



Single Night Count of People Experiencing Homelessness

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study Counts Fact Sheet

Every three years,¹ Wilder Research conducts a one-day statewide study to better understand the prevalence of homelessness in Minnesota, as well as the circumstances of those experiencing homelessness. The most recent study took place on October 26, 2023, and included two components that captured information on that date: 1) face-to-face interviews with people who meet the [federal definition of homelessness](#), and 2) a count of people experiencing homelessness.

This report contains counts data from the 2023 Minnesota Homeless Study and Reservation Homeless Study, including those:

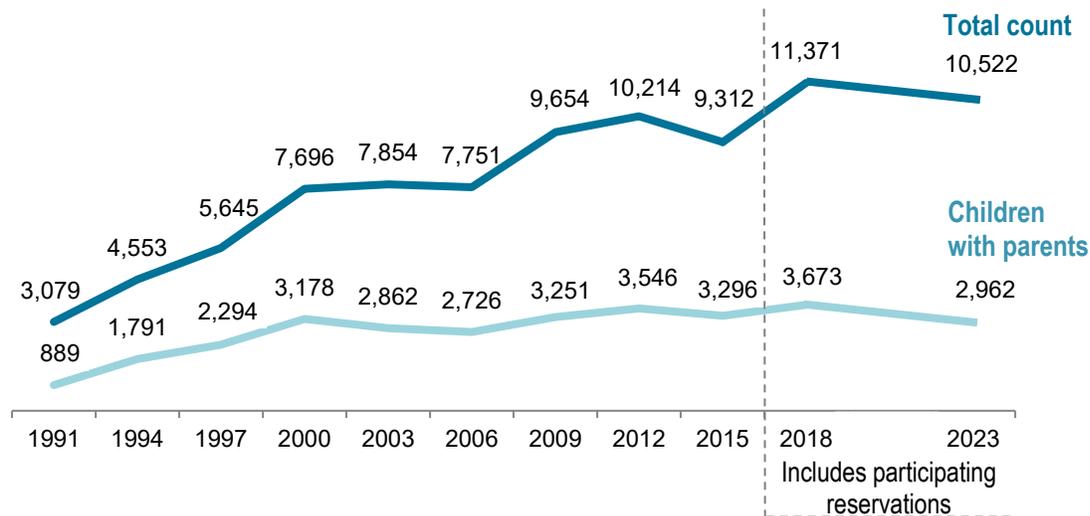
- *In shelter*: People staying in all known emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, transitional housing sites, and hotels/motels for which they receive a voucher.
- *Not in a formal shelter*: People staying outside, on transit, or temporarily doubled up, and identified through interviews in outreach locations such as encampments and other drop-in sites.

Six tribes in Minnesota partnered with Wilder Research to conduct the 2023 Reservation Homeless Study. This study took place during a similar time period as the Minnesota Homeless Study, and honors tribal ownership of their data. With permission from participating tribes (Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Red Lake, and White Earth), Wilder Research combined reservation counts with statewide counts to get a more complete number of people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota.

10,522 people experienced homelessness in Minnesota on a single night in 2023.

- Overall, this number represents a decrease of 7% since the 2018 study.
- It is important to note that this decrease masks year-over-year fluctuations in homelessness, particularly due to the COVID-19 pandemic and unprecedented funding for rental and housing assistance.

ONE-NIGHT STUDY COUNTS OF THE MINNESOTA HOMELESS POPULATION, 1991-2023



¹ The study was postponed for two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, it has been five years since the previous study in 2018.

Fewer children and youth are experiencing homelessness. However, the number of older adults (age 55+) experiencing homelessness has increased.

- Since 2018, there was a 19% decrease in the number of children who were homeless with their parents.
- There was a 17% decrease in the number of homeless youth (age 24 and younger) on their own without their parents.
- Older adults (age 55+) were the only age group that saw an increase over 2018 (7%). Although older adults are a growing group of people experiencing homelessness, they are still least likely to be homeless compared to their numbers in the overall population of Minnesotans.

