



THE EVICTED NEIGHBOR'S SURVIVAL GUIDE

A Michigan Mobile Home Resident's Guide to Getting Through an Eviction and Rebuilding Your Life

Prepared by Mr. Mike's Neighborhood

A MESSAGE FROM MR. MIKE'S NEIGHBORHOOD

At Mr. Mike's Neighborhood, we have talked to many residents who never thought they would face eviction. We have sat with people who were scared, confused, angry, and unsure of what to do next. We want you to know something important:

****You are not alone.****

An eviction is one event in your life. It is not who you are as a person.

Many good people have faced eviction because of job loss, illness, disability, divorce, death in the family, rising costs, or unexpected financial problems. Many of those same people eventually found housing, rebuilt their finances, and moved forward with their lives. This guide was written to help you take the next step.

CHAPTER 1

YOU ARE MORE THAN THIS EVICTION

One of the biggest mistakes people make is believing that an eviction means they have failed. That is simply not true. Life can change very quickly. A medical emergency, job loss, injury, or family crisis can affect anyone.

Remember These Things:

You are still a good person.

An eviction does not change your character. The people who love and care about you are not judging your worth based on a court case.

You still have value.

You may be struggling financially today, but your value as a human being has not changed. You still have talents, skills, experience, and people who care about you.

This situation is temporary.

Many people who once faced eviction eventually bought homes, found better jobs, or improved their financial situations. What feels permanent today may only be one chapter in a much longer story.

CHAPTER 2**UNDERSTANDING YOUR FEELINGS****Fear**

You may be worried about where you will sleep, where your belongings will go, or how you will support your family. Fear is normal during a housing crisis, but making a plan can help you regain some control.

Anger

You may be angry at yourself, management, family members, or the situation. While anger is understandable, try to focus your energy on solving problems rather than dwelling on blame.

Embarrassment

Many people feel ashamed when facing eviction. The truth is that housing problems affect thousands of Michigan families every year from all walks of life.

Sadness

You may feel like you are losing more than a home. Many residents are also losing neighbors, friendships, routines, and memories attached to the community.

Exhaustion

Stress can wear down both your body and mind. Remember to eat, sleep, drink water, and take care of your health during this difficult time.

CHAPTER 3**WHAT TO DO THE DAY YOU LEARN YOU MAY BE EVICTED****Do Not Ignore The Situation**

Ignoring notices or avoiding phone calls will not make the problem disappear. The sooner you understand what is happening, the more options you may have.

Read Every Document

Court notices, payment demands, and legal paperwork often contain important deadlines. Missing a deadline can make the situation much more difficult.

Start Asking Questions

If you do not understand something, ask questions. It is better to ask for clarification than make decisions based on assumptions.

Contact Mr. Mike's Neighborhood

Many residents feel completely alone when they receive an eviction notice. Mr. Mike's Neighborhood may be able to provide guidance, resources, or help you create a plan for what comes next.

CHAPTER 4

IMPORTANT DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

These are the first things you should protect:

Driver's License or State ID

You will need identification for housing, employment, and assistance programs. Keep it somewhere safe and easy to reach.

Located

Social Security Card

Many agencies and landlords will request this information. Store it in a secure folder to prevent loss or theft.

Located

Birth Certificate

This document may be required for benefits, identification, and replacement paperwork. Place it with your other important documents.

Located

Insurance Information

You may need proof of health, vehicle, or homeowner's insurance. Keep copies available.

Located

Vehicle and Mobile Home Title

If you own a vehicle and mobile home, this document is important to protect. Replacing it can take time and money.

Located

Medical Records

Having access to medical information can be critical during a move or emergency. Keep records together whenever possible.

Located

**CHAPTER 5
EMERGENCY CONTACT WORKSHEET**

Primary Contact:

Name _____

Phone _____

How They Can Help:

Secondary Contact:

Name _____

Phone _____

How They Can Help:

Here's an Example:

John Smith

Can help move furniture and store boxes.

Mary Johnson

Can provide temporary transportation.

CHAPTER 6

MICHIGAN EVICTION TIMELINE

Notice Received

This is usually the first step. It means the park owner is telling you there is a problem that needs to be addressed.

Court Filing

If the issue is not resolved, a court case may be filed. This does not automatically mean you will lose your home, but you should take it seriously.

Court Hearing

A judge will hear both sides. Bring paperwork, payment records, and any information that supports your case.

Judgment

The court may issue a decision. Make sure you understand what the judgment requires and any deadlines involved.

Possession Order

If an eviction is ordered, the court may authorize possession of the property. At this point, it is important to focus on preparing for relocation.

CHAPTER 7

HOW TO PREPARE FOR COURT

Bring Every Document

Payment receipts, notices, letters, and agreements may help explain your situation. Organize everything in a folder before your hearing.

