



January 18, 2023

RE: Letter of Support for Hennepin County Homeless Response

Dear Mr. Mohamud Noor:

It is with great enthusiasm that Avivo supports Hennepin County's Homeless Response and Housing Stability strategy, and funding request. Avivo, a 60-year human services agency in the Greater Twin Cities Metro Area, is a champion in the fundamental principle that homelessness should be a rare, brief, and a nonoccurring experience for all people who call Minnesota home. Avivo shares the county's belief that homelessness is an unacceptable condition for our community, and our staff work tirelessly to reduce homelessness and ensure there is a home for everyone.

Through the incredible public and private support of our community, Avivo launched Avivo Village in December of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. This important and low-barrier shelter redefines how our community addresses homelessness through innovation in its design and trauma-informed approach in service delivery. Avivo Village's indoor 100, "tiny homes" and on-site housing case management, nursing, and mental/emotional health services are key to successful transition of homeless individuals from street encampments to permanent housing options and increased housing stability.

At Avivo, we know that we can't solve homelessness alone and that it takes the full community working together to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonoccurring. We are proud to be in partnership with the county on this endeavor and fully support the county's bill to the Minnesota State Legislature.

In partnership,

Emily Bastian

Emily Bastian, MSW, LICSW
Vice President, Ending Homelessness
Avivo