





#### Homelessness in Anoka County: Prevention and Resources

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 FROM 10:00 - 11:30 AM FRIDLEY CIVIC CAMPUS 7071 UNIVERSITY AVE NE, FRIDLEY, MN 55432

#### Presenters

- Jennifer Crotteau, Lead Program Planner, Anoka County and Chair of Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative
- David Frei, Executive Director, Family Promise
- Heidi Geiss, Homeless Liaison, Anoka Hennepin School District
- Sue Rosendahl, LSW, Social Worker, Salvation Army

Anoka County



This event is free and open to the public



#### **Our Mission:**

To foster collaborative opportunities to creatively address community needs in Anoka County.

If there is a topic you would like CAN to cover at the next event, please talk to us after or visit our website and send us a message

www.compassionactionnetworkanoka.org



#### Agenda

- 10:00 -10:05 Welcome
- 10:05 10:35 Jennifer Crotteau, Lead Program Planner, Anoka County and Chair of Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative
- 10:35 10:45 David Frei, Executive Director, Family Promise
- 10:45-10:55 Heidi Geiss, Homeless Liaison, Anoka Hennepin School District
- 10:55-11:05 Sue Rosendahl, LSW, Social Worker, Salvation Army
- 11:05 11:30 (25 minutes) Q & A, Evals



## **Jennifer Crotteau**

#### Lead Program Planner, Anoka County and Chair of Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative







### Homelessness in Anoka County; Prevention & Resources

Presented by: Jennifer Crotteau, Lead Program Planner, with Community Social Services & Behavioral Health Department



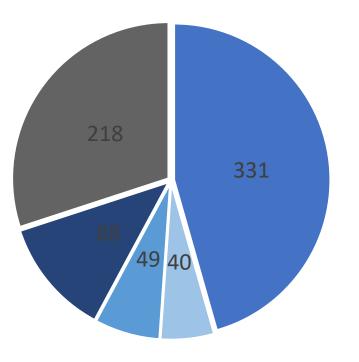
## Homelessness in Anoka County; Prevention and Resources

Agenda:

- Homelessness in Anoka County
  - Key Data
  - Where do persons experiencing homelessness often present?
- Anoka County Housing Program Overview
  - Community Social Services and Behavioral Health (CSSBH) housing continuum
  - Local Homeless Prevention Aid
  - Economic Assistance
- Anoka County Housing Prevention & Resources
  - Housing Help Desk Overview & Services
  - Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program
- Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative
  - Overview
  - Committees & Activities
- Additional Resources
  - Beyond Backgrounds
  - Housing Stabilization Services
  - Outreach

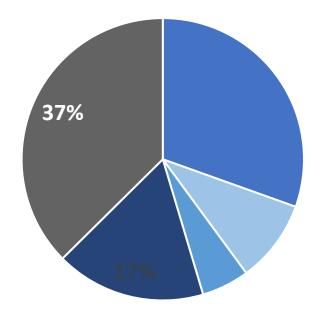
## Homelessness in Anoka County: Key Data/ Point in Time Count

The U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) department requires communities that receive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants federal funding conduct a count of all sheltered persons annually and unsheltered people, at least every other year, during the last week of January. 2023 PIT data is in the process of compilation.



2022 PIT Count

Census Data: Individuals in poverty

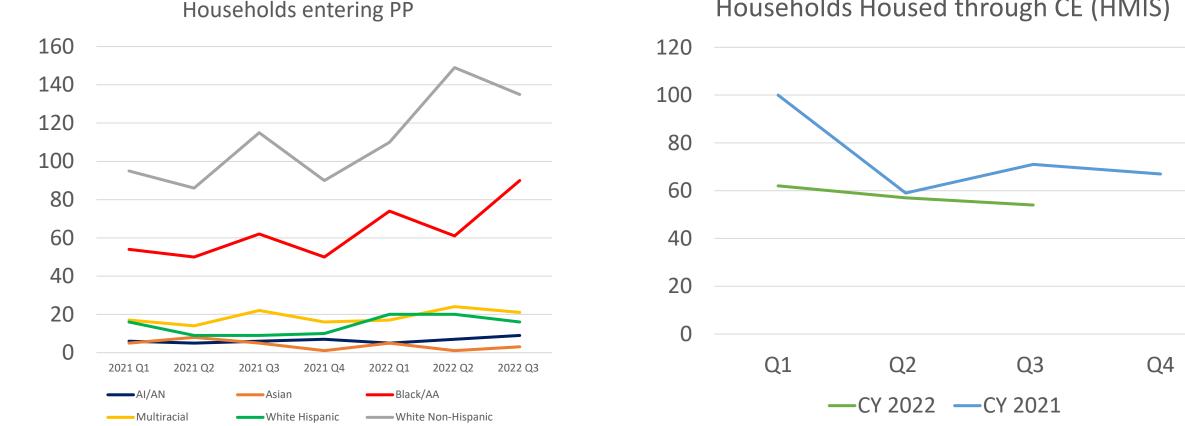


Dakota Scott Carver Washington Anoka

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### Homelessness in Anoka County: Key Data; Point in Time Count

