HeadingHome
SCOTT–CARVER

A 10-year Plan to End Homelessness in Scott & Carver Communities

January 14th, 2010

Dear Community Stake Holders:

Over the past ten months, the Heading Home Scott-Carver Workgroup has worked on a plan to address and end homelessness in both counties. This comprehensive plan has five broad goals, twenty-two strategies and fifty-eight concrete action steps that we feel will help move our community and its resources from managing homelessness in our community to ending it.

Our communities have seen an increase of needs for those experiencing homelessness while our safety net and housing systems have lagged behind in meeting these needs.

Presently, in the United States, over 250 plans to end homelessness have been developed. These plans help communities assess current and emerging trends, evaluate and improve their systems and identify and retain increased funding support for homeless prevention and housing efforts.

In the State of Minnesota, most regions have created a Heading Home Plan, with only two other counties besides Scott-Carver not having a plan in place. Copies of all completed Heading Home Plans in Minnesota can be accessed at http://headinghomeminnesota.org/.

Moving forward, we recognize the need for a significant investment of time, energy, and resources from community members and organizations within Scott and Carver communities to ensure that we are able to reach the goals stated in this plan. Regardless of skill or status, all community members can have a role in moving this plan forward. We ask for you to join us in this effort and look forward to working together to end homelessness in our community.

Sincerely,

The Heading Home Scott-Carver Committee

Heading Home Scott-Carver

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Heading Home Scott-Carver

Introduction

Scott and Carver Counties are uniquely located in the seven county Twin Cities metro area. Like many suburban communities we are seeing steady increases in traditionally urban issues (need for emergency shelter, services, long-term supports), At the same time, our community has far fewer resources (housing and service providers, affordable housing stock) than other communities (urban and suburban) to address these needs. Both counties are growing rapidly, but the number of service providers and opportunities for emergency shelter and affordable housing are not keeping pace.

Mission

Prevent and end homelessness in Scott and Carver Counties by developing local housing and supportive services that combine public and private resources.

Scott and Carver counties have a long established relationship in working for affordable housing beginning with the development of the Scott-Carver Housing Coalition in 1991. Through active participation and coordination of many stakeholders the Housing Coalition has taken on the work of Continuum of Care planning and Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance planning, among other regional housing and homeless agendas.

Beginning in 2000 there was an increasing awareness and concern for the number of homeless individuals and families in Scott and Carver counties as evidenced by the low numbers of homeless counted in the Wilder Survey. In fact, service providers and faith communities had been assisting a sharply increasing number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness than the survey indicated. In that ensuing time, individual service providers were able to obtain sporadic funding for housing and homeless assistance programming.

While preparing for the funding application for Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) in 2008, a community–wide group of participants determined that Scott and Carver counties were in a position to prepare a Plan to End Homelessness. Heading Home Scott-Caver was organized in an effort to better access and coordinate existing and future resources for those experiencing homelessness. The coalition has since aligned itself with other regions to seek out increased funding for homeless prevention and assistance and joined the efforts of over 250 regions/cities nationwide in making a plan to end homelessness.

Vision

Our vision is that by the year 2020, all people facing homelessness in Scott and Carver Counties will have access to safe, decent and affordable housing and the supports and resources to sustain it.

Our plan to end homelessness will benefit from Scott and Carver being small suburban counties. We believe our counties' size and location provide unique opportunities for creating a prevention and assistance network that will be easily accessible, client-driven, and collaborative in nature. We believe our smaller size gives us an advantage of creating prevention strategies that can adjust and mold to the individual needs of households in our community who are experiencing a housing crisis or are temporarily homeless. We also benefit from the collaborative support we are able to draw from the many providers, advocates, and government agency partners within the larger metro community.

Executive Summary of Plan Goals and Recommendations

Located in the southwest suburban area of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul Minnesota, the counties of Scott and Carver are made up of small cities, rural towns and agricultural regions. This region also includes the Mdewakanton Sioux Community. US Census figures from 2008 estimate the combined population is 218,980 people. There are many factors shared by both counties such as: community size, household income, industry, and an expansion in the building of single family homes creating bedroom communities, the recent completion of large interstate highways and rapidly increasing home foreclosure rates.

Definition of Homelessness

For the purposes of this plan we will be using the following definition of homelessness: **"A person staying in a place not meant for human habitation, a person in temporary shelter or housing, and persons doubled up."**

A person experiencing long-term homelessness will be defined as: **"Those people who have been homeless three times in the last four years or continually homeless for the last year."**

On any given day, it is estimated that there are approximately 31 adults and 32 children experiencing homelessness in Scott and Carver counties. While there are no emergency shelter facilities in either county, some of these people are fortunate to have support from local social service providers or concerned faith communities; most are less fortunate and end up "living" in cars, tents, and in places not meant for human occupancy. The most significant experience for our residents experiencing homelessness is "couch hopping"[1]. Many other households are facing impending homelessness in the form of eviction, mortgage foreclosure or being forced to leave a family home.

The rates for eviction and foreclosure have increased in both counties. According to the Minnesota Home Ownership Center's Semi-Annual Report 2009, out of a total of 87 counties in the state of Minnesota, Scott County ranked 7th and Carver County, 14th for total foreclosures for the first two quarters of 2009. The foreclosure rates for Scott and Carver counties were at .48 and .28 respectively. The average foreclosure rate in the Twin Cities Metro Area during the same time period was at .38.

The communities of Scott and Carver are seeking to expand their response to the ravages of homelessness by increasing homelessness prevention resources to assist homeowners to remain in their homes. In addition, both counties are seeking to limit the harm of homelessness by rapidly re-housing people. These approaches will move our community from reacting-to-and-managing homelessness to our final goal of ending homelessness. This broad-based effort is our ten year plan known as **Heading Home Scott-Carver**.

Heading Home Scott-Carver has been created in the belief that no person—man, woman, or child should have to sleep in a car, in the woods, under a bridge, in an abandoned building or in a place not meant for human habitation. This plan recognizes housing as a basic human right and ending homelessness as an achievable goal in the next ten years. Heading Home Scott-Carver serves as a blueprint and a call to action for these two suburban and rural counties.

This report contains five broad goals, 22 strategies, and 58 concrete action steps. Successful implementation of our Ten-Year Plan will prevent homelessness whenever possible, rapidly re-house individuals and families and provide stable, affordable housing for men, women and children through providing housing with support services for those in need.

[1] Couch hopping is the term used to describe people doubling up in apartments/homes, often moving from place to place or couch to couch due to the lack of stable housing.

Goal # 1: Prevent Households from Experiencing Homelessness

Strategies:

- Increase access to public & private resources
- Ensure housing stability for people leaving public institutions
- Create a formal tracking & rapid re-housing process for folks being sheltered in Minneapolis & St Paul
- Provide deeper and longer assistance and services for youth and young adults
- Increase educational opportunities to low-income households (life skills, renters' rights, etc.)

Goal # 2: Increase Housing Opportunities for Homeless and Low-Income Households in Scott and Carver

Strategies:

- Create 120 new affordable housing rental units in Carver County
- Create 180 new affordable housing rental units in Scott County
- Create 50 new supportive housing opportunities in Carver County and 50 new supportive housing opportunities in Scott County
- Create 35 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Carver County
- Create 45 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Scott County

Goal # 3: Provide Coordinated Outreach

Strategies:

- Create emergency shelter beds for homeless families and individuals in our community
- Increase staffing for outreach to homeless youth and adults
- Improve communication network with homeless school liaisons
- Enhance outreach/services provided to landlords
- Enhance outreach/services provided to renters

Goal # 4: Improve Service Delivery

Strategies:

- Increase services funding from local, state and federal resources
- Increase access to harm reduction supportive housing
- Increase number of providers serving homeless households in Scott and Carver counties
- Utilize the faith community to enhance the support provided to families in need in the community

Goal #5: Increase Community Awareness and Involvement in Ending Homelessness

Strategies:

- Develop programs that will increase awareness and involvement from community members
- Expand and organize partnerships across the community
- Develop a system to track and evaluate progress on Heading Home Scott-Carver Plan

Planning Process

In January of 2009 a group of concerned persons assembled to begin the work of Heading Home Scott-Carver. This group included county veteran service officers, staff of community action agencies, county social service staff, members of the faith communities, state and regional representatives, youth workers, staff from the local housing authorities and an individual recently housed after being homeless for many months. The development of the plan proceeded with both small and large group work. The involvement of elected officials and other concerned local citizens was accomplished by sending regular communication via email of meeting minutes and the formation of the plan as it was drafted.

