FLEXFUND

The MDHA Flex Fund

David S. Gruber, Development and Communications Director, MDHA 469-222-0047 david.gruber@mdhadallas.org

Homelessness rarely happens

When it does, it is **brief**

It <u>never</u> happens to that person <u>again</u>

Lead the development of the homeless response system

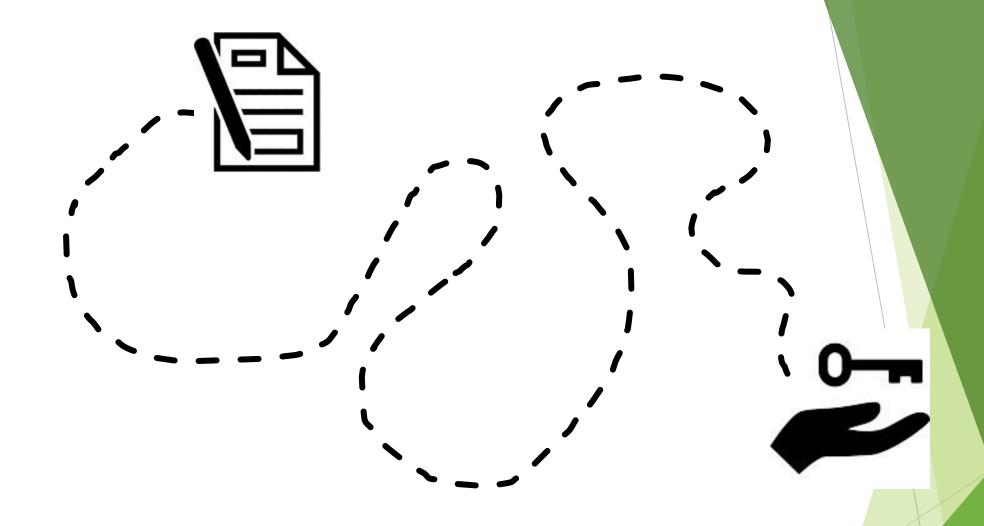




HOUSING

SUPPORT SERVICES

Only Housing Ends Homelessness



Case Managers working for homeless service providers are the linchpin of the system. They assist every client at <u>every step</u> of the housing process <u>until the key is in</u> <u>the door</u>.



Marsha, Family Gateway



Sarah and her daughter Carol were homeless.



With Marsha's help, they obtained a housing voucher, and found an apartment.



The landlord required payment of an administrative fee of \$149, prior to move in.



Their only income being inconsistent child support and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), they couldn't afford it. They were stuck.

Sarah and Carol







DALLAS' HOMELESS POPULATION FACES A VARIETY OF NEEDS, BEYOND HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.

IF NOT MET, THESE NEEDS MAY PREVENT THEM FROM ENDING THEIR HOMELESSNESS QUICKLY AND PERMANENTLY.

INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PROVIDERS USUALLY CANNOT AFFORD TO FILL THESE NEEDS, AS THEY MAY NOT BE COVERED THROUGH EXISTING FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS, THAT FUND PROGRAMS FOR THE HOMELESS.

Sarah and Carol's Challenge is Typical

Sarah and Carol are Home

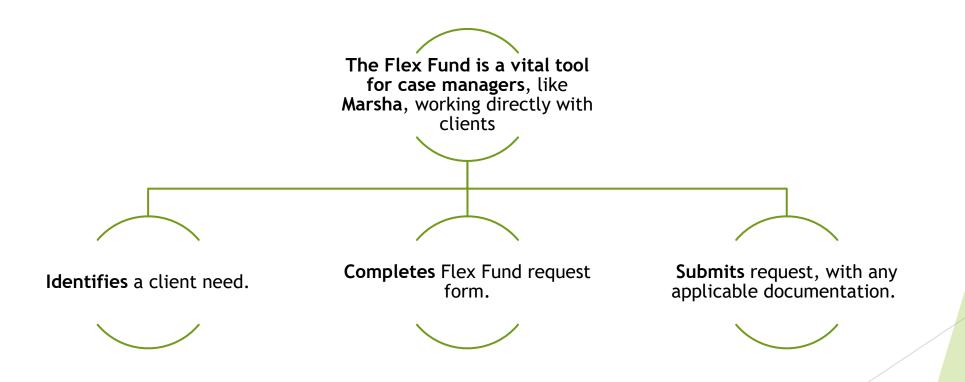
Sarah and her daughter Carol's story has a happy ending.