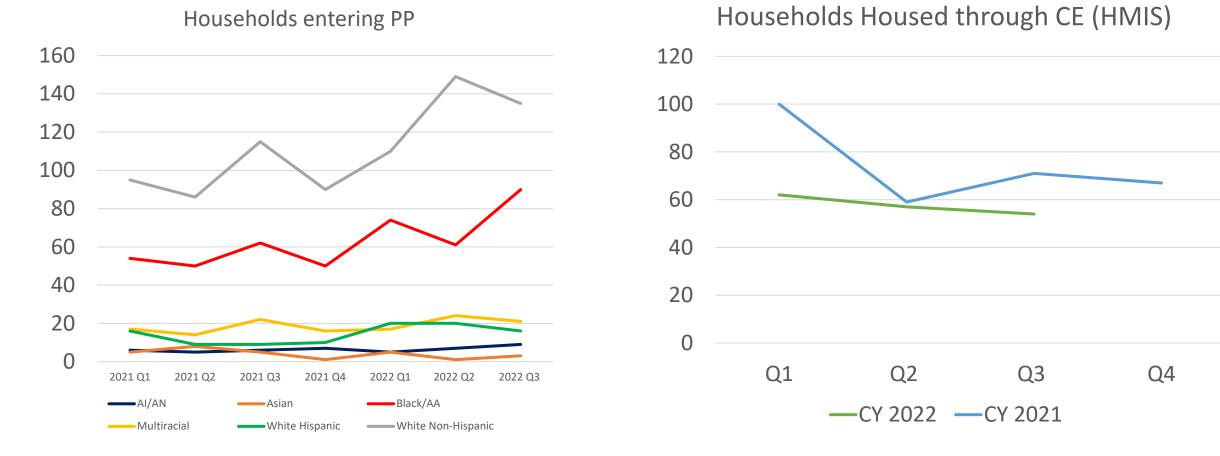
The SMAC Priority Pool (PP) is a group of households screened through Coordinated Entry processes and identified to be prioritized for housing interventions needed to stabilize, including supportive housing options or Rapid Rehousing.



Households Housed through CE (HMIS)

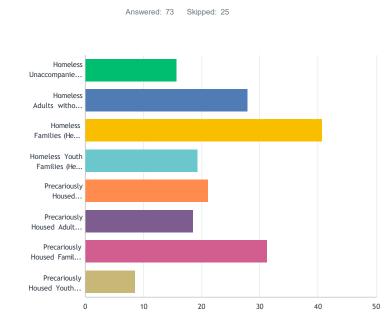
### Homelessness in Anoka County: Key Data; Point in Time

The SMAC Priority Pool (PP) is a group of households screened through Coordinated Entry processes and identified to be prioritized for housing interventions needed to stabilize, including supportive housing options or Rapid Rehousing.



#### FHPAP Needs Assessment Surveys: Provider Survey Data/Number of Households

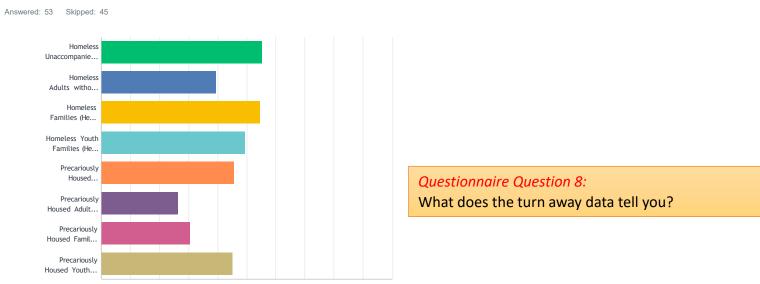
Q9 Please estimate the number of households your organization served during the last month who were facing housing instability or homelessness.



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (Under 24)	16	862	55
Homeless Adults without Children (24 or Older)	28	1,594	57
Homeless Families (Head of Household 24 or Older)	41	2,481	61
Homeless Youth Families (Head of Household Under 24)	19	963	50
Precariously Housed Unaccompanied Youth (Under 24)	21	991	47
Precariously Housed Adults without Children (24 or Older)	19	818	44
Precariously Housed Families (Head of Household 24 or Older)	31	1,592	51
Precariously Housed Youth Families (Head of Household Under 24)	9	401	47
Total Respondents: 73			

#### FHPAP Needs Assessment Surveys: Provider Survey Data/Turn Away Data

Q10 Approximately how many households did your organization need to turn away or refer elsewhere due to a lack of resources in the last month?

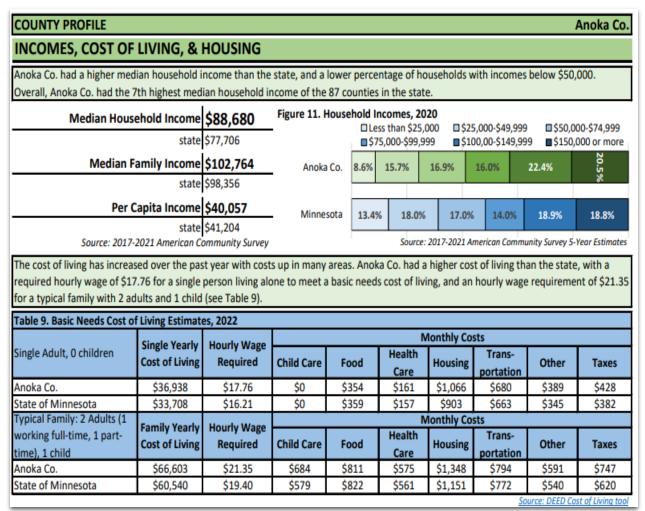


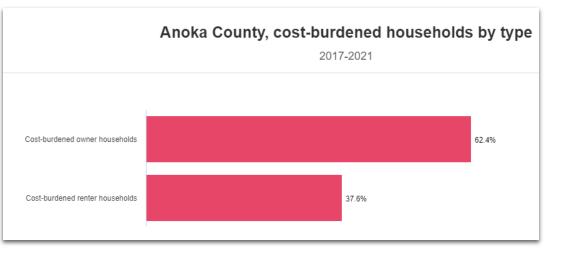
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