Presentations to the highest elected officials and government managers in each county were completed in November 2009. Focus groups were conducted in November 2009 seeking feedback for any plan revision and support for implementation of the plan for the beginning of January 2010.

The following principles guided our work:

Guiding Principles

- All people deserve safe, decent, and affordable housing.
- People who are homeless deserve housing options.
- Homelessness costs more than housing.
- Collecting and presenting data is important.
- There is a critical relationship between housing and services: that without housing, services, and supports cannot be effective, and without services and support, housing doesn't last.
- Prevention is a key component of the solution.
- Community-wide involvement is required.
- **Ending homelessness is attainable.**

Homelessness in Scott and Carver Counties

In the United States, poverty and homelessness has largely been assumed to be an "urban" issue. The images of urban homelessness have been often repeated in media reports and films—cardboard box make-shift camps, rows of mats on the floor of a crowded shelter, shopping carts full of aluminum cans, long lines at a soup kitchen. Far less frequently does one think homelessness might exist in suburban and rural communities; right here in our own back yard.

> *People don't think of homelessness as a suburban phenomenon. They associate it with something that happens in central cities. But the truth is that we do have people living in their cars or in substandard mobile homes.*
>
> **--New York Times May 8th 2002**

To be sure, homelessness looks different in our community than in downtown Minneapolis. Instead of waiting in line to get in a shelter, families in our community are sleeping in their cars, staying in a motel with the support of a local church, camping, doubling up in a friend or relative's place, or leaving their community to go to Minneapolis where they can find the shelter and services that are lacking in our community. The fact remains that Scott and Carver counties have seen a steady increase over the past decade of families, unaccompanied youth, and adults without children who are experiencing housing instability and homelessness. Without a concerted effort to recognize and develop new strategies to address these housing needs, the recent trends of increased homelessness will not go away. It is time for our community to identify the existing needs and gaps, and develop strategies to change these trends.

Current Needs in Scott and Carver Counties

There are four studies that we have used to provide recent information about the trends of households experiencing homelessness and housing instability in our communities. These studies include the Wilder Research *Overview of Homelessness in Minnesota 2006* and the Maxfield Housing Study, commissioned by both housing authorities to examine the future needs of housing for both counties. In addition, in preparation for *Heading Home Scott-Carver,* the Scott-Carver Housing Coalition conducted two surveys to assess the current needs/trends within our community; the HUD Point in Time Count (1/09) and the Plan to End Homelessness Survey (3/09).

> *The suburban homeless are largely hidden. They're more apt to sleep in cars or double up with friends than push grocery carts downtown. And the few existing programs to help them are severely limited.*
>
> **--Todd Spivak, Houston Press News, 2/21/2007**

Wilder Research Overview of Homelessness in Minnesota (Oct 26th, 2006) Every three years since 1991, Wilder Research has conducted a statewide survey of persons who are homeless to better understand the causes, circumstances and effects of homelessness, and to promote efforts toward permanent, affordable housing for all Minnesotans. The Wilder survey is one of the most comprehensive and respected surveys across the country. On this single day (October 26th, 2006) more than 950 volunteers around the state conducted face-to-face interviews with some 2,500 people in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and battered women's shelters. In addition, nearly 1,200 homeless people not in shelters were interviewed.[2]

On this one day, 62 adults and unaccompanied youth and 32 children in families were identified to be currently homeless, residing in transitional housing, or having last had stable housing in Scott or Carver

[2] Overview of homelessness in Minnesota 2006: *Key facts from the statewide survey,* April 2007

counties. It should be noted that data was not collected for this survey from Southern Valley Alliance (which provides 12 beds for victims of domestic abuse) and Safehaven for Youth (which provides outreach and transitional housing). Thus, as daunting as it may be to believe that 94 people in our community lacked safe, permanent housing on this day, we believe this is a significant undercount of the total number of people in need on any given day.

Please see http://www.wilder.org/homelessness.0.html to view the full report.

Homeless adults from Wilder October 26th, 2006 Survey on Homelessness who were residing and/or whose last place of stable housing was in Scott-Carver

		Emergency Shelter	DV Shelter	TH	Informal Shelter	Un-sheltered	Total
Dakota	Male			2			**2**
	Female			9	2		**11**
Hennepin	Male	4		1			**5**
	Female	1		6			**7**
Ramsey	Male	3			2		**5**
	Female					1	**1**
Scott-Carver*	Male			7	3		**10**
	Female			15**	4	2**	**21**
	TOTAL	**8**	**0**	**40**	**11**	**3**	**62**

** 25 of 31 households identified in Scott-Carver were adults with children. In total, 32 children were identified in these families (17 and younger). We are not able to identify status of children in the households in Ramsey, Dakota, and Hennepin.*

*** 4 of the 21 (19%) female households identified in Scott-Carver had head of households who were age 22 or younger (unaccompanied youth).*

Note: Safehaven for Youth and Southern Valley Alliance (domestic violence shelter) were not included in this survey.

Maxfield Study[3] In March of 2007, the Carver County Community Development Agency completed a comprehensive housing needs assessment for the period of 2005 through 2030. Likewise, in June 2006 the Scott County Community Development Agency completed a similar study that projects housing demand for that county through 2015.

Some key findings from the Maxfield studies:

- Through 2015, Carver County is projected to need an estimated 2,570 rental units and Scott County, 2,930 respectively.
- Of the total of projected units for each county, senior housing represents a considerable portion of the housing demand. For Carver County, 1,510 senior units will be needed and for Scott County, 1,355 units.
- In both counties, about 60% of the counties market-rate units had rents below the Section 8 payment standard and considered affordable for low to moderate income families.

[3] *Maxfield Research, Inc., 615 First Avenue NE, Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN 55413*

- For Carver County, in 2006 there were 570 units that were identified as affordable units, meaning they are restricted to households with low to moderate incomes. In Scott County during the same time period, there were 418 units identified as meeting the affordable definition.
- Most of the units listed in the study as *affordable* in both counties were developed by the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and restricted to households with incomes below 60% of Area Median Income[4] (AMI). In 2007, these income limits were as follows:

1 Person	**$29,350**
2 Person	**$33,550**
3 Person	**$37,750**
4 Person	**$41,950**

HUD Point in Time (1/09) On January 28, 2009 the Scott-Carver Housing Collaborative conducted a point in time study which is required biennially by the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). This survey sought to determine the number of people experiencing homelessness in Scott and Carver counties for this one night in January.

We found the sheer number of homelessness on this point in time to be shocking. A good cross section of agencies, churches, schools and police took part in this study. Of the 945 persons surveyed, 61% reported that they were unable to access affordable housing. Nine percent of those surveyed spent the night in cars, parks or abandoned buildings. One hundred and seventeen faced eviction and 14% were couch hopping. Sixty four percent of these clients met the definition of long-term homelessness by experiencing four episodes of homelessness in the past year. The number one need identified for persons experiencing housing instability and persons experiencing homelessness was access to affordable housing. The number of providers and collaborative partners in this study gave ample evidence to the growing need within these two communities for programs that address homelessness.

Plan to End Homelessness Survey (3/09) The Scott-Carver Housing Collaborative conducted a comprehensive survey in March 2009 to determine the needs and trends of households in our community experiencing homelessness and housing instability. This survey gained the participation of a variety of community stakeholders including: transitional and permanent supportive housing providers, domestic violence provider, youth provider, faith community, local schools, Veterans Services Officers, CDA's, the CAP agency, police, and both counties. In total, the survey identified the following in the past year (1/1/08-12/31/08):

- Over 1000 households were identified who met the State of Minnesota's definition of homelessness (duplicated)

Couch hopping (moving from one place to another with no permanent place to stay).	152
Living in places not meant for human habitation such as cars, parks, abandoned buildings, etc.	101
Stay in a homeless shelter.	41
Faced imminent eviction with no subsequent residence identified and lacking resources and support networks needed to obtain housing (no family/friends willing to take in).	137
Unable to access affordable housing (based on household size/income maximums) Maximum Annual Income—50% of 2006 AMI. Household size: 1--$27,500; 2--$31,400; 3--$35,350; 4--$39,250; 5 to 8--$42,400 – 51,800.	591
Total	**1022**

[4] 2009-2010 AMI is $83,900

- Over 1200 households received some form of assistance to end or avoid homelessness (unduplicated)

Single Parent Families (head of household 22 or older)	511
Single Parent Families (head of household 21 or younger)	65
Two-Parent Families (head of household 22 or older)	384
Two-Parent Families (head of household 21 or younger)	53
Adult Household with No Dependent Children	132
Unaccompanied Youth (21 or younger)	80
Total	**1225**

- Over 1200 households seeking assistance to end or avoid homelessness were turned away due to lack of available funds. (duplicated)

Housing Instability	1029
Homeless	236
Total	**1265**

Other Pertinent Information.