2018 AND 2023 COUNTS BY AGE GROUP

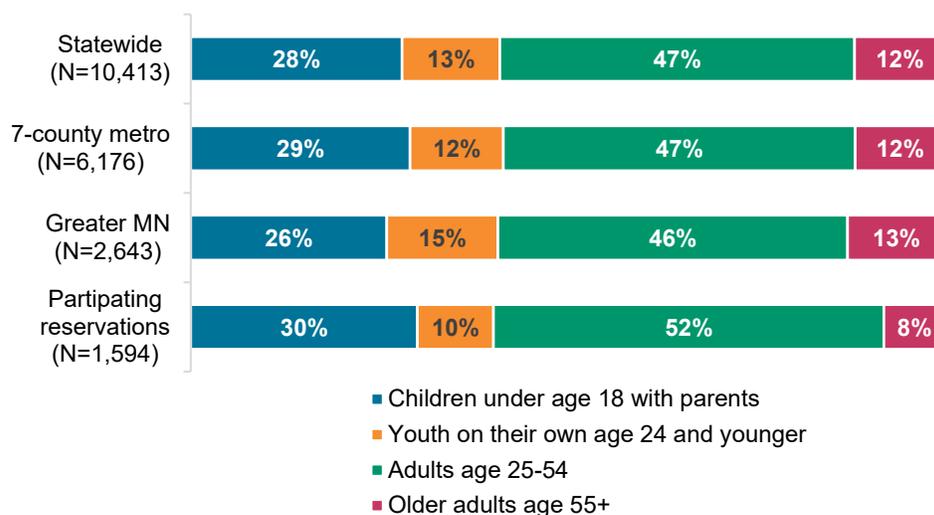
	2018 study	2023 study	% change (2018-2023)
Children under age 18 with parents	3,673	2,962	-19% ↓
Youth on their own age 24 and younger	1,587	1,315	-17% ↓
Adults age 25-54	4,934	4,932	<1% ↔
Older adults age 55+	1,129	1,204	+7% ↑
Total^a	11,371	10,522	-7% ↓

^a Total includes the number of people who were in detox and homeless on the night of the study (N=27), as well as those people whose ages were unknown (N=82).

Children and youth make up a sizeable proportion of the homeless population.

- Together, children and youth (age 24 and younger) account for 4 out of every 10 people experiencing homelessness.
- The age distribution of people experiencing homelessness is similar for the 7-county Twin Cities metro, greater Minnesota, and participating reservations.

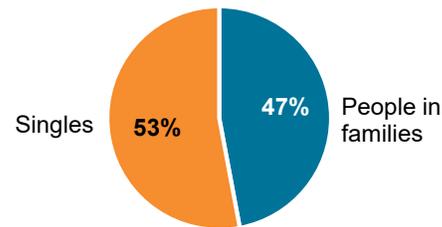
AGES OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, BY GEOGRAPHY



Families make up nearly half of Minnesota’s homeless population.

- People in families (with children under 18) account for 47% of people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota.
- The proportion of families is slightly higher in the Twin Cities metro (48%) than it is in greater Minnesota (41%).

PEOPLE IN FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND SINGLES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

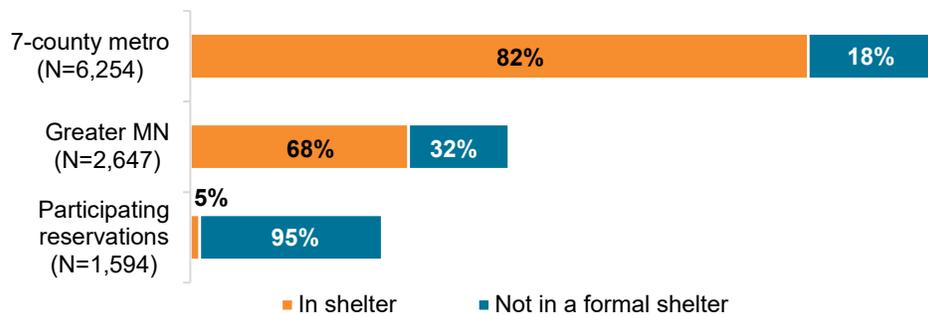


Across the state, one-third of people experiencing homelessness are not in a formal shelter.

It is impossible to identify all people experiencing homelessness who are not in a formal shelter.² These numbers can be affected by variations in outreach efforts and the visibility of the population.

- Overall, 33% of people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota are not in a formal shelter. There was a smaller proportion of people not in a formal shelter in the Twin Cities metro (18%), compared to greater Minnesota (32%) and participating reservations (95%) where there are fewer shelters available.