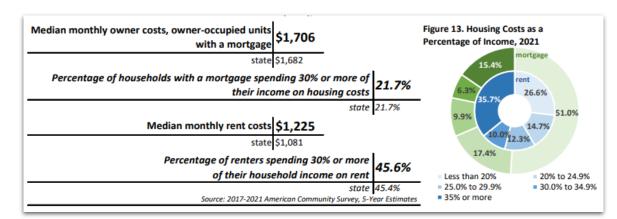
ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (Under 24)	6	232	42
Homeless Adults without Children (24 or Older)	4	174	44
Homeless Families (Head of Household 24 or Older)	5	235	43
Homeless Youth Families (Head of Household Under 24)	5	203	41
Precariously Housed Unaccompanied Youth (Under 24)	5	169	37
Precariously Housed Adults without Children (24 or Older)	3	95	36
Precariously Housed Families (Head of Household 24 or Older)	3	125	41
Precariously Housed Youth Families (Head of Household Under 24)	5	172	38
Total Respondents: 53			

## Homelessness in Anoka County: Key Data; Needs Assessment

Anoka County Snapshot, Deed & Census Data:







# Homelessness in Anoka County: Where do persons experiencing homelessness often present?

<u>The Justice System-</u> People experiencing unsheltered homelessness are more likely to interact with the Justice System than persons in shelters (Urban.org)

<u>The Healthcare System-</u>visit rates to Emergency Departments for those experiencing homelessness are many times higher than the rate of persons who are housed <u>(CDC)</u>

<u>Shelters/Drop in Centers-</u> Family Promise in Anoka County, Stepping Stone Emergency Shelter, Anoka CSSBH Hotel Shelter and Alexandra House, HOPE 4 Youth drop-in center and The Dwelling Place domestic violence shelters/transitional housing.

<u>Schools-</u>School districts designate a liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness

Public Spaces- Transit shelters, libraries, gas Stations, stores, rest stops, parks

Hotels- Households experiencing homelessness may cycle in and out of hotels

Vehicles- Persons may reside in their vehicle primarily or between housing options

On the street or in an encampment- Households may stay on the street, bus shelters, etc. or in outdoor encampments

<u>Food Shelves or Faith Based Community Events-</u> Households may utilize food shelves and other community events providing resources to homeless <u>(community meals, Anoka County)</u>

<u>https://communityfoodcalendar.weebly.com/</u>

# Homelessness in Anoka County: Where do persons experiencing homelessness often present?

Anoka County Economic Assistance- Persons are often doubled up, 20% of persons receiving Anoka County Public Assistance (Emergency Assistance, SNAP, CCA, MSA, MFIP, specialized healthcare) live with family friends due to hardship

	iving S	OKA COUNTY Situation Dashboard y Service County, as of end of (	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
# of Anok	a Case	es by Current Living Situa	ation
Living Situation Description	Code	_	
Own Housing: Lease, Mortgage or Roommate	01		6,405 (63.3%)
Family/Friends Due to Economic Hardship	02	2,048 (20.2%	6)
Service Provider - Foster Care, Group Home	03	588 (5.8%)	
Hospital/Treatment/Detox/Nursing Home	04	122 (1.2%)	
Jail/Prison/Juvenile Detention	05	5 (0.0%)	Homeless* in "Unknown" and "Missing"
Hotel/Motel	06	45 (0.4%)	57 "Unknown" cases are homeless. 5 "Missing" cases are homeless.
Emergency Shelter	07	34 (0.3%)	Ŭ
Place Not Meant for Housing	08	125 (1.2%)	Please update the Living Situation field to the last known homeless situation.
Declined	09	9 (0.1%)	*Based on the DHS homeless algorithm.
Unknown	10	377 (3.7%)	
Missing Data (Not Answered)		357 (3.5%)	