Affordable Housing. The factors precipitating homelessness and housing instability are varied. Nationally, the primary factor linked to homelessness is a lack of affordable and available housing. Recent data indicates housing costs for Minnesotans increased significantly between 2002 and 2007. During this time period, the number of homeowners paying more than half of their income for housing increased from 1 in 18 mortgage holders to 1 in 9 mortgage holders. Rental households were not exempt from an increased housing burden. In 2007 there were 510,000 renting households in Minnesota. Of this population, 1 in 5 paid more than half of their income for housing. As confirmed locally, job loss, a low working wage or disability income coupled with a high housing cost burden, and low levels of affordable housing stock explain the struggles citizens have in attaining and being able to maintain stable housing. These factors are also reflected in the high percentage rate of foreclosures in the Scott and Carver area.

The need for affordable housing is growing. The federal housing assistance authority budget has declined nearly 50% since its peak in 1978. At the same time, the very low income renter population has grown not only due to a growing population in general, but also due to stagnating or declining wages and benefits. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, very low income renters paying half or more of their income or living in severely substandard housing has grown from 4 million households in 1978 to 6 million in 2005.

An ongoing strong demand exists for affordable/subsidized rental housing in Carver and Scott Counties. Both CDA's have extremely long waiting lists for the limited number of vouchers available thru the federal Section 8 housing program. Wait periods have been projected to be as long as ten years. Scott County has a 1.4% vacancy rate among project based rental developments. This means unless a person is already on the waiting list, they will not be able to attain a unit. The Scott County Maxfield study of 2006 indicated the need for an

Defining Housing Affordability

The Federal guideline for housing affordability is a housing cost that does not exceed 30% of a household's gross income. Household costs considered in this guideline usually include taxes, insurance, and utility costs. When the monthly housing cost exceeds 30% of income, the household experiences a cost burden. Cost burdened households are at increased risk of housing loss and inability to meet other life needs.

additional 680 subsidized/affordable units by 2010. Carver County's Maxfield study of 2007 indicated a need for an additional 1000 units by 2015.

In addition to the shortage of affordable housing stock, both counties are experiencing a rental market with high rents. The HUD published Fair Market Rent Rates (FMR) for the Minneapolis/St Paul metro area are $719.00 for a one bedroom apartment and $873.00 for a two bedroom unit. County payment standards are higher due to the high housing costs in the bi-county area. The payment standards are $769 for a one bedroom and $933 for a two bedroom unit for Scott County and $790 and $960 for Carver County respectively.

In order to afford a one bedroom unit according to affordability guidelines, a household would need to make $14.90 per hour or $31,000 per year. With a minimum wage of $6.55, a single person would need to work 98.5 hours per week, 52 weeks a year to afford a one bedroom unit. In order to afford a two bedroom unit, a household would need to make $17.79 per hour or $37,000 per year. Disabled persons who are unable to engage in "substantial gainful activity" receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) have an even more difficult challenge in maintaining housing. With a monthly income of $668.00, or $8,016.00 annually, this population is almost 30% below the 2008 federal poverty guideline of $10,400 for an individual. On average, this population would need to pay close to 115% of their income to rent a one bedroom unit. Needless to say, our most vulnerable populations are those most at risk for homelessness. In 2008 a national survey found that people with mental illness represented 26% of the homeless population, 13% were people with physical disabilities, and 13 % were veterans. These populations alone represent 52% of the homeless population. Youth are a growing population among the homeless due to their low income and lack of preparation for independent living.

Foreclosure. More and more Minnesota homeowners face the possibility of losing their homes. According to a HousingLink report, "during the last quarter of 2008, 54,834 homeowners had missed one or more payments and 15% of the subprime mortgages and 6% of all mortgages in the state were at least 30 days overdue, but not yet in foreclosure." Forecasters predict continuing high numbers of mortgage foreclosure. The Carver County CDA and Scott County CDA are the local authorities to assist with mortgage foreclosure assistance. They report 370 Carver County Sheriff Sales occurred during 2009 and an astounding 801 Sheriff Sales for Scott County during the same period. Foreclosure cases (counseling services) in Carver County for 2009 was numbered at 1186.

It is clear from this data that homelessness and housing instability needs are increasing in Scott and Carver counties despite an increasing awareness and commitment to end homelessness by community stakeholders.

Existing Resources

Community partnerships and the private sector have worked vigorously to address housing instability and homelessness in Scott and Carver counties. Unfortunately, with limited funds, these gaps and prevention remain a challenge as we are constantly looking for new funding to provide more resources.

While researching existing housing resources, two things are clear:

- *Our community is already heavily invested in serving persons who lack stable housing*. We are already investing money and resources into these issues. It is less clear as to whether our current investments are best targeted to produce desired outcomes. In creating this plan, our workgroup identified the need to build upon our current investments that are proving successful (homelessness prevention, supportive housing), and shift away from the investments that are not intended to provide housing stability (motel stays, etc.).
- *Current resources do not address the shelter and housing needs of many individuals and families in our community*. We do not have an adequate capacity to provide shelter to people in crisis, nor adequate affordable and supportive housing to provide long-term solutions for these households. Stringent eligibility criteria and lengthy waiting lists are often the by-product of insufficient resources. We know that our homeless and housing issues look different in rural and suburban areas and our resources need to reflect this. We need to work collaboratively to centralize services within our counties to address the needs of our community members. Increased funding and community buy-in are necessary solutions.

The following list provides some current resources in our counties. All are supported by a combination of private, public and faith-based funding.

Existing Motel Vouchers				
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Approximate Amount** *For each entity the number of motel vouchers fluctuates from year to year based upon funding available and length of stays*	**Duration**
CAP agency	952-496-2125	Based upon need and availability	**45** households per year	34 nights (one household can use 1-6 nights), 30 families for one week, 4 families for one month
Police (Shakopee)	952-445-1411	Officer discretion/stranded	**11** households per year	One night or weekend.
Carver County Sheriff's Office	952-361-1212	Officer discretion/stranded	**2** households per year	One night or weekend.
Salvation Army	952-496-2125	Emergency situation and a plan for how long they need a hotel to obtain other housing.	**11** households per year	1-7 nights
County Social Services Carver	952-361-1600	Family with dependant children or	**6** households per year	1-3 nights. On occasion

		vulnerable adult. Based upon imminent need and have exhausted all other resources. Families asked to sign promissory note to repay costs.		may last longer based upon need and stability plan.
County Social Services Scott	952-445-7750	Based upon imminent need and have exhausted all other resources	**12** households per year	1-3 nights. Longer is occasionally possible when clear plan towards stability is presented
County Veteran Services Officers—Carver	952-442-2323	Open to Vets Only. Carver County resident for at least 30 days	**1** household per year	1-30 nights
County Veteran Services Officers—Scott	952-496-8176	Open to Vets Only. Scott County resident for at least 30 days.	**13** households per year	Up to 30 nights, in one week increments.
Total Existing Motel Vouchers in Scott-Carver communities			**Approximately 101 households per year**	

Existing Shelter/Safe Home				
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Amount**	**Duration**
Southern Valley Alliance. Safe homes for women and children in various locations because of domestic abuse	952-873-4214	Women and children who are homeless due to domestic violence	**12** units	Not to exceed 3 days. Refer on to shelters for battered woman
Virginia Place	Adult MH-952-442-4437 Crisis MH 952-442-7601	Adults (18 and older) with mental health diagnosis in Carver County. Must be open to case mgt. or crisis mental health.	**1** unit	Not to exceed 1 month stay
Total Existing Emergency Shelter/Safe House Units in Scott-Carver communities			**13 units**	

Existing Transitional Housing				
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Amount**	**Duration**
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency	952-496-2125	Chosen from homeless and rental voucher waiting lists.	**10 units** for families with children, scattered sites.	Not to exceed 24 months.
Carver County CDA	952-448-7715	Referrals from First Street Center or New Beginnings	**6 units** (4 families, 2 for single adults) scattered site	Not to exceed 24 months.
Safe Haven	952-288-2688	Homeless youth and young adults	**12 units** at two homes in Burnsville(also serves Dakota County youth)	Not to exceed 24 months.
Total Existing Transitional Housing in Scott-Carver communities			**28 units** *** 14 for families * 2 for singles adults * 12 for youth**	

