Using Flexible Funding to Prevent Homelessness of Domestic Violence Survivors

Research Study
55 unstably housed or homeless survivors who received “flexible funding” grants from the District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH) were interviewed 1-, 3-, and 6-months after receiving the funds.

Guiding Principles in Flexible Funding Decisions:
- “Can any other organization provide this resource?”
- “Will this grant help this person to retain housing, not just today, but over time?”
- Process is survivor-centered, accessible, and respectful
- Process is quick to respond to urgent situations

Grant range $275 - $8508
Average grant $2,078

How survivors used grants
- Rental assistance
- Car repairs
- Relocation
- Childcare
- Credit/debt repair
- Other expenses...

Six month after receiving funds:
- 94% housed
- 91% no further domestic violence
- 100% felt their lives were better off

Results:
- Stress relief
- Still housed
- Hope
- Increased well-being of children
- "A fresh start"
- "Life saving"
- Stability

For more detailed information, contact DASH executive director Peg Hacskaylo (phacskaylo@dashdc.org) or Dr. Cris Sullivan (sulliv22@msu.edu), or see: Sullivan, C.M. Bomsta, H., & Hacskaylo, M. (under review). Evidence that flexible funding is a promising strategy to prevent homelessness for survivors of intimate partner violence: A longitudinal pilot study.