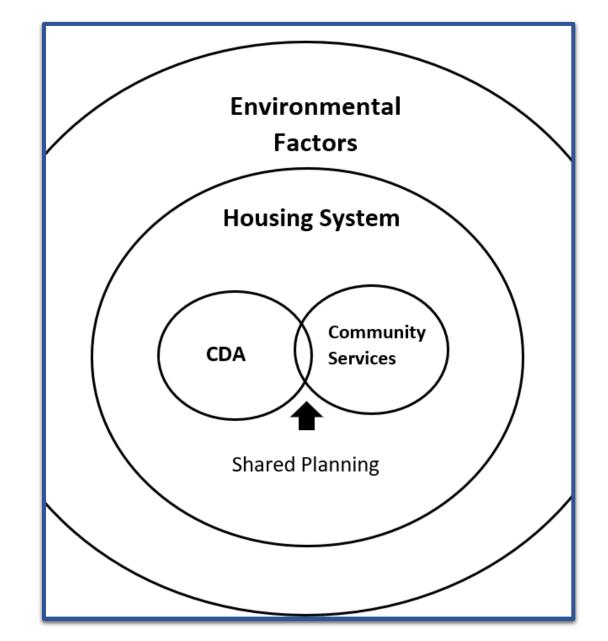
Metro Comparison								
Code	ANOKA	CARVER	DAKOTA	HENN	RAMSEY	SCOTT	WASH	
01	63.3%	57.1%	65.0%	55.7%	56.7%	72.9%	56.6%	
02	20.2%	9.6%	14.0%	13.2%	11.6%	12.3%	15.6%	
03	5.8%	8.5%	10.2%	5.0%	6.5%	5.8%	8.5%	
04	1.2%	3.3%	1.0%	3.2%	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%	
05	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%		0.1%	
06	0.4%	0.9%	0.6%	0.2%	0.2%	1.0%	0.5%	
07	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%	1.2%	1.3%	0.2%	0.1%	
08	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	2.9%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	
09	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%		0.0%	
10	3.7%	3.8%	2.7%	9.4%	7.3%	1.7%	3.9%	
	3.5%	15.3%	4.8%	9.0%	14.0%	4.1%	12.5%	
TOTALS	100%							
	Code 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09	Code         АNOKA           01         63.3%           02         20.2%           03         5.8%           04         1.2%           05         0.0%           06         0.4%           07         0.3%           08         1.2%           09         0.1%           10         3.7%	Code         ANOKA         CARVER           01         63.3%         57.1%           02         20.2%         9.6%           03         5.8%         8.5%           04         1.2%         3.3%           05         0.0%         0.1%           06         0.4%         0.9%           07         0.3%         0.1%           08         1.2%         1.1%           09         0.1%         0.1%           10         3.7%         3.8%	Code         ANOKA         CARVER         DAKOTA           01         63.3%         57.1%         65.0%           02         20.2%         9.6%         14.0%           03         5.8%         8.5%         10.2%           04         1.2%         3.3%         1.0%           05         0.0%         0.1%         0.0%           06         0.4%         0.9%         0.6%           07         0.3%         0.1%         0.4%           08         1.2%         1.1%         1.2%           09         0.1%         0.1%         0.0%           10         3.7%         3.8%         2.7%           3.5%         15.3%         4.8%	Code         ANOKA         CARVER         DAKOTA         HENN           01         63.3%         57.1%         65.0%         55.7%           02         20.2%         9.6%         14.0%         13.2%           03         5.8%         8.5%         10.2%         5.0%           04         1.2%         3.3%         1.0%         3.2%           05         0.0%         0.1%         0.0%         0.1%           06         0.4%         0.9%         0.6%         0.2%           07         0.3%         0.1%         0.4%         1.2%           08         1.2%         1.1%         1.2%         2.9%           09         0.1%         0.1%         0.0%         0.0%           10         3.7%         3.8%         2.7%         9.4%	Code         ANOKA         CARVER         DAKOTA         HENN         RAMSEY           01         63.3%         57.1%         65.0%         55.7%         56.7%           02         20.2%         9.6%         14.0%         13.2%         11.6%           03         5.8%         8.5%         10.2%         5.0%         6.5%           04         1.2%         3.3%         1.0%         3.2%         1.4%           05         0.0%         0.1%         0.0%         0.1%         0.1%           06         0.4%         0.9%         0.6%         0.2%         0.2%           07         0.3%         0.1%         0.0%         0.1%         0.2%           08         1.2%         1.1%         1.2%         2.9%         0.9%           09         0.1%         0.1%         0.0%         0.1%         0.1%           10         3.7%         3.8%         2.7%         9.4%         7.3%           3.5%         15.3%         4.8%         9.0%         14.0%	Code         ANOKA         CARVER         DAKOTA         HENN         RAMSEY         SCOTT           01         63.3%         57.1%         65.0%         55.7%         56.7%         72.9%           02         20.2%         9.6%         14.0%         13.2%         11.6%         12.3%           03         5.8%         8.5%         10.2%         5.0%         6.5%         5.8%           04         1.2%         3.3%         1.0%         3.2%         1.4%         1.4%           05         0.0%         0.1%         0.0%         0.1%         0.1%         1.0%           06         0.4%         0.9%         0.6%         0.2%         0.2%         1.0%           07         0.3%         0.1%         0.4%         1.2%         1.3%         0.2%           08         1.2%         1.1%         1.2%         2.9%         0.9%         0.7%           09         0.1%         0.1%         0.0%         0.0%         0.1%         1.7%           10         3.7%         3.8%         2.7%         9.4%         7.3%         1.7%	

NOTE: Percentages rounded to one decimal point. Blank cell = No occurrences

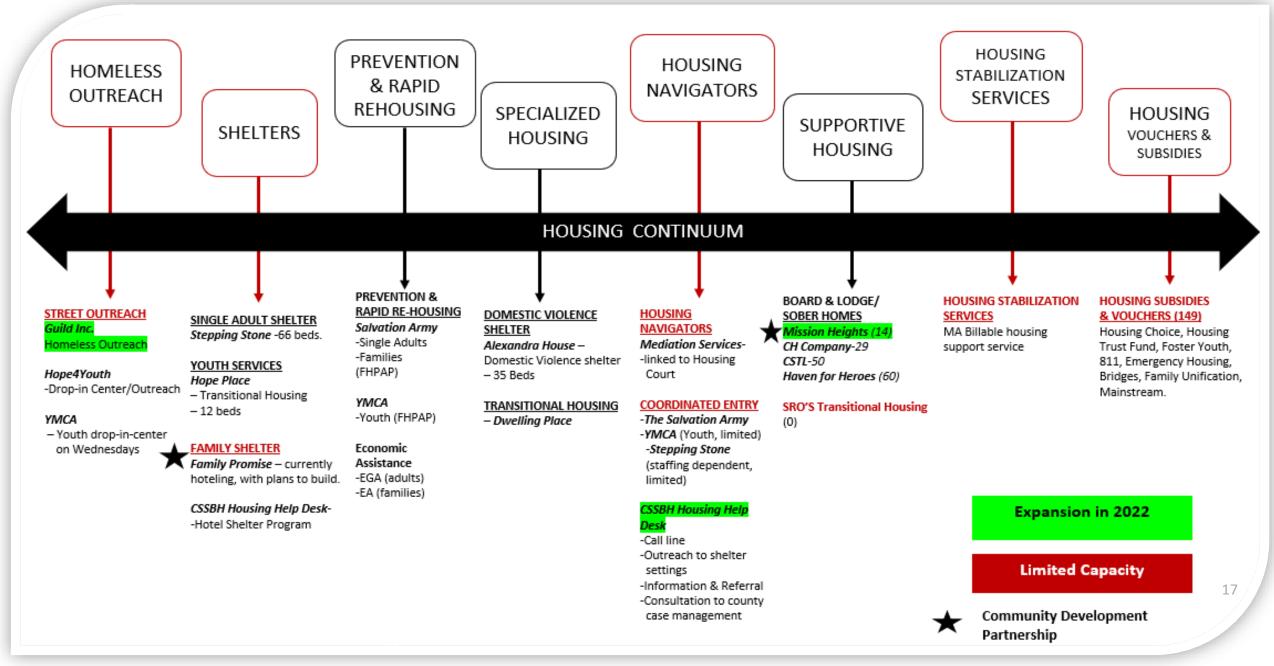
## Homelessness in Anoka County: County Housing Program Overview

