



TURNING LIVES AROUND.

1/18/2023

Greetings Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dan Pfarr and I am the Chief Executive Officer at 180 Degrees. For fifty years, 180 Degrees has provided critical housing and support for 1,400 vulnerable youth, families, and adults across the state of Minnesota. I am writing you to support the investment of \$50 million in the Homeless Youth Act.

In Minnesota, an estimated 5,800 minors (10-17) and 7,500 young adults between the ages of 18–24 will experience homelessness over the course of one year. That's 13,300 Minnesota youth without homes—and the real number is likely higher because youth experiencing homelessness are the most invisible and the most vulnerable.

More than half of Minnesotan adults experiencing homelessness reported first becoming homeless by age 24, and 36% first became homeless at or before age 18. Minnesota can do better for our young people, and targeted investments in the Homeless Youth Act is a key part of the solution.

The Homeless Youth Act continuum serves youth through street outreach, drop-in centers, shelter, transitional and supportive housing. Innovation in employment, housing, and community partnerships have contributed to significant learning and gains in services for youth.

Minnesota's youth experiencing homelessness need more of what works, and, investing in homeless youth works. Please support the \$50 million investment in the Homeless Youth Act and invest in our future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Pfarr'.

Dan Pfarr
Chief Executive Officer

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**YOUTH SHELTER AND HOUSING
COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**