PEOPLE LIVING IN SHELTER VERSUS NOT IN A FORMAL SHELTER, BY GEOGRAPHY



What’s next?

Beginning in May 2024, Wilder will report findings from thousands of face-to-face interviews conducted throughout Minnesota, plus:

- Data tables for each interview question, for every region of the state.
- Findings from the Reservation Homeless Study.
- Specialized briefings on smaller sub-groups such as homeless youth, Veterans, older adults, families, and long-term homeless populations.

² Not in a formal shelter: People staying outside, on transit, or temporarily doubled up, and identified through interviews in outreach locations such as encampments and other drop-in sites.

Explanation of 2023 data

The findings above are based on the 2023 Minnesota Homeless Study counts data. Counts data include: 1) a count of all shelter guests either identified through HMIS data (for shelters reporting to HMIS) or from Wilder-collected data (for shelters not reporting to HMIS), and 2) a count of all interviews conducted with people not in a formal shelter. Because a single night count and interviews can never fully identify all people experiencing homelessness who are not using shelters, the numbers represented in this fact sheet should be considered a minimum count. Please visit mnhomeless.org for detailed statewide and regional reports which break down the counts data by shelter types, age, gender, race, and family status.

With permission from participating tribes (Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Red Lake, and White Earth), Wilder Research combined reservation counts with the statewide counts to get a more complete number of people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. This is the first time researchers requested permission to present this more complete count in this overall counts fact sheet (permission was granted for 2018 data after its publication). Since the first Reservation Homeless Study in 2006, data have been analyzed and aggregated separately, guided by principles of data sovereignty. Therefore, please note this change when making comparisons to pre-2018 counts.

Additional resources on homelessness in Minnesota

Wilder's Minnesota Homeless Study is considered the most comprehensive source of descriptive information about homeless adults, youth, and children in Minnesota. It is not intended to be a complete count because no study strategy can locate all people experiencing homelessness. Other sources of information that complement our understanding of homelessness include:

- An annual January point in time (PIT) count of persons living in shelters, outdoors, and in places not meant for habitation. This count is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), which includes client information compiled by all providers of federal- and state-funded emergency shelter and supportive housing programming.

Together, these sources are used nationwide to inform federal, state, and local policies to prevent and end homelessness.

Wilder Research®

Information. Insight. Impact.

451 Lexington Parkway North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
651-280-2700
www.wilderresearch.org

The study is an independent initiative of Wilder Research in partnership with public and private funders and in-kind support from service providers throughout the state. Study co-directors: Michelle Decker Gerrard and Rebecca Sales.

For more information about this report, call Wilder Research, 651-280-2700, or visit mnhomeless.org.

MARCH 2024



2309 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-874-0311 main | 612-874-0313 fax



3/15/2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Greg Owen, Board Chair, Agate Housing and Services

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of **Agate Housing and Services** to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

Prior to joining the Agate board, I directed the Minnesota Homeless Study for Wilder Research beginning in 1991 until 2012. In fact, it was Minnesota Housing Commissioner Jim Solem who originally asked Wilder to conduct the study on a statewide basis. As the study director, it became clear to me how many of the service providers in Minnesota relied on data from the study to support their fundraising efforts. In fact, the study is now an essential tool for bringing charitable dollars to many of the more than 300 service organizations serving unhoused people throughout our state. Now, in my role as board chair for Agate, I see how much our development staff and leadership rely on the study to carry out their planning and fundraising efforts.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, as well as the non-profit homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness. The study also supports other non-housing related service organizations that homeless individuals and families access for other needs such as healthcare, transportation, and schools. Agate Housing and Services calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Owen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

HOPE LIVES HERE
agatemn.org



2309 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-874-0311 main | **612-874-0313** fax



Board Chair
Agate Housing and Services
Cell: 651-402-9968

Ps. Feel free to call me with any questions about the Minnesota Homeless Study or its funding history.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Twin Cities

Catholic Charities at Elliot Park
1007 East 14th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-204-8500 | cctwincities.org

Date: March 22, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: **Jessica Meyerson, Chief Accountability Officer, Catholic Charities Twin Cities**

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of **Catholic Charities Twin Cities** to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

