

Agency Name: South Central MN Multi-County HRA
Agency Address: 422 Belgrade Avenue, Suite 102
North Mankato MN 56003
Agency Telephone #: 507-345-1977
Agency Web Page: www.scommchra.org

Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Service area: Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan Counties
Governing board: 10 members / two from each county/some are county commissioners
Staff: 5 full-time / 3 part-time

Administration of the Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance program
HUD Voucher Allocation: 691
Budget Authority for 2017: \$2,990,376
Vouchers leased: Average 640 per month / average cost \$390 per voucher

Nicollet County vouchers: approximately 60% (385) of vouchers leased are in Nicollet County
Of that 60%, 50% or 192 vouchers are in North Mankato.
Estimated \$900,000+ is spent annually on rental assistance in North Mankato

How the program works:

- HUD regulations and HRA Administrative policies guide program administration
- The HRA accepts applications from families and individuals that are living, working or going to school (college) in the five county service area
- If eligible the applicant's name is placed on a waiting list
- When names are removed from the waiting list the applicant may be offered a voucher
- Income, assets and eligible expenses are verified to determine eligibility
- The applicant searches for a place to live
- The rent for the unit must be within Federal Fair Market Rent/Payment Standards for the area
- When the process is complete the HRA pays a portion of the participants rent
Based on 30% of their income
- There is no time limit for how long someone can have a voucher
- Income, assets and expenses are verified and reviewed annually and/or when the participant reports changes
- HRA staff works with a variety of individual landlords and management companies in North Mankato/Nicollet County
- Waiting list is currently closed. Over 300 applicants. Average wait is over a year.
- Units are inspected and must meet HUD Housing Quality Standards before admission

The HRA also administers 30 vouchers of Minnesota Housing Finance Agency / Housing Trust Fund rental assistance. We have a two year grant for \$198,000. This is a referral only program. Participants are currently working with an employment counselor at a human service agency and are eligible for a maximum of \$250 per month rental assistance for up to 5 years.