# **Youth & Young Adults Legal Issues**

# **Housing Assistance:**

Apply for free legal aid online at MontanaLawHelp.org or call/text Kaia, YHDP Coordinator, at (406) 594-1971



### Is it difficult to sign up for housing assistance?

 The paperwork is not overly complicated, but you will have to prove that your income level qualifies for these programs.

# Are the waitlists long? Will it do me any good to signup now?

It depends on the program you are applying for.
 You can apply for more than one waitlist at a
 time. Some waitlists are long and can range
 from a couple of months to a couple of years,
 but it is always a good idea to apply. You can
 always decline the assistance when your name
 comes up.

### Housing Programs:

## **Public Housing**

You pay 30% of your household income for rent. The Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) enforces quality standards and provides financial assistance.

# **Project-Based Section 8**

You pay 30% of your household income for housing. HUD enforces quality standards and pays the other portion of the rent directly to your landlord.

## Housing Choice Voucher (formerly Section 8)

You pay 30% of your household income for housing. HUD enforces quality standards and pays the other portion of the rent directly to your landlord.

#### **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit**

Privately owned rental units that are offered at a lower rate than the surrounding housing market would set. The amount of rent you pay is not tied to your income unless you also have a Housing Choice Voucher.

#### **Emergency Rental Assistance**

Available for Montanans who have lost household income as a direct or indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Renters in private or government-assisted housing may qualify for Emergency Rental Assistance funds. The program may pay past due and future rent payments.

Please contact MLSA for additional information and assistance. Learn more about Renter's Rights on: <u>MontanaLawHelp.org</u>

# Housing is a basic human need. You deserve a roof and walls to provide safety and stability.

Tribal community members may have additional ways of accessing housing assistance through their tribe. If you are a tribal member living in a tribal community, call MLSA for advice on your specific situation.

### How can MLSA help me?

MLSA provides FREE legal information, forms, advice, and representation to eligible clients.

MLSA's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project **(YHDP) Coordinator** can provide you with referrals to agencies in your community and link you with free civil legal assistance.

Have more questions about your legal rights? Visit:

MontanaLawHelp.org