Anoka County Housing Program Overview: CSSBH Housing Continuum

#### County Role within housing continuum



#### HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM within Anoka County



#### Homelessness in Anoka County: Housing Program Overview CSSBH Housing Continuum

#### Current Initiatives:

*Mission Height Board and Lodge* - Adult Mental Health Initiative and Housing Support Funding

 Partnership with Community Development, ACCAP and Mission Inc. to remodel and re-open a 14 bed Board and Lodge for adults with mental health and substance use disorder issues

Housing Support for Shelter - renewal due August 2023

Funds the contract with SSEH (66 bed shelter for single adults)

Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Grant -

- \$829,100 for 2021-2023 Biennium and funding request for \$2.5M for 2023-2025 Biennium
- FHPAP- Increased access to funding for rental subsidies, prevention and support services, anticipating additional funding from the legislature.

Community Living Infrastructure Grant -

• Funds Housing Help Desk Staff

Homeless Assistance Grant -

• Street Outreach Guild

*Family Promise in Anoka County* - received funding to develop a static site family shelter

#### New Initiatives:

Homework Starts with Home (HSWH) - MN Housing Grant-

- CSSBH Completed a HSWH Planning Grant in 2021
- Grant application submitted March 29, 2023
- Anticipated Request: \$1.1M for 2023/2027

Local Homeless Prevention Aid to Counties-

- January 2023 June 2028-Department of Revenue
- \$20 Million in state-wide funding per year
- CY2023 Allocation: \$1,987M

To help counties ensure no child is homeless within a local jurisdiction by keeping families from losing housing and helping those experiencing homelessness find housing

Currently Conducting Needs Assessment with stakeholders

#### Homelessness in Anoka County: Housing Program Overview; Local Homeless Prevention Aid

Local homeless prevention aid is new funding distributed to counties to help local governments ensure no child is homeless within a local jurisdiction by keeping families from losing housing and helping those experiencing homelessness find housing.

Allocations to counties are based on a formula specified in statute using data provided by the Minnesota Department of Education. The geographic distribution of the number of students identified by schools who meet the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness is a significant factor in that formula.

• Anoka County will receive \$1,987,237 in 2023 (\$993,618.50 on 7/20/23 and \$993,618.50 on 12/26/23)

#### Funded activities must include plans for:

- Targeting families with children who are eligible for a prekindergarten through grade 12 academic program and are one of the following:
  - Living in overcrowded conditions in their current housing
  - Paying more than 50 percent of their income for rent
  - Lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence

Targeting unaccompanied youth in need of an alternative residential setting

- Connecting families with the social services necessary to maintain the families' stability in their homes, such as housing navigation, legal representation, and family outreach
- One or both of the following:
  - Providing rental assistance for a specified period which may exceed 24 months
  - Providing support and case management services to improve housing stability, such as housing navigation and family outreach

Counties have broad discretion in determining how to use these funds to support the authorized purposes and intended outcomes of this local government aid.

#### Homelessness in Anoka County: Housing Program Overview; Local Homeless Prevention Aid



Anoka County LHPA workgroup is established to review LHPA plan and make recommendations from compiled data



Data will include:

Information received at listening Sessions to Schools, Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative Providers and other stakeholders

Responses from a Local Homeless Planning Aid Survey

**Overall Needs Assessment** 



The procurement process program/development will begin in June 2023

## Homelessness in Anoka County: Economic Assistance

Emergency programs are available to qualifying persons to prevent homeless or utility shut off. <u>Emergency Assistance (EA)</u> - EA helps eligible families who have children in the home under age 18.

