



CHW Assists Client in Accessing Basic Necessities and Resources

Union Gospel Mission CHWs support clients in gaining access to basic necessities and increasing their independence and self-sufficiency.

Union Gospel Mission is the largest emergency shelter in the Sioux Falls Area, providing shelter and meals for an average of 125 men, women, and children each night. The CHW program assists individuals and families within the shelter in navigating Social Determinants of Health needs and coordinating a transition from homelessness to housing.

CLIENT BACKGROUND

After losing her husband, the client relocated to Sioux Falls after exhausting all available resources in her previous town. The client struggles with mental health issues that have caused broken relationships, particularly with her son.

In the UGM program, the client struggled to follow program guidelines and was involved in a series of rule violations. She also exhibited a prolonged attachment to her homeless identity.

SERVICES PROVIDED

It was vital for the CHWs to help the client obtain stable housing so she would not spend another winter homeless. The client received assistance with the housing application process, including consistent follow-ups from the CHW to monitor the progress of her wait-list status. The CHW also supported the client through completing a move-in inspection, fostering a sense of confidence in her housing transition.



CHWs CAN PROVIDE SUPPORT BOTH IN THE MISSION AND IN THE COMMUNITY, ENSURING MORE SUCCESSSES.

- MADDIE SCHEI, CHW, UNION GOSPEL MISSION



The CHW helped the client find resources to improve her food access, including applying for SNAP benefits, and helped obtain furniture for her home. Additionally, the CHW helped set up free transportation with a SAM bus pass so that the client could get to all of her medical appointments.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

By successfully signing a lease and moving into an apartment, the client now has stable housing. With adequate furniture, access to transportation, and quality food resources with her SNAP benefits, she has also elevated the quality of her living environment and alleviated financial strain, fostering a greater sense of comfort and well-being.

Equally significant are the new life skills that she's gained, including the ability to complete inspections when moving

to a new living space. This knowledge increased her confidence and equipped her with essential tools for navigating her housing effectively.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to being the largest emergency shelter in the Sioux Falls Area, the Union Gospel Mission also provides a resident addiction recovery program and provides an average of 900 food boxes to the community poor each week. To learn more about Union Gospel Mission, visit <https://ugmsiouxfalls.com/>.

This CHW success story was submitted by Heather Craig, Human Resources and Director of Arts for Union Gospel Mission, heatherc@ugmsiouxfalls.com.



Read more Success Stories by visiting - <https://chwsd.org/success-stories/>