Existing Permanent Supportive Housing			
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Amount**
Scott County Human Services	952-445-7751	Shelter + Care program for households with disabled persons who are homeless.	**5 family units** **14 individual units** scattered site
Carver County CDA	952-448-7715	Shelter + Care program for households with disabled persons who are homeless.	**3 family units** **7 individual units** scattered site
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency –Savage Project	952-496-2125	Households with disabled persons who are homeless	**2 family units**
Safe Haven for Youth—Welcome Center Apartments	952-288-2688	Homeless youth (ages 16 – 22) who are disabled. 3 units are designated for HUD Homeless, 1 units for HUD chronically homeless.	**5 efficiency units for youth**
Scott and Carver County Mental Health Initiatives	Scott-952-445-7751 Carver-952-361-1600	Adult household member with a serious, persistent mental illness working with a county case manager. Homeless or rent burdened.	Carver County **19 units for single adults and families** Scott County **7 units for single adults and families** Scattered-site
Bridges	952-448-7715	Homeless persons with serious and persistent mental illness.	**14 units for single adults and families**
Cloverfield Market Place	952-361-3179	Persons experiencing or at-risk of experiencing Long-term Homelessness (homeless for 1 year or 4 episodes of homelessness in the past three years)	**6 units for single adults and families**
Metro Long-term Homeless Project	651-645-0676	Persons experiencing or at-risk of experiencing Long-term Homelessness (homeless for 1 year or 4 episodes of homelessness in the past three years)	Carver—**3 units for single adults and families** Scott—**3 units for single adults and families** Scattered-site
Carver County CDA	952-448-7715	Only for Carver County households. Verification of disability, homeless or near homeless, go on waiting list.	**15 vouchers for single adults and families**
Total Existing Permanent Supportive Housing in Scott-Carver communities			**103 units** *** 67 units for families and singles * 10 units for families** *** 21 units for singles adults * 5 units for youth**

Existing Affordable Housing (with no/limited support services)—For the purposes of this inventory, "affordable housing" is defined as housing that is partially or fully subsidized by a governmental agency OR housing that is affordable at 30% of the area median income (AMI)[5].			
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Amount**
Carver County			
Brickyard Apartments-Chaska	952-556-0160	Income requirements	**6** Project-based Section 8 units
Carver County CDA	952-448-7715	Public housing criteria (80% AMI)	**81** units (subsidized) 50 scattered 31 Spruce Apts. In Waconia
Carver County Section 8 Vouchers	952-448-7715	75% of new admissions need to be below 30% AMI, everyone else needs to be below 50%.	**161** Section 8 vouchers
Clover Field Marketplace-Chaska	952-361-3179	Income requirements	**15** Project-based Section 8 units of a total of 59 units
Chaska Villa Townhomes-Chaska	952-448-6812	Income requirements	**28** Project-based Section 8 units
Deutschland Apartments-New Germany	507-451-8524	Income requirements	**2** of 8 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Evergreen Apartments-Waconia	952-442-5276	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**46** Project-based Section 8 units
Fox Run-Waconia	507-451-8524	Income requirements	**14** of 24 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Hillside-Watertown	507-345-1290	Income requirements	**4** of 8 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Hilltop I and Hilltop II-Watertown	952-955-1962	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**19** of 32 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Lakeside Villa—Cologne	612-702-1472	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**12** Project-based Section 8 units
Mayer Elderly Apartments-Mayer	952-955-1962	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**9** of 10 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Maplecrest Commons-Waconia	763-354-5505	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**8** of 20 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Old City Hall Apartments-Waconia	952-471-0111	Income requirements	**13** Project-based Section 8 units
Poplar Ridge-Young America	612-874-4427	Income requirements	**11** of 24 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Peace Villa-Norwood	952-467-2167	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**33** of 61 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Riverside-Watertown	507-345-1290	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**17** of 22 units subsidized at 30% AMI
Tahleim (Chaska Manor)-Chaska	952-361-0310	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**58** Project-based Section 8 units
Waybury Apartments-Chaska	952-448-5022	Elderly/disabled	**114** Project-based Section 8 units
Scott County			
Belle Haven—Belle Plaine	952-402-9022	Family units	**23** subsidized units at 30% AMI
Scott County CDA	952-402-9022	Public housing criteria (80% AMI)	**147** units (subsidized)

[5] 2009-2010 AMI is $83,900.

Scott County Section 8 Vouchers	952-402-9022	75% of new admissions need to be under 30% median income.. Everyone else needs to be under 80% median income.	**255** Section 8 vouchers
Belle Plaine Apartments—Belle Plaine	952-873-4176	Criminal/credit review process required. Garages for additional fee.	**20** Project-based Section 8 units
Boessling Lutheran Village Apartments—Belle Plaine	952-873-4176	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**24** Project-based Section 8 units
Britland Apartments—Jordan	507-451-8524	Criminal/credit review process required. Waiting list for rental assistance (30% of gross monthly income)	**4** subsidized units at 30% AMI, 24 units in total below FMR
Cardinal Ridge Apartments—Belle Plaine	952-402-9022	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**23** subsidized units at 30% AMI
Clifton Townhomes—Shakopee	952-943-1100	Family with children under 18. 3 units for single adults handicapped, elderly or disabled	**56** Project-based Section 8 units
Faith Residence—Belle Plaine	952-873-2033	18 and older handicapped or disabled	**8** Project-based Section 8 units
Highwood Homes—Prior Lake	952-447-6961	Family with children under 18.	**36** Project-based Section 8 units
Levee Drive Apartments—Shakopee	952-445-2011	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**66** Project-based Section 8 units
Liberty Park Apartments—New Prague	952-758-4991	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**15** subsidized units at 30% AMI
Millpond Apartments—New Prague	952-758-4333	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**43** Project-based Section 8 units
Parkside Apartments—New Prague	507-345-1290	Criminal/credit review process required	**13** of 20 units subsidized at 30% AMI
River Bluff Apartments—Shakopee	651-645-7271	Physical disability or traumatic brain injury	**18** Project-based Section 8 units
Schule Haus—Jordan	952-492-2084	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**52** Project-based Section 8 units
Village Apartments—Shakopee	612-869-0180	62 and older, handicapped or disabled	**62** Project-based Section 8 units
Westgate Apartments—New Prague	952-758-2299	Criminal/credit review process required. Long waiting list.	**37** Project-based Section 8 units
Total Existing Affordable Housing in Scott-Carver communities			**1553** **651 Carver** **902 Scott**

Homelessness Prevention and Gap Services				
Entity	**Contact #**	**Criteria**	**Amount (approximate)**	**Duration**
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis. Priority given to Veterans, Victims of Domestic Violence	**77** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 2 months (6 months for Veterans).
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—Energy Assistance	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**1500** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 3 months.
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—HPRP	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**41** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 18 months.
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—FEMA Phase 27	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**65** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 1 month.
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—FEMA ARRA	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**130** households assisted per year (only available through 12/09)	One time assistance for up to 1 month.
Scott-Carver Dakota CAP Agency—FEMA Phase 27	952-496-2125	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**65** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 1 month.
Safehaven for Youth—Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program	952-288-2688	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**66** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 6 months.
Safehaven for Youth—HPRP	952-288-2688	Evidence of need, resolvable crisis.	**17** households assisted per year	One time assistance for up to 18 months.
Love, INC	952-448-3261	Eastern Carver County residents only.	**400** households assisted per year	Varies based upon need.
People Reaching Out to People (PROP)—Chanhassen area	952-937-9120	Chanhassen Residents only. Ability to sustain their current rent with the short term support and or a plan to move to a more affordable unit.	**35** households assisted per year	Up to two months assistance.
Total Households Served with Existing Prevention/Gap Services in Scott-Carver			**2396 households**	

Goal #1: Prevent Households from Experiencing Homelessness

Everyday in our community many families, singles adults, and youth are facing personal crises or financial challenges that have them teetering on the edge of homelessness. Most of these households will find friends, family, or other supports to help them work through their financial/personal challenges without falling into homelessness. However, too many do not find the support they need and end up homeless, leading to substantial trauma for children and youth, and unnecessary costs which will eventually be required to stabilize many of these households.

Homelessness prevention is the cornerstone of Heading Home Scott-Carver. The success of all other goals and activities in this Plan is predicated upon our ability to "*close the front door*" on homelessness and help families stay in their current housing. It is well documented that the costs of preventing homelessness are far less than the costs incurred assisting a family after they have become homeless. Focusing our energy on homelessness prevention is not only the right thing; it is the smart thing to do.

Strategies:

- Increase access to public & private resources
- Ensure housing stability for people leaving public institutions
- Create a formal tracking & rapid re-housing process for folks being sheltered in Minneapolis & St Paul
- Provide deeper and longer assistance and services for youth and young adults
- Increase educational opportunities to low-income households (life skills, renters' rights, etc.)

