



Criminal Justice Ministry  
1104 Jefferson Ave,  
St. Louis, MO 63104  
(314) 652-8062



## **Release to Rent—LITE Housing Program**

The LITE program is modeled after our long-standing Release-to-Rent program. The LITE program focuses on single men AND women who are further along in their transition from prison but are having trouble securing their own housing due to their conviction history or difficulty saving for an initial security deposit.

### **Requirements of the Program:**

- Single male or female (no pets, no couples, no children in applicant's physical custody)
- Has worked for 6 months or more at the same full-time, **permanent** job (no temp work)
- Must have a pretax income of \$1,500 a month or more.
- Must have a history of incarceration for a minimum of 1 consecutive year in DOC/BOP.
- Proof of gas and/or electric utility arrears less than \$300 total (which must be paid off by the end of the 6-month program, otherwise you will not be able to have utility accounts in your name and cannot stay in the apartment)
- Not a registered sex offender
- No history of a formal legal eviction in a court of law (many of CJM's partner landlords will not rent to those with a court-ordered eviction record)
- Willingness to participate in random drug screens upon request by the CJM case manager.
- Applicants who are under supervision with Probation & Parole are preferred, but it's not required

### **You do not meet criteria if:**

- Your job is a temporary position.
- You were incarcerated in city or county jail, rather than state/federal prison.
- History of multiple probation/parole violations.

### **The LITE program is a short-term, 6-month program that provides the following:**

- A fully furnished, 1-bedroom apartment in south St. Louis.
- All LITE clients are assigned to a case manager, who will provide intensive services for the 6-month period, which will include weekly home visits and random drug screens.

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- The security deposit and first two months of rent are paid in full by CJM. On the third month, the LITE client pays only 20% of the rent. 40% is paid on the fourth month, 60% on the fifth month, and 80% on the sixth month.
- After the 6-month period, if there have been no major tenant complaints and the client has fulfilled their end of the agreement, the remaining 6 months of the lease will be the client's responsibility and case management will cease, unless an issue arises. Rent for months 7-12 of the lease will be paid in full by the LITE client (approx. rent \$450/mo – utilities are separate and the responsibility of the client)
- At the end of the 12-month lease, if the client chooses to stay in the unit, then he/she can do so and will negotiate a new 12-month lease directly with the landlord. If they opt to move at the end of their lease, they are welcome to take the furnishings and the property manager will provide a rental history and reference going forward.

**Special Notes:**

- All utilities, transportation, cell phone, etc. are the financial responsibility of the client.
- Apartment locations will vary based on CJM's availability at the time of acceptance into program
- Furnishings will be gently used, and all beds will be new.
- Approximate full rent for LITE apartments is \$450. Utilities are separate
- Rental history and reference will be provided to good tenants only.
- By providing this program, CJM hopes that with the gradual payment system, LITE clients can pay off other debt or save money in those first 6 months.

**If you are interested and meet the eligibility requirements, please contact the Director of Client Services at (314) 652-8062 x106 to inquire about the application/interview process.**

**THIS IS A LIMITED-ENROLLMENT PROGRAM. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ANYTIME BUT THERE MIGHT BE A WAIT DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY AT TIME OF APPLICATION**