



Workgroup on Expediting Rental Assistance (WERA)  
Process Overview

# About Management Analysis and Development (MAD)

- MAD is the state's fee-for-service management consulting practice.
- MAD offers organizational planning and problem solving, analysis, meeting design, and facilitation tailored to meet needs of public sector clients.
- MAD consultants work with local, regional, state and federal government agencies and public institutions.
- MAD has conducted legislative studies for many state agencies. In addition, the legislature sometimes directs MAD to conduct studies.

# WERA enabling legislation: Laws 2023, Chapter 69, Article 6, section 14

Identify what **processes, procedures, and technological or personnel resources would be necessary** to enable state or county agencies administering rental assistance to meet the following goals:

- within **two weeks** of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, make and **issue a determination** on the application; and
- within **30 days** of receiving a completed application for rental assistance, **issue payment** on an approved rental application to the landlord.



## Programs in scope:

- Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)
- Emergency Assistance (EA)
- Emergency General Assistance (EGA)

## Roles: WERA process

- **Workgroup members:** developed and shared relevant subject matter knowledge; led individual external consultations; prioritized options; prepared first drafts of recommendations; approved final language for recommendations and draft legislative language
- **Management Analysis and Development (MAD):** WERA process facilitator
- **Minnesota Housing and DHS:** subject matter expertise on programs in scope
- **House Research Department and Senate Counsel, Research and Fiscal Analysis Department:** legislative language drafting expertise
- **Family Housing Fund and Research in Action:** partners in external consultation to connect expertise and perspectives of people with lived experience to WERA's work

# External consultation and partner outreach and input

## **External consultation required by enabling legislation:**

- Input solicited from individuals and organizations by workgroup members
- Tribal engagement outreach by workgroup members

## **Outreach and input gathering by Family Housing Fund and Research in Action:**

- Two presentations by each organization at WERA meetings
- Each organization issued reports; links are included in the WERA final report:
  - FHF report: broader reimagining of housing stability and emergency assistance
  - RIA report: literature review; summaries of two community convene sessions with people with lived experience; RIA recommendations.

# WERA Process Overview

<b>Month</b>	<b>WERA meeting</b>	<b>FHPAP and EA/EGA meetings</b>
<b>September</b>	Build common knowledge	Further analyze issues
<b>October</b>	Brainstorm options	Refine options
<b>November</b>	Select options to turn into recommendations	Prepare to draft recommendations
<b>December</b>	Refine draft recommendations	
<b>January</b>	Finalize and vote on recommendations	
<b>February</b>	Review and vote on draft legislative language Review final report	

# WERA Report to the Legislature

- Workgroup vision and narrative statement
- Information about programs in scope (FHPAP, EA, and EGA)
- Recommendation development process
- Recommendations
- Draft legislative language
- Appendices
  - Authorizing legislation
  - Workgroup members
  - Additional details relating to technology systems recommendation
  - All options developed by the workgroup
  - Workgroup meeting summaries
- Submitted to House and Senate housing committees on February 29, 2024

# Thank you!