Strategy 1.a: Increase access to public & private resources

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	**Homeless families and individuals will have an ability to access resources public and private, due to increased community knowledge.**	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Obtain expanded Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program Funding	Caver and Scott County CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Maintain all requirements for FHPAP renewals **Year 2:** Increase funding requests, each agency keeps track of demonstrated need beyond the capacity of the current grant amount **Year 5:** Scott & Carver county become a statewide leader for FHPAP grant **Year 10:** FHPAP will continue to be a cornerstone in Scott and Carver counties plan to end homelessness
Create and maintain a resource list of each service providers' eligibility criteria and application process, including frequency of accessing funds.	County social services Mdewakanton Sioux Community Public health CAP Agency Safe Haven Other local service agencies	**Year 1***:* Have comprehensive list of emergency assistance benefits as a resource for all social service workers **Year 2***:* Make formal recommendations to streamline and enhance eligibility criteria

		Year 5*:* Maintain list and continue to review and enhance on annual basis **Year 10***:* Maintain list, continue to review and enhance on annual basis
Fully Utilize FEMA/HPRP stimulus funding	Caver and Scott County CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1**: Fully implement the initial year of HPRP through marketing efforts and community coordination. **Year 2:** Demonstrated need for HPRP and how it compliments FHPAP to increase funding **Year 5:** Work closely with OEO for other housing grant opportunities **Year 10:** Streamlined system for maintaining housing assistance grants
Gain support & involvement from faith & business communities	Mdewakanton Sioux Community FISH Love INC Chambers of commerce	**Year 1**: Utilizing web-based communication, invite business leaders to Housing Coalition Mtgs **Year 2**: Prepare presentations to faith and business communities **Year 5:** On-going system of communication and collaboration **Year 10**: On-going system of communication and collaboration
Carver and Scott Counties will evaluate the effectiveness of a transportation merger	County social services Work force centers Transportation Public works	**Year 1***:* Representative from Carver and Scott transportation system will attend housing coalition meetings to establish partnership **Year 2:** Goals for partnership include helping people who are homeless and disabled **Year 5***:* Coordinated and accessible transportation system available **Year 10***:* Evaluate system

Strategy 1.b: Ensure housing stability for people leaving public institutions

Lead Entity:	*Carver and Scott County*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*All people leaving public institutions will have a housing plan*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Increase housing options for persons leaving mental health facilities	County Social Services County Mental Health Carver-Scott Crisis Team CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Utilize shelter needy and GRH funds to the fullest, apply for federal funding (HUD, SAMHSA) **Year 2:** Collaborate with public institutions to ensure housing stability **Year 5:** Continue to maximize state and federal funding **Year 10:** Evaluate housing options

		and plan for gaps
Increase housing options for persons leaving jail or prison	County Social Services County Mental Health Carver-Scott Crisis Team Corrections Law Enforcement Workforce Centers CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Utilize shelter needy and GRH funds to the fullest, apply for federal funding (HUD, SAMHSA) **Year 2:** Collaborate with public institutions and community corrections to ensure housing stability **Year 5:** Continue to maximize state and federal funding **Year 10:** Evaluate housing options and plan for gaps
Utilize community resources to decrease hospitalization and placement times	Love INC Mary's Wish FISH CAP Agency Safe Haven Scott and Carver County Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** Invite partners to housing coalition **Year 2:** Review progress of goal **Year 5:** Implement new strategies **Year 10:** Evaluate strategies
Both counties develop a transition team to track and plan for youth leaving foster care	Scott-Carver Child Welfare Foster Care workers Safe Haven Mdewakanton Sioux Community School liaisons	**Year 1:** Transition teams formed **Year 2:** All 17, 18 year olds in care have a transition plan **Year 5:** All 15, 16 year olds in care have a transition plan **Year 10:** All 14 year olds in care have a transition plan that is reviewed at least every 6 months

Strategy 1.c: Create a formal tracking & rapid re-housing process for folks being sheltered in Minneapolis and St Paul

Lead Entity:	*Scott and Carver County Social Services*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Households that have lost housing in Scott and Carver counties who seek shelter in neighboring counties will be rapidly re-housed and re-connected to services within their community.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Establish a communication method and tracking system for shelters in the Minneapolis and St. Paul area to notify Scott and Carver County of their residents	CAP Agency Safe Haven Wilder Research Families Moving Forward Mary's Place St Anne's Place St Stephen's Shelter Simpson Shelter Our Saviour's Shelter The Bridge	**Year 1:** Identify a lead contact person from each agency involved **Year 2:** Report at monthly meetings trends and issues **Year 5:** System in place to quickly return citizens of Scott-Carver to their home communities **Year 10:** Evaluate communication between counties, non-profits and shelters

Strategy 1.d: Provide deeper and longer assistance and services for youth and young adults

Lead Entity:	*Safe Haven for Youth*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Precariously housed youth in Scott-Carver will have access to homeless prevention services and assistance at the intensity levels that match their needs.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Develop individual and group programming, services, and housing for youth and young adults with low to high needs.	CAP Agency Workforce Center Local Schools Adult/Alternative Learning Centers Tutors Scott/Carver Counties Local Landlords	**Year 1:** Identify and create needed programs and services **Year 2:** Implement services and housing resources **Year 5:** Evaluate Effectiveness *Year 10*: On going
Hire a Case Manager who solely focuses on establishing client trust through advocacy, companionship, and individual training attention to create a positive lasting relationship with the goal of the youth achieving a series of successes and thus raising the youth's self-motivation and self-esteem.	Private Foundations Government Grants Workforce Center Post Secondary institutions Community leaders Carver County Health Partnership Youth Development Rep	**Year 1:** Send out grant proposal to get position funded. **Year 2:** Hire Case Advocate and start establishing relationships with highest needs individuals first. **Year 5:** Evaluate Effectiveness **Year 10:** On going

Strategy 1.e: Increase educational opportunities to low-income households (life skills, renters' rights, etc.)

Lead Entity:	*CAP Agency*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*People experiencing and at-risk of homelessness will have access to information and classes to enhance their ability to retain housing*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Enhance educational opportunities to learn how to be a good renter and increase financial literacy	CAP Agency CDA (Scott and Carver) Safe Haven Local landlords	**Year 1:** Solidify referral base for classes **Year 2:** Increase availability of classes **Year 5:** Evaluate effectiveness **Year 10:** On going
Independent Living Skills classes and Rent Wise classes for all youth in the community	Safe Haven CAP Agency Workforce Center Love INC	**Year 1:** Modify rent wise program to work for youth, review ILS curriculum **Year 2:** All foster care youth attend ILS and Rent Wise classes **Year 5:** Classes offered to all youth in the community **Year 10:** Evaluate effectiveness of classes

Goal #2: Increase Housing Opportunities for Homeless & Low-Income Households in Scott and Carver

While preventing homelessness is cost effective it is not always feasible or advisable—as in the case of domestic violence. To truly end homelessness a community must develop a full continuum of housing. This continuum must include affordable housing as its foundation. Affordable housing can be created in a variety of ways—from increasing the number of rental assistance vouchers making rent affordable to an increase in the construction of affordable housing units. Most communities take a multi-pronged approach: increasing the number of rental subsidies to maximize private, market rate housing; and building new affordable housing. Finally, permanent supportive housing combines affordability and support services with the goal of ending the cycle of homelessness for persons with disabilities and barriers to housing. Permanent supportive housing can be site-based, which is often accomplished with new construction or a scattered site approach, using rental vouchers in private, market rate housing. Both models are effective. While permanent supportive housing is a more expensive option, it is far less expensive than the alternative of jail, treatment facilities, foster care and repeated hospitalizations.

Strategies:

- Create 120 new affordable housing rental units in Carver County
- Create 180 new affordable housing rental units in Scott County
- Create 50 new supportive housing opportunities in Carver County and 50 in Scott County
- Create 35 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Carver County
- Create 45 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Scott County

Strategy 2.a: Create 120 new affordable housing rental units in Carver County targeted at 30% AMI & below.

Lead Entity:	*Carver CDA*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*120 new affordable housing rental units created*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Target development in cities with highest income/housing needs	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition CDAs Cities Faith Community County social services Schools MICAH Habitat for Humanity	**Year 1***:* 10 partners and at least 2 potential projects identified **Year 2:** 20 units in pre-development **Year 5:** 50 New Units Completed **Year 10:** 50 New Units Completed
Identify development and city partners	Counties Cities Aeon Duffy Commonbond	
Seek out funding resources	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Cities Counties State Private nonprofit Met Council, transit oriented development	

Monitor and preserve existing affordable housing (including existing project-based section 8)	Cities Counties State Private nonprofit Housing Coalition	

Strategy 2.b: Create 180 new affordable housing rental units in Scott County targeted at 30% AMI & below.

