

I can offer my experience helping prepare Kansas SRS records for an audit several years ago. The most common reason for people to seek financial help from the government was medical expenses. They could have been the result of an illness, injury, birth defect or any other unexpected circumstance. Even when people have a "rainy day fund", they can end up destitute because of medical expenses. No one should have to starve to pay medical bills.

We worked in most of the county SRS offices in northeast Kansas when we helped prepare the records for an audit. It was disturbing to learn that so many people who had been living comfortably needed financial assistance when their medical bills accumulated. There were people who had suffered injuries from swimming or car accidents and needed continuing care. There were parents of children whose medical bills in their first months of life exceeded the parents' annual income. There were heart attack and stroke survivors. An event as tragic and shocking as any of these should not be made worse by driving a family into poverty.

Thank you,

Alicia Suenaga
10005 Connell Dr.
Overland Park, KS 66212
[913-486-6746](tel:913-486-6746)