Our organization routinely uses the information provided by the Minnesota Homeless study to better understand the life histories and service needs of our clients and their ongoing barriers to housing. For many years now, we have drawn on the rich descriptive information the study provides to inform our service delivery models, raise funds, and shape our advocacy activities.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. **Catholic Charities Twin Cities** calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

JAM

Jessica A. Meyerson
Chief Accountability Officer

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MN HOMELESS STUDY
SF4592/HF4645

March 25, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Matt Traynor, Interim Executive Director, MN Coalition for the Homeless

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

The MN Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is writing to express our strong support for SF4592/HF4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

MCH utilizes the Wilder Data in many different ways. We need data and human stories to share a narrative on why we advocate for the resources that we do. The Wilder Study does more than just share the numbers, it initiates conversations that otherwise would not take place. An example of this is the Star Tribune story, [“Homelessness in Minnesota has declined since 2018, according to new study”](#) that was published on March 20th, 2024. While the data may show homelessness has declined, it is still at the 2nd highest in MN history. If there was no MN Homeless Study, we would be exclusively reliant on the HUD annual Point in Time County which drastically falls short of accurate information. Not only does the study provide needed data, it provides context as to what the data is saying. It is also a way that communities are brought together from across the entire State. The work that goes into the count and the information gathered from it can not be underestimated.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. MCH, calls on the committee to pass SF4592/HF4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

Matt Traynor, Interim Executive Dir
MN Coalition for the Homeless



March 25, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Amy Stetzel, Director: Upper Midwest Region, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

According to the [CSH Supportive Housing Needs Index](#), the state of Minnesota needs 15,375 units of supportive housing to meet current need. We also know that American Indian and Alaska Natives are [15 times more likely to experience chronic homelessness in Minnesota](#) than any other race. Minnesotans who identify as Black are 12.4 times as likely to experience chronic homelessness in Minnesota. CSH has partnered with Minnesota Tribal Nations to increase supportive housing both on and off reservation for over 20 years. CSH also sits as a non-voting member on the MN Tribal Collaborative. The work we do to decrease the disproportionality of Native and Black Minnesotans across all systems, but most specifically the homelessness system, is reliant on using trusted, accurate, and long-term data to make the case for investments in systems change and systems infrastructure. The Minnesota Homeless Study is one of our main sources of that type of data. Working with national partners and across a 5-state region with partners that don't have access to this type of resource, I can't tell you how many times people have said "if only we really knew what the true scope of homelessness/poverty/housing instability was in this county, region, or among our Tribal Nations". In Minnesota we have that information, and we tend to take it for granted.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. CSH calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Stetzel", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Amy Stetzel
Director, Upper Midwest Region
Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)



March 22, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Stephanie L. Lewis, Associate Vice President, Community Impact

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of **Greater Twin Cities United Way** to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

The study's comprehensive data and analysis, when aligned with our 211 referral service data, has offered a clearer picture of the unmet need in the housing and homelessness prevention spaces. This has informed our grantmaking along with our "beyond-the-dollar" approaches for our partners in the Housing Stability and Pathways Home investment portfolios as well as our advocacy agenda. The Minnesota Homeless Study has equipped our program and fundraising staff to tell a compelling narrative on homelessness in the metro region with nuance to engage prospective and existing donors in our work to disrupt inequities that will make homelessness rare and non-recurring. Without it, we will not have full knowledge of how to best support the 33 organizations we currently fund.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. The **Greater Twin Cities United Way** calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie L. Lewis", written over a horizontal line.

Stephanie L. Lewis
Associate Vice President, Community Impact
Greater Twin Cities United Way



To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: **Sue Watlov Phillips, Homes for All Co- Lead Legislative Team**

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of **Homes for All** to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

This research provides the data needed in conjunction with people's lived experiences to help us determine and set the key priorities for the Homes for All agenda.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. Homes for All calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

**Sue Watlov Phillips,
Homes for All
Co- Lead Legislative Team**



**Hearth
Connection**

**2446 University Avenue S.
Suite 150
St. Paul, MN 55114
651.645.0676**

March 11, 2024

Representative Michael Howard, Chair
Housing Finance and Policy Committee
473 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Minnesota Homeless Study (SF 4592/HF 4645)

Dear Chair Howard,

I write to express Hearth Connection's enthusiastic support of Wilder Research's funding request for the Minnesota Homeless Study.

