



## Case Study

### Case Study 2—Single Parent

Description: Ellen has two sons, Isaac and Andrew ages 12 and 10. She works 30 hours a week as a receptionist. Ellen needs to find a larger rental unit as the boys currently share a bedroom and they would like to have their own space.

**Before you look for a place to live, determine your monthly income.**

**Step 1: List take-home pay for each person in your household who is employed.**

Ellen's take home salary is \$325.00 per week. The children attend a free afterschool program. While she was awarded \$475.00 in child support from the children's father, payments are \$200.00 per month. The family also receives Food Share of \$150.00.

**Step 2: Determine monthly expenses and debt, and monthly income for each person in household and list on Monthly Budget Worksheet.**

Ellen's fixed expenses: Car Payment: \$80.00; Cellphone: \$60.00; Cable/Internet: \$65.00.

Ellen's variable expenses for this last month: Miscellaneous: \$175.00; Gas: \$100.00; Grocery: \$125.00; Medical: \$100.00; Eating Out: \$50.00; Movies: \$25.00.

**Step 3: Subtract from income to determine the amount available for rent and utilities.**