- EA can be used once in a 12-month period.
- Can be used for 1<sup>st</sup> month rent or deposit
- Eligibility is based on income and assets at the time of application.
- Residency and Citizenship requirements- generally means legally residing in US
- Income below 200% FPG
- Resources of all household members must be considered
- Issuance must resolve the emergency
- Must be cost effective- Affordability ongoing
- Test of Income & Assets for Basic Needs

**Emergency General Assistance (EGA)** - EGA helps eligible adults without minor children in the home.

- EGA helps eligible households that do not qualify for EA, MFIP, or DWP.
- In 2022, Anoka County EA/EGA cases doubled, and if current 2023 numbers hold, will increase again over 30% for 2023. Overall, 537 households were issued an average of \$1587.58 in rent, deposit, or utility assistance (\$228,960.06 for adults and \$623,571.26 for families) to prevent or resolve their homelessness in 2022.
- An average of 44 households had their housing stabilized by short term assistance monthly through public assistance.
- <u>To apply for assistance</u> click link or contact EZ info line at 763-422-7200

Homelessness in Anoka County; Prevention & Resources

# Homelessness in Anoka County: Anoka County Housing Prevention & Resources; Housing Help Desk

<u>Housing Help Desk</u>: Anoka County has administered a Community Living Infrastructure Grant (CLI) program, since 2018, which is designed to assist locating community housing options for those living with disabled conditions, existing institutions or at eminent risk or are experiencing homelessness in Anoka County. Through this grant, Anoka County is able to:

- Operate and manage the Housing Help Desk
- Provide referrals, housing navigation and case consults to providers, county social workers, and the community and a Housing Response Team
- Develop a collection of county and community providers who share resources, strategies, and education to front line staff in Anoka County.

The CLI also funds:

- Coordinating the CSSBH Hotel Shelter Program
- Facilitate Emergency Social Service Housing placements
- Provides Anoka County specialty voucher program coordination for Bridges, Family Unification Program (FUP) & FUP Youth, Rental Assistance Anoka County-HTF programs and Mainstream Voucher referrals.
- Outreach: The Housing Outreach Worker services an average caseload of 15 households

The Housing Help Desk team has recently expanded and now is comprised of a Housing Resource Specialist Lead Social Worker, three Housing Resource Specialists, an Outreach Worker, and an Associated Social Worker.

# Homelessness in Anoka County: Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program

Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Grant (FHPAP) -

- Established in 1993 by MN Legislature to assist those who are homeless or imminent risk of homelessness
- Anoka County FHPAP -\$829,100 for 2021-2023 Biennium and funding request for \$2.5M for 2023-2025 Biennium
- Additional FHPAP Fast Track funding may become available in June 2023
- Primary emphasis is Prevention and goals are to:
  - Prevent Homelessness
  - Reduce time persons experience homelessness
  - Eliminate returns to homelessness

Anoka County roles and responsibilities:

- Apply for grant funds
- Provides coordination with the FHPAP sub-grantees Administration of the grant funds through contractual agreements with sub-grantee agencies
- Oversee grant performance and outcomes, HMIS reporting
- Provide support and coordination of information and data to the subgrantees and Advisory committee

Subgrantees:

- HOPE 4 Youth- new subgrantee in May, 2023- will provide street outreach and Rapid Rehousing supportive services and direct assistance for youth
- The Salvation Army- provides Prevention and Rapid Rehousing supportive services and direct assistance to adults and families
- YMCA of the North- provides Prevention and Rapid Rehousing supportive services and direct assistance to youth



## Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative Participating Agencies



## Homelessness in Anoka County: Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative Overview

HHAHC: is a network of organizations and individuals serving as the primary community planning entity to address the needs of the homeless population in Anoka County.

- HUD reporting
- Point-In-Time
- Housing Inventory Count
- Annual Housing Assessment Report
- Notice of Funding Availability
- System Performance Measures
- Community Connect events

### Homelessness in Anoka County: Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative Committees & Activities

Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative

- Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, every month form 1:00-2:30. All are welcome.
- Meeting link: <u>https://anokacounty.webex.com/meet/jennifer.crotteau</u>
- Contact Jennifer Crotteau at 763-324-1846 or jennifer.Crotteau@co.anoka.mn.us for more information

HHAHC Committees:

- <u>FHPAP/HSWH Advisory Committee-</u> advises grant activity, conducts needs assessment and assists with application process and ongoing program development for the FHPAP program and the application for Homework Starts with Home submitted 3/29/23.
- <u>Training Committee-</u> provides free quarterly training on housing, equity and diversity topics
- <u>Shelter/Drop-in Committee-</u> shelter and drop in providers meet monthly for coordination, best practices, and updates
- <u>Executive Committee-</u> creates HHAHC Agenda, facilitates meetings and activities

## Additional Resources

### Homelessness in Anoka County: Additional Resources

#### Housing Link Beyond Backgrounds:

Beyond Backgrounds is a program that provides support to landlords who are willing to rent to someone with criminal, credit or rental history barriers in their background. Up to \$2,000 in Financial assurance for damage to unit, unpaid rents, legal fees, etc.

- FHPAP Eligible Expenditure
- Enrollment fee of \$300; if enrollment required by Landlord
- Landlords information: How it works

#### Guild Services- PATH and Street Outreach:

- Anoka County contracts with Guild Services to provide service for Street Outreach (Emergency Services Program) and for PATH (DHS Funding) services for Anoka County adults and families experiencing homelessness.
- Overall goal is to engage those that are homeless, living in vehicles, tents or places not meant for human habitation and connect to necessary resources
- Complete <u>PATH Referral Form</u> and Housing Application or contact Guild at 651-291-0067

## Homelessness in Anoka County: Additional Resources

#### Housing Stabilization Services:

- Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) is a new Minnesota Medical Assistance benefit to help people with disabilities, including mental illness
  and substance use disorder, and seniors find and keep housing.
- Purpose of HSS is to assist persons with disabilities transition to housing, increase stability within their housing and deter future homelessness
- MN Housing workflow: <u>https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-7347-ENG</u>
- For more information, visit <u>HB101</u>

#### **Court/Mediation & Restorative Services**

- 2023 Criminal Expungement Clinic
- Family Law Self-Help Clinics
- <u>Mediation & Restorative Services</u>- Provides mediation and restorative practices to assist resolve conflict and repair harm. Works with Anoka Housing Court Clinic to assist mediations between Landlords and Tenants
  - Provides <u>Housing Mediation</u>
  - MARS housing resources: <u>https://www.mediationservice.org/housing-resources/</u>
  - Provides <u>Housing Navigation Services</u>