As you know, in unique collaboration with Minnesota's tribal nations, this study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address our homelessness challenges. The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for Hearth Connection as we seek to identify and advance long-term, actionable solutions to homelessness in our communities.

We are deeply appreciative of the Wilder Research team's commitment to this important work and encourage you and your committee members to ensure its passage during the 2024 legislative session.

Thank you for your efforts to address Minnesota's housing and homelessness challenges, and for your public service.

Sincerely,

Marcus Schmit
Executive Director



March 8, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Minnesota Tribal Collaborative

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Minnesota Tribal Collaborative which represents nine tribes in Minnesota (Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, Lower Sioux, Mille Lacs, Red Lake, Upper Sioux, and White Earth), we work together to prevent and end homelessness for American Indians. The Minnesota Tribal Collaborative is very supportive of SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. In 2006, a companion survey, Homeless and Near Homeless on American Indian Reservations was conducted and provides data for tribal nations to prevent and end homelessness for their communities. This was the first time a study of this type was done in the United States and in partnership with tribal communities. This study not only resulted in new data but in promising practices of how to work collaboratively and respectfully with tribal nations. For over 30 years, the study has been used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage resources and prioritize policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

In 2006, the first survey done on reservations in Minnesota resulted in data that seven northern tribes used to develop the first in the country tribal plans to prevent and end homelessness. From the work of developing plans the tribes met together and formed the Minnesota Tribal Collaborative which is a unique collaboration of tribes working together to access resources, funding, and best practices to address homelessness on and off reservations.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. The Minnesota Tribal Collaborative, calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

Christina Olsen, Coordinator Minnesota Tribal Collaborative

Organization



March 22, 2024

Chair Michael Howard
473 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Howard and Members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee:

OutFront Minnesota writes in support of HF 4645 (Kozlowski) The Minnesota Homeless Study bill. OutFront Minnesota, founded in 1987, is the state's largest LGBTQ+ advocacy organization that has sought to build power within Minnesota's LGBTQ+ communities and address inequities through intersectional organizing, advocacy, education, and direct support services. We believe that this legislation is important to fostering a Minnesota that protects *all* of its residents.

Today, we support the Minnesota Homeless Study bill (HF 4645) which would be a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

Homelessness disproportionately affects LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly trans and young people, who are often forced out of their homes after coming out to family and friends. They are often left unable to access housing and human services as well, which serves to exacerbate their issues in establishing independence. This study is important to the LGBTQ+ community. Furthermore, Minnesota has a long history of ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals have the full protections and support of our state's laws; and HF 4645 will further Minnesota's leader as a national leader in LGBTQ+ rights and housing policy.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. OutFront Minnesota calls on the committee to pass HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.



Sincerely,

Kat Rohn
Executive Director
OutFront Minnesota



March 25, 2024

To: Chair Howard and members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee

From: Janayah Bagurusi, Sr Director of Resident Services, Project for Pride in Living

Chair Howard and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of Project for Pride in Living to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

Project for Pride in Living owns and manages approximately 1600 units of housing, and we provide supportive housing with services to approximately 800 of those households annually. The results of the homeless study directly impact our work by helping us understand the populations being the most effected so we can align our services and/or partnerships to best meet the needs of the community. As with many organizations, we rely on this data to help inform our work around improving systems and shaping policy to meet our mission of creating safe, resilient neighborhoods where residents are thriving, and their voices are heard.

The Minnesota Homeless Study and the companion Reservation Homeless Study are invaluable resources for anyone working to address homelessness and housing instability across the state. This includes state, county, and city officials, homeless service providers who are on the front lines supporting those individuals and communities most impacted by homelessness, and organizations that homeless individuals and families access for non-housing related services, such as healthcare, transportation services, and schools. Project for Pride in Living calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

Janayah Bagurusi
Sr Director of Resident Services
Project for Pride in Living



March 25, 2024

Dear Chair Howard and Members of the House Housing and Finance & Policy Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Youth Services Network (YSN) to express our strong support for SF 4592/HF 4645, appropriating funding for the Minnesota Homeless Study. The study has been a critical resource in understanding and addressing homelessness in Minnesota since 1991. It is unique in the United States in its partnership with tribal communities, as well as the comprehensive nature of the publicly available data collected over more than 30 years. The study is used to prioritize needs, identify systemic issues, and improve programs and policies to address homelessness in our state. An investment into this study represents incredible value, as the information is used to leverage and prioritize multiple other policies for Minnesotans impacted by homelessness and ensure that investments made are impactful long-term.

