

Sample E-report #1 - Positive

If your church can respond to this request, the amount of your check should be \$300 made out to (name & address of apartment included) and referenced to account of Mary _____ Apt. #____. Phone # is _____. Please let us know as soon as possible. The landlord needs to know something in order to override the default which sends a letter to start the eviction process on the 15th. If you cannot take the whole amount needed, let us know right away. We will refer this situation to other churches in the network to get this need fully covered. Thank you for anything you can do to help her out of this jam.

Mary was referred to us for screening on 12/30. She is asking the church for \$300 for the January rent. Mary is a single mother. All her money problems right now are caused by her son's father who is supposed to pay \$400/mo. child support and doesn't. Mary has had to use the court system, although it is so slow, because without the courts she would get nothing from him. She has applied for court help to force payments – this is not the first time. Right now he owes \$400, and the courts can't tell her when she might get her money. Mary is in a position right now where she can't help herself. She has money coming to her - \$400 from the courts and also some tax deductions - a good chunk coming back to her - refunds resulting from deductions taken for herself and her child. But that money coming will not help her right now when she faces serious problems if she doesn't catch up her rent. Mary is honest, responsible and steady. She has been in this same apartment for 10 years and in her present job for 3 years. She is the kind of person that most churches want to help because she is not sitting on her hands. Her income and her expenses are too close for comfort, but she believes if she can get this one time help she can survive through this time she must wait for the relief that is coming - hopefully in the next few weeks.

Sample E-report #2 - Positive

We have reviewed this request for help based upon the information below that was given us by the landlord. We will refer this into the network. Please let us know.

2/26 Called Dawn at _____ Realty to question her about why they allow residents in the complex to stay without electricity, gas, water, etc. "With regular renters - no", she said, "but Bernard is one of our contractors - he does a good job and we don't want to lose him - so he gets a preferential treatment". He pays a little bit regularly to IPL so even though the bill is high, they don't shut him off - same with the water, but he can live without gas and he does". Ordinarily, they said, we give residence 16 days after due date before they start an eviction action. "If we know you are trying to find this half month \$233 that he is behind, we won't mark his file for any action, meaning we won't give you a deadline for getting it to us. He knows he has to begin working to find help for March, but if he pays anything on it - we will hold off eviction activity. By April we know we will have him back to work". We asked her - if we don't find this money, is Bernard "out the door". "I won't say that," she said. "He has been here since January 2000 and we don't want him gone, but there's only so much we can do with this without this office getting into trouble".

We told Dawn, we would try to find this "one time" help - so we are committed to the \$233. We are coming back to your church first Mike as you referred him for the screen. We need to know if you will take all or any part of this. If you will, your check should be made out to (name & address included) - reference made to account of Bernard _____, (Attn: Dawn) Please let us know right away your intentions.

Note: Church Care does not commit a church to any position. In this instance the church did cover the whole amount. If they had not, Church Care would e-mail this e-report to one or more churches to get it covered.

Negative information collected:

Many situations that are referred to Church Care for screening do not show positive information, but instead we find misrepresentation of information or some other matter that serves to disqualify the individual or family. We write an e-report - a narrative of the information collected - and send it back to the church without other comment. Church Care does not advise a church one way or the other regarding their response to situations that do not meet standards for a positive response. We do, however, inform the church that we will not refer it into the network for help. The following statement appears at the bottom of all e-reports that will not be sent out to other churches for possible participatory help:

Network churches are free to respond however they wish to the \$\$ requests made of them. Church Care does not advise referring churches to respond or not respond to situations that do not pass our screen, but we are providing, herein, the basic reasons why Church Care will not refer the request out to other churches in the network for their possible cooperative participation. We do ask the churches, however, to let us know, for our records, if service was provided and how much.

Sample E-report # 3 Negative

3/31 - Joan was referred for screening on 3/18. She is asking for rent money - \$282 which she needs on top of \$300 she told us she would get from Salvation Army if she could prove she has this \$282 to pay a rent that she must have by the 27th to avoid eviction. Joan told us she was fired from a job she started a week earlier. She told us she had another job already, but gave us no information we might check out. She gave us no information about her employment history before this one week job she told us about only to say she has always had high paying jobs. Her only income at this time is \$236 child support, \$249 food stamps - total \$485. Her itemized expenses are \$2537. She is not giving us the information we need to know, and she has not called since the day after she gave us this intake. Her phone has been disconnected since that time. She has given us too little verifiable information and her situation is not one that we would refer out to the church network. We have closed the file as "does not comply with network money policy".

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Sample E-report # 4 Negative

Church Care does not ask churches to respond to phone bills as a necessary utility unless there are sick people in the residence subject to unpredictable crisis situations. We have great difficulty dealing with situations where we cannot make direct phone contact with the persons who have made the request.

Chris was referred to us for screening on 10/13. She is asking the church for \$210 to pay her phone bill and for food. She gave us a friend's telephone number for contact purposes. Said her husband walked out about 6 weeks ago - quit his job. She hasn't talked to him and has no idea where he is. She said the trustee paid her rent up to date - gas and electric were paid by her home church. Just needs the phone bill paid. From the information she gave us - \$704 income (\$388 child support from prior spouse and \$316 food stamps), and \$1236/mo basic expenses. If this is true, she has bigger problems than a telephone bill. We have spoken with her friend who was supposed to pass on any messages. We asked her to have Chris call our office - we need more information about her husband's employer. No Call. Called her friend again - asked her if Chris had had any recent contact with run away husband. She said yes she thought she had. We asked her to have Chris call us again. Chris has not called. Much time has passed - no call. We are closing her file.

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In God We Trust