## **David Frei**

#### **Executive Director, Family Promise**







# Our Mission:

# Empowering families experiencing housing insecurity to build a foundation of lasting independence.

## The Face of Homelessness



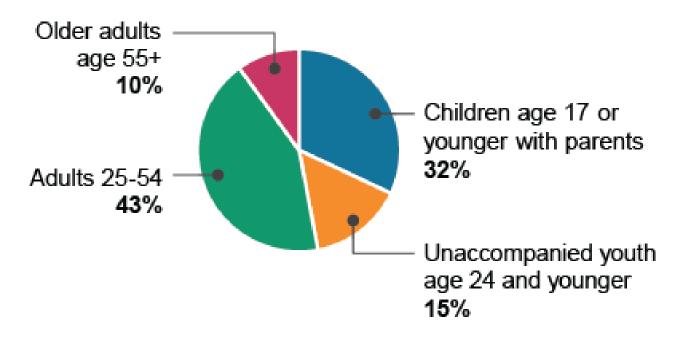




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## By The Numbers

#### HOMELESSNESS BY AGE GROUP





2018 Minnesota Homeless Study | mnhomeless.org

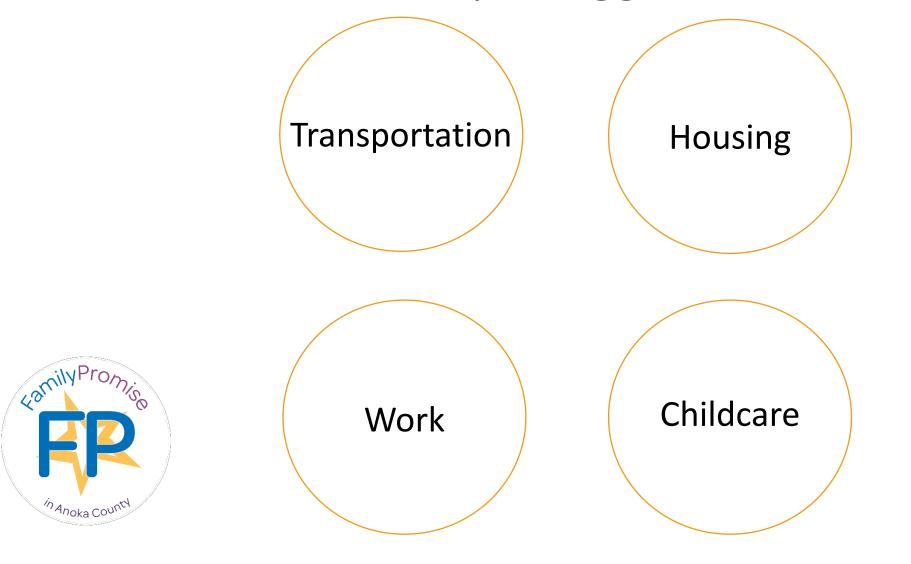
### The Hidden Faces of Homelessness







#### Suburban Family Struggles – The Four Factors



#### Why is Family Homelessness So Often Hidden?

- Higher feeling of shame
- More "couch hopping" and dividing up
- More likely to "continue as normal"
- Less likely to access services
- Less likely to consider themselves "homeless"
- More gaps in service coverage and fewer options







# Who We Serve:

Families with minor children connected to Anoka County who are experiencing or may soon experience homelessness.

# How We Serve:



Then: A network of local congregations who provide overnight shelter space, hospitality, and meals.

# How We Serve:



Now: Shelter provided in extended-stay hotels, case management and other services continue to be provided.



# How We Serve:

Soon: A "Campus" that will allow us to have permanent shelter space and a more accessible service center.



# Our Mission:

### Empowering families experiencing housing insecurity to build a foundation of lasting independence.

# FAMILY PROMISE CAMPUS COON RASIDS BUSO AND

More than a Shelter.

SETTH AVE NW

SUN ELVIDERE

FLINTWOOD ST KW

11)

### Why a Campus?

#### Our vision for a campus makes this unique and solves key roadblocks

- A single mixed-use property requires zoning changes or action by the City.
- With two unique properties and projects, it opens many more opportunities for funding programs.
- Future use and expandability are far greater than previous properties
- Separation and autonomy in the space the space:
  - Avoids the stigma for families and children
  - Fosters independence
  - Creates a similar situation to their post-shelter lives
  - The kids might not even know they are in "shelter".



### How Can You help?

Just like at our founding, we need our whole communities to come together

- Consider our project with in your giving plan.
- Help us share the story.
- Connect us to people who may be able to help with the remodel.
- Build a contact between us and individuals who may want to support us.
- Join, or encourage others to join our committees and workgroups.







#### **Heidi Geiss**

#### Homeless Liaison, Anoka Hennepin School District



Students Experiencing Housing Instability

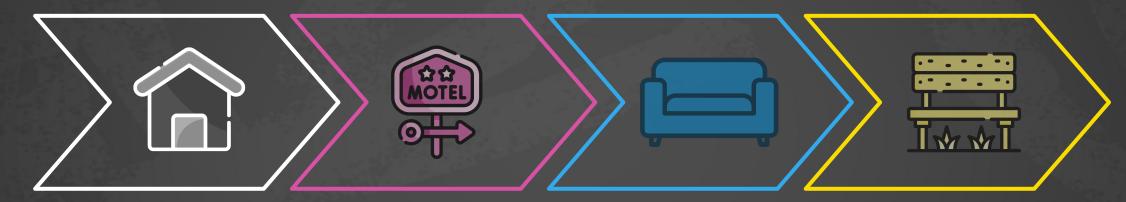
Anoka Hennepin School District

### McKinney Vento

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law created to support the enrollment and education of homeless students. McKinney-Vento is intended to provide homeless students the same educational opportunities as housed students by removing as many barriers to learning for students as possible.