Lead Entity:	*Scott CDA*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	180 new affordable housing rental units created	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Target development in cities with highest income/housing needs.	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition CDAs Cities Faith Community County social services Schools MICAH Habitat for Humanity	**Year 1:** 10 partners and at least 2 potential projects identified **Year 2:** 30 units in pre-development **Year 5:** 75 New Units Completed **Year 10:** 75 New Units Completed
Identify development and city partners.	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Counties Cities Aeon Duffy Commonbond	
Seek out funding resources.	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Cities Counties State Private nonprofit Met Council, transit oriented development	
Monitor and preserve existing affordable housing (including existing project-based section 8)	Cities Counties State Private nonprofit Housing Coalition	

Strategy 2.c: Create 50 new supportive housing opportunities in Carver County and 50 in Scott County

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Continuum of Care*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*100 new supportive housing opportunities will be created in Scott and Carver communities*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Seek out funding opportunities.	MN Housing CDA's Service Providers HUD-CoC Hearth Connection Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** Research Capital, Operating, and Services Funding sources **Year 2:** New and/or increased funding from 2 sources **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going

Identify service providers, development and city/county partners for site-based options	Service Providers Mdewakanton Sioux Community Aeon Management Companies HUD-CoC Project for Pride in Living Federal funding—HUD, Rural Development Corporation for Supportive Housing	**Year 1:** Establish lead entity to direct development of project(s) **Year 2:** Elect partner that will lead services component for project(s) **Year 5:** 2 Projects under development (30 units in total) **Year 10:** On-going
Identify increased housing subsidies with supportive services	Service Providers Developers Local Landlords and Management Companies HUD-CoC Hearth Connection MHFA CSH	**Year 1:** Identify funding opportunities and service providers and apply for funding sources **Year 2:** 5 new housing subsidies **Year 5:** 20 new housing subsidies **Year 10:** 45 new housing subsidies

Strategy 2.d: Create 35 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Carver County

Lead Entity:	*Carver CDA*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*35 new rental assistance subsidies without services will be available in Carver County to provide families with stable housing*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Seek out new funding opportunities.	MN Housing CDA's Service Providers HUD-CoC Private Foundations	**Year 1:** Determine which subsidy programs and funding streams to target **Year 2:** Applications completed **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going
Include the priority to increase Section 8 and Minnesota Housing Rental Vouchers in County legislative and congressional lobbying platforms.	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Carver County	**Year 1:** Add items to lobbying platforms **Year 2:** Continue until adequately funded **Year 5:** Continue until adequately funded **Year 10:** Continue until adequately funded
Apply for additional rental vouchers to add to existing subsidy programs.	CDA's HUD-CoC (technical assistance) MN Housing	**Year 1:** Determine lead agencies for administering vouchers. 5 subsidies acquired **Year 2:** 5 subsidies acquired **Year 5:** 10 subsidies acquired **Year 10:** 15 subsidies acquired

Strategy 2.e: Create 45 new rental assistance subsidies without services in Scott County

Lead Entity:	*Scott CDA*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*45 new rental assistance subsidies without services will be available in Scott County to provide families with stable housing*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Seek out new funding opportunities.	MN Housing CDA's Service Providers HUD-CoC Private Foundations	**Year 1:** Determine which subsidy programs and funding streams to target **Year 2:** Applications completed **Year 5***:* On-going **Year 10:** On-going
Include the priority to increase Section 8 and Minnesota Housing Rental Vouchers in County legislative and congressional lobbying platforms.	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Scott County	**Year 1:** Add items to lobbying platforms **Year 2:** Continue until adequately funded **Year 5:** Continue until adequately funded **Year 10:** Continue until adequately funded
Apply for additional rental vouchers to add to existing subsidy programs.	CDA's HUD-CoC (technical assistance) MN Housing	**Year 1:** Determine lead agencies for administering vouchers. 5 subsidies acquired **Year 2:** 10 subsidies acquired **Year 5:** 10 subsidies acquired **Year 10:** 20 subsidies acquired

Goal #3: Provide Coordinated Outreach

Like most communities, the primary methods of outreach to people experiencing homelessness in Scott and Carver counties are corrections officers and county social workers. Both local and national data show that addressing street homelessness through a criminal justice response is both costly and ineffective. In our suburban counties with widely dispersed populations, connecting to people experiencing homelessness and housing crises is incredibly difficult. Centralized points of contact are hard to access because they are so few in number, there is little community awareness of existing resources, people lack reliable transportation to get to the limited locations, and nonprofit and county staffs do not have adequate resources to go into the community and meet people to connect them with resources. More effective and coordinated outreach in Scott and Carver counties would go far in bringing our community closer to ending homelessness.

Strategies:

- Create emergency shelter beds for homeless families and individuals in our community
- Increase staffing for outreach to homeless youth and adults
- Improve communication network with homeless school liaisons
- Enhance outreach/services provided to landlords
- Enhance outreach/services provided to renters

Strategy 3.a: Create emergency shelter beds for homeless families and individuals in our community

Lead Entity:	*Fish and Love INC.*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Coordinated provision of emergency shelter stay and length of homelessness reduced to 5 day stays.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Develop relationships with hotels	Hotels/Motels County Workers CAP Agency Police Safe Haven Ministerial Association	**Year 1:** Comprehensive list w/ daily cost of rooms and contacts **Year 2:** Solicit and negotiate reduced rates **Year 5:** A stream lined system through central intake to access emergency shelter **Year 10:** Reduced number of stays
Develop "Host" homes	FISH Faith Community Local Newspapers Home Owners	**Year 1:** Develop criteria **Year 2:** Recruit homeowners **Year 5:** Identify and utilize 5 homeowners **Year 10:** Recruitment on-going to continue the host home base
Create temporary shelter beds	Faith Community Families Moving Forward FISH Love INC. Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Inventory of Faith Community currently addressing homelessness **Year 2:** Bring Faith Community together to design shelter program **Year 5:** Family Emergency Shelter (5 units) implemented **Year 10:** 5 beds for singles and 5 beds for families with average stay of less than 20 days (*rapid re-housing*)

Strategy 3.b: Increase staffing for outreach to homeless youth and adults

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Funded outreach position and coordinated effort for outreach.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Maximize funding resources	Counties Nonprofit Organizations Philanthropists Federal and State	**Year 1:** Research current outreach **Year 2:** Develop outreach sites & schedule that is geographically comprehensive **Year 5:** Funded position **Year 10:** Broader community outreach to youth and single adults to access central intake
Utilize community meals and food drives (set up outreach at soup kitchen 2x/week)	Loaves and Fishes County Nonprofit Organizations	**Year 1:** Comprehensive list of assistance drives for low-income households **Year 2:** Visual display and outreach available **Year 5:** Evaluate and assess continued outreach at events **Year 10:** Broader community outreach for access to central intake

Strategy 3.c: Improve communication network with homeless school liaisons

Lead Entity:	*Safe Haven*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Every student facing homelessness has an advocate in the school and the community assisting the homelessness within 3 days.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Update current lists and educate liaisons of their role	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Safe Haven Police/Law Enforcement County Corrections Schools	**Year 1:** Create a common understanding of needs from all potential partners **Year 2:** Presentations to workshops and school boards **Year 5:** Collaboration with school districts and community partners **Year 10:** A Homeless advocate in every school building
Annual meeting to discuss current needs and strategies	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Safe Haven Police/Law Enforcement County Corrections Schools	**Year 1:** Develop a task force **Year 2:** Develop a presentation **Year 5:** Updating data and delivering strategies **Year 10:** Providing prevention
Create and e-mail network with school contacts	Safe Haven Police/Law Enforcement County Corrections Schools	**Year 1:** Gather school contacts and set up network **Year 2:** Provide updated info **Year 5:** On-going updating **Year 10:** Stream lined system and open communication with school liaisons

Strategy 3.d: Enhance outreach/services provided to landlords

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Self governing landlord coalition in each county, with comprehensive and collaborative relationships with social services, law enforcement and CDAs*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Improve attendance at Classes for Renters	Scott-Carver CDAs Law Enforcement Workforce Centers County workers CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Develop list of renter classes being offered in the region (contact name/number) **Year 2:** Organize or synchronize the offering of classes **Year 5:** Brochure of class scheduled to be distributed by landlords **Year 10:** 100 % attendance by enrollees
Collaboration with area landlords	Scott-Carver CDAs Law Enforcement Workforce Centers County workers CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Develop list of renter classes being offered in the region (contact name/number) **Year 2:** Organize or synchronize the offering of classes **Year 5:** Brochure of class scheduled to be distributed by landlords **Year 10:** 100 % attendance by enrollees landlords for existing landlord meetings
Increase the number of landlords utilizing Housing Link	Scott-Carver CDAs Housing Link Landlords	**Year 1:** Compile list of rental property and correct phone numbers in region; Housing Link presentation to annual landlord meeting **Year 2:** 50 % increase in landlords using HL **Year 5:** 75 % increase in landlords using HL **Year 10:** 100% increase in landlords using HL

Strategy 3.e: Enhance outreach/services provided to renters

Lead Entity:	*CAP and Safe Haven*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Decreased number of evictions due to preventable actions.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Improve attendance at Classes for Renters	Scott-Carver CDAs Law Enforcement Workforce Centers County workers CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Evaluate current renter classes **Year 2:** Increase the availability and quality of renter classes **Year 5:** Provide incentives to participants **Year 10:** Participants in classes are becoming renters and maintaining leases

Collaboration potential partners working with potential renters.	Scott-Carver CDAs Law Enforcement Workforce Centers County workers CAP Agency Safe Haven	**Year 1:** Collection of comprehensive services to renters **Year 2:** Advertisement in rental sections for rental services to low-income households **Year 5:** Steam lined system for access to central intake **Year 10:** On-going
Continued funding for prevention programs, FHPAP, HPRP, HUD and such.	Scott-Carver CDAs Housing Link County Social Services Safe Haven CAP Agency	**Year 1:** Re-applying for current grant funding **Year 2:** On-going search for other funding **Year 5:** Consistent and/or increased funding resources **Year 10:** Financial means to stabilize low-income renters and prevent homelessness

Goal #4: Improve Service Delivery

The state of Minnesota, Scott and Carver counties have increased public awareness of the issue of homelessness in our suburban community; still, significant improvements in both the coordination and delivery of services are necessary as we work toward eliminating homelessness. The following recommendations will improve the quantity and quality of collaboration and available services for our community members in need.

Strategies:

- Increase services funding from local, state and federal resources
- Increase access to harm reduction supportive housing
- Increase number of providers serving homeless households in Scott and Carver counties
- Utilize the faith community to enhance the support provided to families in need in the community

Strategy 4.a: Increase services funding from local, state and federal resources

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Continuum of Care*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Secured funding and resources to assist every homeless individual within Scott and Carver counties.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Provide education and engage the public by providing materials on current needs and gaps within the Scott-Carver community	Mdewakanton Sioux Community Continuum of Care Nonprofit organizations Heading Home Scott-Carver Faith community County partners	**Year 1:** January 2010 **Year 2:** January 2011—on-going **Year 5:** January 2015—on-going and have reached a minimum of 75% of the population **Year 10:** On-going
Compile list of existing grants and programs in the Scott-Carver community	State of Minnesota Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Authority (CDA) Federal grant resources Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** March 2010—have a list compiled **Year 2:** January 2011, on-going—create a website/shared database of available funding resources **Year 5:** March 2015—update list, continue to make available to eligible partners **Year 10:** March 2020—continuous
Create a website/shared database of available funding resources	County IT workers Nonprofit IT workers Public web designers	**Year 1:** September 2010 **Year 2:** January 2011, on-going—create a website/shared database of available funding resources **Year 5:** March 2015—update list, continue to make available to eligible partners **Year 10:** March 2020—continuous

Strategy 4.b: Increase access to and awareness of available housing and services

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*A website that lists current available housing and service opportunities within Scott and Carver counties for homeless individuals; and a single point of entry where individuals in need can gain assistance accessing these opportunities will be created and maintained.*

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Compile and maintain list of existing supportive housing resources	Nonprofit organizations County partners Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** July 2009 **Year 2:** On-going (monthly) **Year 5:** On-going (monthly) **Year 10:** On-going (monthly)
Create a website that lists available housing units	County IT workers Nonprofit IT workers Public web designers Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** June 2010 **Year 2:** On-going (monthly) **Year 5:** July 2014, on-going (monthly) **Year 10:** July 2019, on-going (monthly)
Develop a single point of entry for individuals seeking housing and/or services	State of MN County partners Community leaders Nonprofit organizations Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** July 2009—have a list compiled **Year 2:** January 2011, on-going—create a website/shared database of available funding resources **Year 5:** March 2015—update list, continue to make available to eligible partners **Year 10:** March 2020—continuous

Strategy 4.c: Improve coordination and collaboration of existing service providers

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Scott-Carver community and providers are collaborating on a continuous basis to ensure continued services to homeless or otherwise homeless persons.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Organize and conduct focus groups in order to collaborate services	Police department Nonprofit organizations Faith community County employees Business community	**Year 1:** June 2010—conduct first focus group **Year 2:** June 2011—have completed five total focus groups (since June 2010) **Year 5:** June 2015—on-going, conduct focus groups twice a year (One Scott, one Carver) **Year 10:** June 2020—on-going, conduct focus groups twice a year
Form a subcommittee to disseminate information found in focus groups	Heading Home Scott-Carver	**Year 1:** July 2010—input results from June 2010 focus group **Year 2:** On-going, input results within one month of conducting each focus group **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going
Host annual community meetings to present progress on Heading Home Scott-Carver and provide an opportunity for the community to learn and ask questions	Heading Home Scott-Carver Mdewakanton Sioux Community Community members	**Year 1:** January 2011—host first annual meeting at the CoC **Year 2:** January 2012 **Year 5:** January 2015 **Year 10:** January 2020

Goal #5: Increase Community Awareness and Involvement in Ending Homelessness

It is difficult for many suburban/rural communities to believe that homelessness exists and has become a serious problem. In rural areas homelessness looks somewhat different because the public doesn't see pan-handling or soup lines, people are not sleeping on park benches or in cardboard boxes, and very few are sleeping under bridges or on the river banks. Homelessness is not as visible in suburban/rural counties, like Scott and Carver.

Staff and volunteers who work with the homeless see the effects of homelessness everyday. People are homeless for a variety of reasons: some of the homeless here have jobs, many have lost jobs due to lay off's, some live in homeless shelters, some have left abusive situations, some have been discharged from a correctional or human service facility, many of the homeless are children. Homelessness can occur for a number of reasons, including financial crisis, lack of affordable housing, or a family or personal crisis. Other issues such as age, mental and/or physical illness or disability, domestic violence, chemical dependency and discrimination; all have a direct impact on people's ability to secure and retain housing. Until you are actively involved in helping someone or encounter a person who is having housing difficulties, the problem of homelessness in the community may not exist for many people. Defining the problem and educating the community are important steps in providing the means and measures to end homelessness in Scott and Carver Counties. The first step is to identify and understand the problem.

Strategies:

- Develop programs that will increase awareness and involvement from community members
- Expand and organize partnerships across the community
- Develop a system to track and evaluate progress on Heading Home Scott-Carver Plan

Strategy 5.a: Develop programs that will increase awareness and involvement from community members

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Increased community awareness and involvement in ending homelessness.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Develop a homeless awareness presentation for public meetings	Faith Community Nonprofit organizations Scott and Carver County workers MN Coalition for the Homeless MICAH Other MN Heading Home Plans—Anoka Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** Presentation and "Trainer's Manual" created by May 2010 **Year 2:** Presentation updated to include Wilder Research information **Year 5:** Update **Year 10:** Update
Develop marketing strategy and material. Include data-snapshot in this material	Heading Home Team Faith Community Mdewakanton Sioux Community Cities Counties HRA's Schools Area Businesses Nonprofit organizations Homeless advocates	**Year 1:** Marketing strategy (workplan) and material developed by March 2010 **Year 2:** Marketing strategy evaluated and amended by March 2011 **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going

	Scott and Carver County staff	
Provide homelessness education/awareness presentations for: ▪ County events ▪ City/local events ▪ Neighborhood events (i.e. Nat'l night out) ▪ Faith communities ▪ Local businesses	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition County Fair Boards Directors of Community Events Nonprofit organizations Ministerial Association Rotary Clubs City Chambers City Admin	**Year 1:** Obtain a list of community events and contacts **Year 2:** 5 presentations, documented 5% increase in community volunteers **Year 5:** 25 presentations, documented 15% increase in volunteers **Year 10***:* 70 presentations, documented 50% increase in volunteers
Promote Homeless Awareness week - November	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Faith Community City Councils Schools Area Businesses Nonprofit organizations Homeless advocates Scott and Carver County workers Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** 3 media/events 2010 **Year 2:** 5 media/events 2011 **Year 5:** 5 media/events annually **Year 10:** 5 media/events annually
Put on a "Community Connect" in each county	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Faith Community Police Schools Area Businesses Nonprofit organizations Homeless advocates Scott and Carver County workers Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** Planning team in place **Year 2:** Successful Community Connect events in each county **Year 5:** Annual events **Year 10:** Annual events

