

## John's Story

Submitted by Mary McComiskey, Friends Anonymous, Faribault, MN

John is a veteran who receives disability payments. He had moved from one apartment to another and had accordingly notified the Veterans Administration of the move.

Unfortunately, it got lost in channels and the disability check was sent to the old address. The check was returned to the VA for further processing. In the meantime John and his family --2 sons and a daughter were evicted even though he had been trying to straighten it out through the VA and then through appealing to social services. In the worst case scenario, he and his family had hoped to bunk in with a relative who shared an apartment with another person. This relative was injured in a fall and ended up in the hospital and eventually rehab. The room mate could no longer afford the apartment by himself and moved in with relatives. John and his family were placed in the Galaxie Motel in Faribault. This was an emergency placement and when the funds ran out John was told he would be out by Friday if he could not come up with 2 weeks payments. He was desperate and walked to United Way in Faribault to seek assistance. Layne, the Director of United Way, confirmed the story and got in touch with me as a Friends Anonymous member, seeking assistance. He also told me at least one and he believed both sons had a handicap. I had had a fund raiser luncheon for Friends Anon and had just enough money for the two weeks-- the week owed and the following week (with a dollar left over). This gave John enough time to get things moving with the VA and he received the checks that were owed him.