## Definition of Homelessness



Shelter

Domestic violence, homeless & youth shelters, FEMA and transitional programs

#### Hotel/Motel

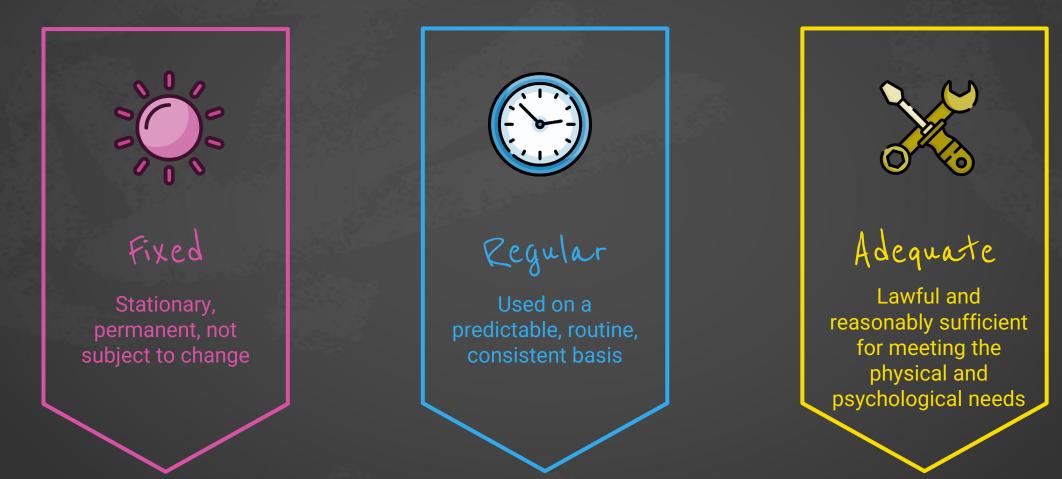
Staying in Hotels/Motels due to lack of adequate alternatives, regardless of who is paying for the room Couch Hopping

Staying with other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason

#### unshettered

Staying in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus, train or similar settings

### Definition of Homelessness



### What the Law Ensures

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ensures the following for students:

- Remain in their school of origin
- Transportation to their school or origin
- Immediate enrollment if not remaining at school of origin
- Access to education including speciality programs/services
- Removal of barriers to access education
- Automatic enrollment for free school meals

### Why It Matters

41.9%

68.2%

33%

Chronic Absences

delayed enrollment, high mobility, lack of transportation, fatigue, hunger, emotional crisis and mental health issues

Graduation Rate

National average is 18% below overall student average

Post Secondary

Nationally only <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of students experiencing homelessness pursue post secondary education

### How You Can Help

#### Advocate

- Recognize students/families who may be experiencing housing instability
- Identify eligible students as McKinney Vento so they have access to additional resources
- Donate
- HOPE office accepts donations of new school supplies, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, gift cards and cash. <u>HOPE Office Wish List</u>

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# Resources for More Information



#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH



#### Sue Rosendahl, LSW

#### **Social Worker, Salvation Army**



# Coordinated Entry

SALVATION ARMY- ASSESSING ADULT SINGLES AND FAMILIES

# Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care (SMAC)

- A collaboration between Anoka, Washington, Dakota, Scott and Carver counties to prevent and end homelessness
- Using Coordinated Entry assessment process
- Households all receive the same assessment

#### **Overview of Assessment Process**

Step 1 Step 2

Questions welcome!

### Step 1- Rapid Resolution/Diversion

- Can be done with anyone who is experiencing homelessness
- Those who aren't eligible for priority pool (i.e. doubled up, not literally homeless)
- Starts process of documenting client's homelessness
- Use resources/create strategies for client to avoid larger homeless response systems.

### Step 2- Supportive Housing Assessment

#### Assess those who are: Long Term In an Currently HUD Homeless and institutional Fleeing homeless setting but HUD have been domestic (outside,car, homeless within HUD homeless violence shelter) in last 90 Days last 90 days

### Step 2 Supportive Housing Assessment

Deeper dive into client's:

health/disability information
housing history
barriers Salvation Army Services

- **Food Shelf:** available to any Anoka County resident Can visit once every 30 days Appointments preferred
- Clothing vouchers- small voucher for clothing/shoes for Salvation Army thrift store
- **Transportation**: Gas/bus cards \$30

-available to homeless households. If not homeless, must be starting new employment

Furniture: Bridging appointments
 \$70 no delivery
 \$270 with delivery

#### Rent Assistance- FHPAP

#### Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program

- Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (homeless assistance)
- For past due rent, 1<sup>st</sup> months rent, or deposit
- 200% Federal Poverty Guideline
- Prevention funds targeted to households most likely to become homeless (assessment tool used)
- Funding may be limited

#### Utility Assistance- Gas & Electric

#### HeatShare Program

- Crisis program for households that have already used ACCAP funds
- Must have threat of disconnection/currently disconnected
- Must pay for both heat and electric at residence to be eligible
- Household must have made payments to the utility company in the last year



#### **Questions?**

# Please complete the survey before you leave

Thank you for attending