC on social media**

Find us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).

Share our posts using **#RentHelpMKE**



# THANK YOU

[RentHelpMKE.org](https://RentHelpMKE.org)

(414) 653-RENT (7368)

[info@renthelpmke.org](mailto:info@renthelpmke.org)

#RentHelpMKE

# OUR SUPPORTERS