The information provided by the Homeless Study is incredibly helpful in the work to reduce and end all homelessness along with youth homelessness. It gives us the critical state-wide numbers we need to be able to assess whether homelessness is decreasing, what the current trends are and what we all need to do collectively as a state to reduce and end homelessness and what kinds of resources are needed which we can then work towards raising through public and private sector investments.

The Youth Services Network (YSN), calls on the committee to pass SF 4592/HF 4645 to ensure that the state continues to benefit from the insights provided by Minnesota Homeless Study data.

Sincerely,

Beth Holger Katherine Meerse

Beth Holger & Katherine Meerse, Policy Sub-Committee Co-Chairs, YSN



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
St. Paul and Minneapolis





MN Leadership Council on Aging

March 28, 2024

The Honorable Members of the House Housing Finance & Policy Committee
Room 5, State Office Building

On behalf of the undersigned members of the MN Leadership Council on Aging, **I write today in full support of HF4645 (Kozlowski)/SF4592 (Xiong)**, which seeks to secure the Minnesota Homeless Study for our state.

We're all aging. Thanks to the insights of this ongoing research, we have been able to understand that older adults in Minnesota were the only segment of our state's population to see an increase in homelessness from 2018-2023. As we age, our trusted organizations work together to endorse policy solutions that advance our shared mission of creating communities and systems that support aging with dignity and a spirit of well-being in Minnesota.

Today, to do our work, we ask for your support on this proven and unique set of resources. For 30 years, our members have counted on this tool, and along with the companion Reservation Homeless Study, we ask you to secure this crucial information for our state going forward. Help us to understand and work with you to address homelessness and housing instability across our aging state.

On behalf of our members, I ask for your support for HF4645.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Suomala
Executive Director
Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging

*Minnesota Leadership
Council on Aging is a
champion, thought
leader, planner, and
educator that
advances positive
system change for
older adults, families,
and caregivers. We are
focused on creating
communities and
systems that support
aging with dignity and
a spirit of well-being in
Minnesota.*

**MN Leadership Council
on Aging
1265 Grey Fox Road
Suite 2
Arden Hills, MN 55112**

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Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging

Delegates supporting the *Minnesota Homeless Study* legislation in HF4645 (Kozlowski):

Robert Freeman, *Vice President, Public Policy*
Alzheimer's Association MN/ND

Kimelyn Knight, *Director of Aging Services,*
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Toby Pearson, *President and CEO*
Care Providers of Minnesota

Patricia McArdle, *Director of Aging and Disability*
Services, Catholic Charities Twin Cities

Katey Zanutelli-Wade, *Senior Director of Aging*
and Economic Security, East Side Neighborhood
Services

James Falvey, *Executive Director*
Friends & Co.

Ruth Hampton Olkon, *Chief Executive Officer*
Jewish Family Services of St. Paul

Kari Thurlow, *President and CEO*
LeadingAge Minnesota

Kristin Rigg, *Executive Director*
Living at Home Network

Tory Merhar, *Associate Vice President*
of Older Adults
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Jarrod Peterson, *Public Policy Chair/President*
Minneapolis Area Senior Workers Association
and **St. Paul Senior Workers Association**

Dawn Simonson, *President and CEO, Trellis*
Minnesota Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Paula Woischke, *Director, Whitney Senior Ctr.*
Minnesota Association of Senior Services

Amanda Vickstrom, *Executive Director*
Minnesota Elder Justice Center

Heidi Holste, *Executive Director*
Minnesota Gerontological Society

David Blomquist, *Interim Executive Director*
Minnesota Network of Hospice and Palliative Care

Phil Duran, *Senior Advocate, Aging and Gender*
Care Access, Rainbow Health

Deb Taylor, *CEO, Senior Community Services*

Jane Pederson, *Chief Medical Quality Officer*
Stratis Health

Rajean Moone, *LTC Administration Faculty and*
Associate Director of Policy, University of Minnesota
Center for Healthy Aging and Innovation

Vickie Snyder, *Chair, Board of Directors*
Vital Aging Network