Marsha, their case manager, put in a request to the Flex Fund, it paid the landlord the required administrative fee of \$149, and Sarah and Carol moved into their new apartment.

Sarah is excited to have a place to call home, and it is much easier to care for Carol, who has a disability, in an apartment of their own. Their homelessness has ended.

The idea of the Flex Fund is that simple. A minor but impactful expenditure impedes a client from (making progress in) ending his or her homelessness crisis. The Flex Fund pays for it. That's all there is to it.

Unsung Heroes Ending Homelessness



What solution is needed (including cost and vendor)?

How will this solution help end their homelessness crisis?

Why can't other resources provide this solution?

What, How, Why?





MDHA REVIEWS AND APPROVES
THE REQUEST AND PRODUCES A
PAPER CHECK IF NEEDED.

MDHA PROVIDES PAYMENT TO THE VENDOR, WITHIN 48 HOURS.

We Have a Need for Speed!

Background

Tarrant County Homeless Coalition

A flexible assistance fund called the Direct Client Services Fund (DCSF), was established in 2011.

Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Successful pilot program, funded by Gates Foundation included a flexible funding mechanism, as one of its cornerstones.

Dallas needed such a fund too

UWMD and MDHA established the Flex Fund in 2015, modeling it after the DCSF.

Smart Investment

Ending a person's homelessness crisis, quickly and permanently, by housing them, is not just the right thing to do; it is the most cost effective.

The Flex Fund addresses minor but impactful needs, that unaddressed would impede clients from ending their homelessness crisis, through housing.

Our community's investment in the <u>Flex Fund</u>, ends up saving the community money.

Cost of each individual Flex Fund client solution is nonrecurring and relatively low

=

High social ROI on each dollar invested in the Flex Fund.

Client Solutions 90% of all revenues

Administrative Expenses -

10% of all revenues

(This only partially covers the true cost, but we remain committed to 90% going to client solutions.)

Program Cost

Bank of America Communities Junior League Anonymous Dallas Baptist Hillcrest **Holloway Family** Foundation of Charitable of Collin County Foundation Association Foundation Foundation Foundation Texas Liberty Mutual Rotary Club of Katherine Moody Perot King Foundation Park Cities **Orix Foundation** Carmody Insurance Foundation Foundation Charitable Trust Foundation Foundation United Way of **USAA** Wells Fargo Sturgis Metropolitan **Zale Foundation** Charitable Trust Foundation Foundation Dallas

Program Supporters

Read Flex Fund Stories

\$43.75 allowed Judith and her little dog Simon to move from a tent into their own apartment.

\$103.53 allowed Jonathan to reconnect his electricity and avoid a return to homelessness.

\$150 allowed Daniel, a veteran, to move from the Salvation Army, into his own apartment, during our last Veterans Challenge.

\$350 allowed Tom, a veteran, to move from The Bridge into his own apartment.

\$500 allowed Julia, a single mom with three little kids, to move from a motel room into their own apartment.

\$600 allowed Pearl and Donna to move from Austin Street Center into their own duplex, during our last Emergency Shelter Housing Challenge.



Read Robert Wilosnky's Dallas **Morning News** Column: Who will come to the rescue to help house the senior homeless in northwest Dallas? We have names



Listen to Justin
Martin, KERA News:
Flex Fund Helps Fill
The Gap Between
Services For Dallas'
Homeless