

## **Legislator Visit Template**

Example is based on the \$15 million increase to Emergency Services Program (ESP) to form your TWO minute testimony. You have the freedom to talk about any of our priorities (ESP, H4A, MFIP Increase or Restore the Vote). 1) Introduce yourself with Power. Who is in your Community? Who are you representing when you talk? Hello Rep/Sen \_\_\_\_\_\_, My name is Pamela and I live in Bemidji, MN. I am involved with my local neighborhood group which has 20 different businesses and faith communities involved, I am a leader for my children's 4H group and I have volunteered at the Village of Hope emergency shelter for over five years 2) Why do you support a \$15 million Increase to the Emergency Services Program? Where we live impacts everything and I have seen this firsthand in our district. The families that come seeking emergency shelter at Village of Hope need a place to sleep indoors and get quality support in order for them to get a home of their own. Bemidji is lucky to have a shelter because 63 out of 87 counties do NOT. Even though we have Village of Hope they have been underfunded and under resourced for many years. With more resources we would be able to shorten shelter stays, enhance programming and ensure caseworkers are able to respond to each person's unique needs. As an example I have/I met....{insert personal story of success or story of the inability to provide needed support due to lack of resources} 3) End the message by asking for the \$15M Emergency Services Program Increase (or the priority you are asking for) Thanks for all your hard work. Can we count on you to support this much needed increase to the Emergency Services Program? {ask them to give a yes or no answer. If they want more information be sure to let H4A know}

NOW WRITE YOURS BELOW! -----

Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless