



Minnesota House of Representatives
Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee

February 15, 2024

Land Acknowledgement

Today as we gather it is of utmost importance that we all recognize the land we are living and working on is stolen land from our Native American relatives. We must seek to understand our place within that history and use that understanding to work towards justice.

Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness

The Council is led by Lt. Governor Flanagan, Co-Chaired by Commissioners Harpstead and Ho, and includes the following agencies:

- Department of Administration
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Education
- Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Metropolitan Council
- Minnesota Housing
- Minnesota Management and Budget
- Office of Higher Education

One Minnesota Budget



Housing Stability Budget

- Interagency investment of \$2.6 billion over the next 4 years
- Addresses the continuum of housing needs:
 - Preventing and ending homelessness
 - Creating a healthy rental market for low-income renters
 - Closing the disparities in homeownership.



Increasing Amount
of Housing &
Shelter

Addressing Affordability of
Housing

Increasing Accessibility of
Housing & Shelter

Ensuring Adequate
Services and
Supports

Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) Combined RFP

- Awarded \$100.5 million in the combined RFP to 135 entities (received \$285 million in requests from 163 applicants). This is an increase in funds from \$35 million in FY 22-23.
 - Includes the Emergency Services Program (ESP), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Transitional Housing Program (THP), Homeless Youth Act (HYA)
- 45% of funding awarded in greater Minnesota and 55% awarded in metro
- New and expanded programs include:
 - Culturally-specific motel vouchers and services in St. Paul, Willmar and Austin
 - Day shelters in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Faribault, Mankato, Bemidji and International Falls
 - Overnight shelters in Hibbing, Anoka, Bois Forte, Marshall, Mankato, Minneapolis & St Paul
 - Many providers increasing staff ratios, training, and mental health support to improve housing outcomes

Combined RFP: Emergency Services and Transitional Housing

- **Emergency Services Program (ESP):**

- \$42.9 million in awards for FY 24-25 an increase of \$30 million from FY 22-23
- Increased funding is supporting 74 new programs including 12 culturally specific organizations
- 125 percent increase to the average award which will support increase access to services and staff wages and retention

- **Transitional Housing Program (THP):**

- \$12.2 million in awards for FY 24-25 an increase from \$6 million in FY 22-23
- Awarded to 44 entities across the state with an average grant of \$274,000 per biennium
- This funding will support enhanced services at existing programs and new programs that target Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities, individuals with co-occurring risks for homelessness and HIV, and individuals fleeing domestic violence.

Combined RFP: Homeless Youth Act

- **Homeless Youth Act (HYA):**

- \$40.9 million available in FY 24-25 an increase of \$30 million from FY 22-23
- The increased funding supported 48 entities including seven new programs with an average grant of \$852,500 per biennium.
- This included funding for outreach, drop-in centers, emergency shelter, host home providers, new programs, and expanded programs to double the number of youth served in scattered site transitional housing and rapid re-housing programs.

Combined RFP: Safe Harbor

- **Safe Harbor Shelter and Housing:**
 - \$11.3 million available in FY 24-25. An increase of \$4 million from FY 22-23.
 - The average grant went from \$417,000 to \$709,000 per biennium.
 - The increased funding will support 16 entities operating specialized outreach, shelter, and supportive housing programs to youth experiencing sexual exploitation
 - Increase from 133 beds to 186 beds, expanded geographic reach with a new program in rural communities in northeast Minnesota, and expanded training through StreetWorks collaborative.

Shelter Linked Mental Health and Homeless Youth Cash Stipend Pilot

- **Shelter Linked Mental Health:**

- \$4.5 million available in FY 24-25.
- The increased funding supported 9 providers across the state to provide connections to community mental health providers, culturally specific services, and non-traditional therapeutic activities, increase staff training on mental health, and fill insurance coverage gaps in service.

- **Homeless Youth Cash Stipend Pilot:**

- New pilot program awarded \$5.4 million to provide direct cash stipends to 135 youth in Hennepin and St. Louis counties. The program is being administered by Youthprise.

Emergency Shelter Facilities

- Emergency Shelter Facilities/Capital awarded \$100 million (received \$365 million in total requests).
- 47% of funds were allocated to greater Minnesota; 53% were allocated to the seven-county metro area.
- Anticipate* 373 beds will be added and 376 will be preserved, maintained, or improved in greater Minnesota; 218 beds will be added and 348 will be preserved, maintained, or improved in the metro.

**Subject to change. Currently working with providers to finalize workplans/budgets. Once all contracts are in place, the list of funded entities will be publicly available.*

Crossroads to Justice Plan

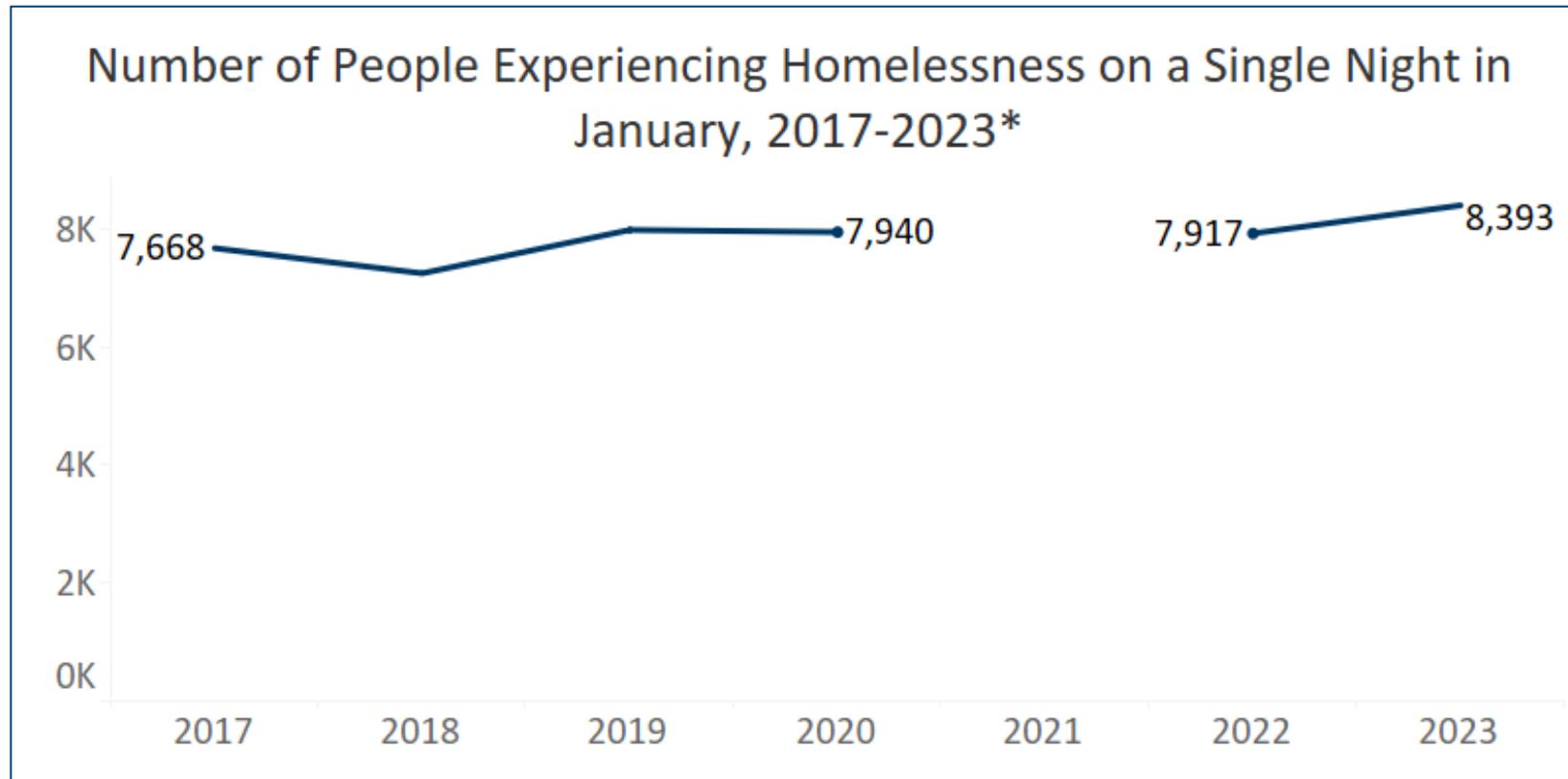
- On October 27, Interagency Council on Homelessness approved Crossroads to Justice Strategic Plan.
- The plan was co-developed with 10 paid consultants with lived experience of homelessness.
- It focuses strategies and actions the state can take to achieve five bold results.



Learn more at

<https://mich.mn.gov/crossroads-justice-strategic-plan>

Minnesota's Point-in-Time count shows an overall increase



Source: HUD Point-in-Time Count, 2017 – 2023

*A count of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness was not conducted in 2021; data from that year is not comparable to other years

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 - [Sign up here](#)
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One Minnesota Housing Stability Budget

The Governor has signed an interagency budget for housing stability that is biggest investment in housing and homelessness in state history! At over **\$2.6 billion dollars** across the next four years, it will have transformative impacts on the continuum of housing needs from preventing and ending homelessness, to creating a healthy rental market for low-income renters, to closing the disparities in homeownership.

[Housing Stability Budget Summary](#)

Crossroads to Justice Strategic Plan

On October 27, 2023, the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness, led by Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan and made up of the Commissioners of 14 state agencies, committed to Crossroads to Justice: Minnesota's New Pathways to Housing, Racial and Health Justice for people facing homelessness. The plan is the culmination of a year-and-a-half-long process that was co-led by 10 paid Justice Consultants, all people with lived experience of homelessness representing different experiences and different parts of the state.

[Crossroads to Justice](#)

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Miigwech!
Pidamaya ye/do!
Thank you!