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# Minnesota Coalition *for the* Homeless

House Hearing 2.11.2021

*Rhonda Otteson, Executive Director*

# Who We Are

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The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public policy and advocacy organization that works to ensure statewide housing stability and economic security. MCH is able to work with people experiencing housing instability in partnership with over 100 member organization across the state.



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# 1 of 3 – Homelessness across Minnesota

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- **20,000 children**, adults and seniors experiencing homelessness in MN
- **One-third** of the total homeless population of MN lives in Greater MN
- In Greater MN, children & youth comprise **half** of the homeless population

*\*Data in this slide from the 2018 Wilder Homeless Study*

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# 2 of 3 - Homelessness across Minnesota

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- Homelessness disproportionately impacts People of Color & Indigenous populations who are **10X more likely** to experience homelessness than white Minnesotans
- Between 2015 and 2018, homelessness **increased by 13%** in Greater MN
- Unsheltered homelessness in Greater MN **increased by 36%** between 2015 and 2018

*\*Data in this slide from the 2018 Wilder Homeless Study*

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# 3 of 3 - Homelessness across Minnesota

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- **80 of 87 counties** lack enough shelter beds to meet the need.
- In Greater MN, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) tells us that the average length of stay in shelter is **45 days**
- **12 months** is the typical wait time to get into stable housing
- According to MN Housing, we currently lack **53,000 units of housing** and we need an **additional 300,000 units** of new housing by 2030

*\*Data in this slide from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)*

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# Shelter Models in Greater MN

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- **Two primary models:**
  - Local motels to provide shelter
  - Physical shelter models that range from duplexes, converted motels or congregate shelters
- Until we are able to build enough housing to meet the needs of our state, shelter is a life saving option for communities across the state

# Advancing Solutions on Homelessness

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- **Shelter Capital:** Expand & Preserve Emergency Shelter Beds
- Investment to strengthen the **Emergency Services Program (ESP)**



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*Shelter saves lives.  
Housing ends homelessness.*

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# MCH Contact

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