

COMMUNITY ACTION WORKSHOP:

24:1 HOUSING RIGHTS AND RESOURCES

Virtual session on Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6:30-8PM

RENTAL HOUSING BASICS

The lease is the agreement between a landlord and renter. It must be in writing, and it should cover all the responsibilities for maintenance, utilities, repairs, security deposits, amount of rent, etc.

Complaints to a landlord should be made respectfully, in writing. Some common sources of conflict include:

- Tenants' right to privacy and landlords entering the property without 24 hours' notice.
- Security deposits
- Repairs
- Fair housing issues (lockouts, utility shutoffs, etc.)

Discrimination occurs when landlords refuse to rent, charge higher rent, or falsely say that housing is not available based on a tenant's race, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, or family relationships.

Eviction can only happen with a court order for specific reasons like damage to property, failure to pay rent, drug-related criminal activity, lease violations, injury to another person, or failure to move when the lease is up.

“Many disputes between landlords and tenants can be prevented if both sides know the Missouri laws that apply to rental housing.”

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council (EHOC)
314-534-5800

Beyond Housing Rental Units
314-376-5685 (current residents)
314-376-5684 (future residents)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Housing Discrimination Hotline 800-669-9777

