



Minnesota **H O U S I N G** Partnership

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## **Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership to Host Training About Methamphetamines for Housing Developers**

**St. Paul, Minn. (Feb. 10, 2006)** – Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership was awarded a \$738 grant Tuesday from the Minnesota Housing Partnership to support a local training to educate housing professionals regarding methamphetamines and their impact on housing rehabilitation programs.

“The dramatic increase in methamphetamine use in southwest Minnesota has had a serious impact on Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership and our partners who engage in housing rehabilitation,” said Lisa Onken, Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership Program Director. “It is crucial that housing service providers and developers can recognize the threat and understand the full range of effects of this substance for our own safety and that of the community members we serve.”

Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership will host a presentation for housing developers to learn skills to better evaluate potential rehabilitation projects that have previously housed methamphetamine producers.

“We will be able to produce an improved quality and increased quantity of rehabilitated affordable housing,” Onken said. “We will learn the skills to ensure all serious health hazards are removed and be able to keep housing professionals safe in their work.”

The Minnesota Housing Partnership is a statewide nonprofit organization that advances the preservation and creation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income people as a means of strengthening communities and families. MHP is an intermediary organization through which local governments and nonprofit housing organizations access loans, grants and technical expertise to plan and construct housing. MHP also manages HousingMinnesota, a statewide public education and advocacy campaign whose goal is Homes for All by 2012. For more information go to [www.mhponline.org](http://www.mhponline.org) and click on “Loans & Grants.”

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