



February 19, 2024

Dear Members of the Minnesota House Housing Finance & Policy Committee:

We write in support of HF XXXX to legalize missing middle housing and creating pathways to build more homes.

At Greater Twin Cities United Way, our mission is to build pathways toward prosperity and equity for all, touching over 500,000 lives across the 9-county metro area. We fund over 95 direct service organizations and coalitions through grantmaking across our three impact areas of Household Stability, Educational Success, and Economic Opportunity. Above all, we know stable and affordable housing provide the critical foundation that all Minnesotans need to thrive, supporting better health, education, and employment outcomes.

Missing middle houses has historically given working class families, people of color, and immigrants access to more affordable housing. It provided workers healthier living conditions and was more accessible than single-family homes. Over time, however, regulations and policies began excluding many missing middle housing types from being built across the Twin Cities region leaving many families struggling to secure and maintain stable and affordable housing.

With more than 590,000 cost-burdened households who pay more than 30% of their income on housing across the state and renter incomes relatively flat, missing middle housing offers people who have low to moderate incomes access to stable and affordable homes. Legalizing missing middle housing will be a significant step toward reducing the nearly 20,000 individuals and families experiencing homelessness on any given night in our state.

Greater Twin Cities United Way supports the expansion of affordable housing options through policies that target households with low and moderate incomes. Providing safe, affordable, and stable housing for Minnesota's families and workers offers an essential foundation that supports thriving families -- and a thriving economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephannie L. Lewis".

Stephannie L. Lewis

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shannon Smith Jones".

Shannon Smith Jones

Interim Director, Advocacy & External Engagement  
Associate Vice President, Community Impact  
Greater Twin Cities United Way

Senior Vice President, Community Impact  
Greater Twin Cities United Way