



Offender Housing Program

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Program Purpose

The Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) housing program provides assistance to local communities for housing offenders who do not have stable housing upon release from prison.

Increases Public Safety

- An offender can be supervised better when he/she is in stable housing:
 - The supervising agent knows where the offender should be.
 - Stable housing provides telephone capabilities for electronic monitoring, if appropriate.
 - The supervising agent can enforce curfew requirements, if necessary.
- An offender can better find and maintain employment when he/she is in stable housing.
- An offender is more likely to attend and accomplish treatment with stable housing.
- An offender is more likely to successfully complete supervision in stable housing. This reduces the possibility of additional victims as well as costs associated with returning offenders to prison.

For Offenders Released from Prison

- The program provides:
 - Housing for offenders with minimal resources who are at risk to be homeless or live in an unsafe or inappropriate setting.
 - Stable housing in the offender's home community or county of commitment.

Multiple Models

The DOC housing program is designed to fund various types of offender housing needs including halfway houses, provision of temporary rent assistance, and scattered-site stable housing.

Legislative Directive

Laws 2005, Chapter 136, Article 1, Section 13, provides an annual appropriation to the DOC to provide housing options to offenders that maximize community surveillance and supervision.