Arrive Early

Arriving early helps reduce stress and gives you time to find the correct courtroom. Being late can create unnecessary problems.

Dress Respectfully

You do not need expensive clothing. Clean, neat clothing helps show respect for the court process.

Stay Calm

Court can be emotional, but remaining calm helps you communicate more effectively. Let the judge hear your side of the story.

CHAPTER 8**FINDING A PLACE TO STAY****Family**

Family members may be willing to provide temporary housing. Even a short-term place to stay can buy you valuable time.

Friends

Friends often want to help but may not know what you need. Be honest about your situation and ask directly.

Churches

Many churches offer assistance programs or know of resources in the community. A phone call may open doors you never expected.

Shelters

Shelters can provide emergency housing when no other options exist. Call ahead to learn about availability and requirements.

Hotels or Motels

While not ideal, they can provide short-term stability. Ask about weekly rates, which are often cheaper than daily rates.

CHAPTER 9**MOVING INVENTORY WORKSHEET**

Must Take Immediately:

- Medications
- Identification
- Court Papers
- Phones and Chargers
- Wallet
- Keys

These items should stay with you at all times. Losing them can create serious problems during an already stressful situation.

Important Personal Items:

- Family Photos
- Jewelry
- Family Heirlooms
- Financial Records

These items may have sentimental value that cannot be replaced. Pack them early rather than waiting until the last minute.

CHAPTER 10 VEHICLE AND TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Do You Have Transportation?

If you have a vehicle, make sure it is operational and fueled. Transportation becomes extremely important during a move.

Do You Need Help Moving?

Friends, family, churches, and community organizations may be able to assist. Asking early is usually easier than asking at the last minute.

Rental Trucks

Reserve moving equipment as soon as possible. Waiting too long may leave you with fewer options.

CHAPTER 11

SENIOR CITIZEN SECTION

Ask For Help

Many seniors try to handle everything alone. There is no shame in accepting assistance during a difficult time.

Protect Medical Equipment

Walkers, oxygen equipment, medications, and medical devices should be among the first items packed. Your health must remain the priority.

Keep Emergency Numbers Nearby

Doctors, caregivers, and family members should be easy to contact. Keep a written list in case your phone is unavailable.

CHAPTER 12

DISABLED RESIDENT SECTION

Make A Medical Plan

Think about medications, appointments, transportation, and special equipment. Planning ahead can reduce unnecessary stress.

Inform Helpers About Your Needs

The people assisting you may not know your limitations. Explain what help you need and what tasks may be difficult.

CHAPTER 13

VETERANS RESOURCES

Contact Veteran Organizations

Veterans may qualify for housing assistance and support programs. These resources exist specifically to help veterans during difficult times.

Keep Military Records Safe

Military paperwork may be needed when applying for benefits. Store copies with your important documents.

CHAPTER 14

FAITH-BASED RESOURCES

Local Churches

Many churches provide food, transportation, temporary housing assistance, or emergency funds. Do not assume they cannot help.

Community Ministries

Community ministries often know about local resources. They may be able to connect you with people and programs you would not find on your own.

CHAPTER 15

HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Many people struggle with this.

Try saying:

"I am going through a housing crisis and could really use some help."

"I don't need money. I need help moving."

"I need a place to store some belongings."

"I need help finding resources."

Most people appreciate honesty and want to know specifically how they can help.

CHAPTER 16

WHAT TO SAY TO YOUR CHILDREN

Example:

"We are going to be moving for a while, but we are going to stay together as a family."
Children need reassurance more than details. Let them know they are safe and loved.

Example:

"This is not your fault."
Children sometimes blame themselves for family problems. Make sure they understand that adults are handling the situation.

CHAPTER 17

YOUR 30-DAY RECOVERY PLAN

Week 1 - Focus on safety.

- Secure housing
- Protect documents
- Apply for assistance
- Contact support network

Week 2 - Focus on rebuilding.

- Search for permanent housing
- Update resume
- Create a budget
- Organize belongings

Week 3 - Focus on stability.

- Follow up on applications
- Continue saving money
- Build support system
- Track expenses

Week 4 - Focus on the future.

- Finalize housing plans
- Set financial goals
- Develop monthly budget

Celebrate progress

FINAL MESSAGE FROM MR. MIKE'S NEIGHBORHOOD

If nobody has told you lately, let me say it. You matter. An eviction does not erase your worth, your dignity, or your future. Many people have stood where you are standing today. They felt scared, overwhelmed, and uncertain. Yet they found a way forward.

You can too. Take one step today. Then another tomorrow. Just keep moving forward.

Mr. Mike's Neighborhood believes that every resident deserves respect, compassion, and a chance to rebuild. We hope this guide helps you begin that journey.