Strategy 5.b: Expand and organize partnerships across the community

Lead Entity:	*Scott-Carver Housing Coalition*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Every resident in Carver and Scott County understands the impact of homelessness in their community.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Utilize and clarify roles of community partners (FISH, Love INC, etc.) for basic needs and short-term assistance	FISH Love INC Local Faith Communities Mary's Wish Salvation Army CAP thrift store Food Shelves CAP agency Families moving Forward Safe Haven Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1***:* Engage community stakeholders to establish a partnership **Year 2:** Partnership formalized, outcomes identified **Year 5:** Partnership maintained, documentation of 3 examples of increased efficiency, effectiveness **Year 10:** Partnership maintained, documentation of 10 examples of increased efficiency, effectiveness
Strengthen referral network	FISH Love INC Mdewakanton Sioux Community	**Year 1:** Referral agencies, partners identified. FISH builds website **Year 2:** Formalize centralized intake

	Counties Cities CAP Safe Haven new agencies	process for housing ***Year 5:*** On-going ***Year 10:*** On-going

Strategy 5.c: Develop a system to track and evaluate progress on Heading Home Scott-Carver Plan.

Lead Entity:	*Heading Home Scott-Carver Executive Team*	
Anticipated 10-year outcome	*Data and evaluation on the progress and impact of Heading Home Scott-Carver will be readily available and communicated to the community.*	
Action Steps	**Potential Partners**	**Timeline**
Identify lead entities/individuals for each goal area.	Scott-Carver Housing Coalition	**Year 1***:* Lead entities identified and provide leadership and tracking of their goal area. **Year 2:** On-going **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going
Utilize web-based resources (i.e. GoogleDocs) to create an interactive tracking form for monitoring progress of each of the Plan's strategies.	MESH Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Wilder Research University of Minnesota Philanthropy Heading Home Minnesota	**Year 1***:* Develop on-line tracking form, create a link to tracking form to county/Heading Home Scott/Carver websites **Year 2:** Market "tracking form" link to community members **Year 5:** Maintain tracking form **Year 10:** Maintain tracking form
Prepare annual evaluation reports for distribution.	MESH Scott-Carver Housing Coalition Wilder Research University of Minnesota Philanthropy Heading Home Minnesota	**Year 1***:* Create evaluation template for annual reports **Year 2:** Utilizing template, evaluate benchmarks and report progress **Year 5:** On-going **Year 10:** On-going

Plan Budget

INCOME	Annual	5-Year
Secured Resources		
DHS-Office for Economic Opportunity		
CAP Agency	$59,000	$295,000
SafeHaven	$35,000	$175,000
HUD Stimulus Funding-HPRP (one time)	$226,500	$453,000
HUD-Continuum of Care		
CAP Agency-Transitional Housing	$55,000	$275,000
CAP Agency-Permanent Supportive Housing Leasing	$10,250	$51,250
Metro Long-term Homeless Supportive Services	$40,000	$200,000
Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program (FHPAP)	$137,500	$687,500
Targeted Potential Resources		
HUD-Continuum of Care	$40,000	$120,000
HUD-Homelessness Prevention Funding	$200,000	$600,000
Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program (FHPAP)	$175,000	$525,000
Group Residential Housing (Shelter)	$90,000	$270,000
Construction/Re-hab Resources (bonding, tax credits, HUD, etc.)	$5,450,000	$27,250,000
Minnesota Housing Rental Vouchers	$60,000	$300,000
DHS-Long-term Homeless Supportive Services Funding	$700,000	$2,100,000
Heading Home Minnesota--Private Foundations	$200,000	$1,000,000
Other (DHS-outreach, DHS-OEO, etc.)	$200,000	$879,500
Additional Potential Resources		
Community fundraisers	$24,875	$124,375
Other (City, County, and Community Investments)	$130,000	$650,000
Total income	**$7,833,125**	**$35,955,625**
EXPENSES		
Homeless Prevention		
Double Households Served by Homeless Prevention	$425,000	$1,275,000
Housing		
Affordable Housing--Construction 60 Units	$2,400,000	$12,000,000
Affordable Housing--Acquisition/Rehab 40 Units	$1,760,000	$8,800,000
Supportive Housing--Construction 20 Units	$800,000	$4,000,000
Supportive Housing--Acquisition/Rehab 20 Units	$880,000	$4,400,000
Supportive Housing--Operating Costs 40 Units	$480,000	$1,440,000
Rental subsidies 80 Vouchers	$60,000	$300,000
Outreach		
Annualized Per Diem Cost for 5 Family Shelter Units	$182,500	$912,500
Annualized Per Diem Cost for 5 Single Adults Shelter Units	$45,625	$228,125
2 FTE Outreach Staff	$100,000	$500,000
Supportive Services		
20 of Family Units	$300,000	$900,000
25 of Single Units	$250,000	$750,000
15 of Youth Units	$150,000	$450,000
Total Expenses	**$7,833,125**	**$35,955,625**
Balance	**$0**	**$0**

Appendix A: Glossary[6]

Affordable housing: Housing for which the occupant is paying no more than 30 percent of his or her income for gross housing costs, including utilities. For the purposes of this plan, "affordable housing" is further defined as housing that is partially or fully subsidized by a governmental agency OR housing that is affordable at 30% of the area median income[7].

Family: At least one adult with custody or guardianship of at least one dependent child.

Homelessness: Based on the definition established by the U.S. Congress in the McKinney-Vento legislation, someone is homeless if they (1) lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; or (2) has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised, publicly or privately operated temporary living accommodation, including shelters, transitional housing, and battered women's shelters or (3) has a nighttime residence in any place not meant for human habitation, such as under bridges or in cars. For children and youth, this definition is extended to also include children and youth under 18 who are (1) sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as "doubled-up"); or (2) living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or (3) camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; abandoned in hospitals; or awaiting foster care placement.

Housing opportunities: Refers to both the production of new units and access to units in the existing market.

Long-term homelessness: Lacking a permanent place to live continuously for a year or more or at least four times in the last three years.

MFIP: The Minnesota Family Investment Program, or MFIP, is the state's welfare reform program for low-income families with children. MFIP helps families move to work and includes both cash and food assistance.

Permanent supportive housing: Supportive housing is affordable housing linked with services that help people live more stable, productive lives. It can be either project-based or scattered-site housing. It is permanent because it does not limit the tenant's stay; rather, the individual household decides when to leave. (Corporation for Supportive Housing)

Single adult: An individual age 22 or older who does not have any children or currently does not have custody of their children.

TBR: Tenant-based rental assistance programs provide households with portable vouchers they can use to access existing housing units.

Transitional Housing: Time-limited supportive housing designed to help those experiencing homelessness to obtain and maintain long term housing. Programs serve participants for a minimum of 30 days and agree to provide a private space with a locked door, housing subsidies, and access to services. Participants agree to comply with program rules and expectations which at minimum include an initial assessment, the development of a service plan, and work on plan goals which always includes the goal of transitioning to housing that is not time limited.

Youth/Transitional Youth: An individual and/or household this is age 22 or younger and unaccompanied by an adult. Homeless youth are addressed separately from adults as they usually become homeless for different reasons, face different issues once they become homeless, and require different programs and services.

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[6] The entire glossary is adapted from Heading Home Hennepin: The Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Minneapolis and Hennepin County

[7] 2009-2010 AMI is $83,900.

Appendix 2: The Rationale for Supportive Housing[8]

Across the country and here in Minnesota, supportive housing is proving to be a sound, long-term solution for housing and helping people who have experienced long-term homelessness.

Numerous studies clearly demonstrate that supportive housing is, fundamentally:

- An effective intervention that leads to better outcomes for residents
- An efficient investment of scarce public and private money
- An effective tool for improving communities

Supportive housing has been extremely successful in helping people who face the most complex challenges—individuals and families who are not only homeless, but who also have very low incomes and serious, persistent issues that may include substance use, mental illness, and chronic health conditions—to live more stable, productive lives.

Resident Outcomes

Thousands of people who languished on the streets and in shelters for years are now in supportive housing and improving their lives. According to a number of recent studies, people who have moved from the streets into supportive housing have experienced remarkable results, including:

- Increased housing stability: Once in supportive housing, many studies suggest that upwards of 80% of them remain housed after one year.
- Positive impacts on health: Studies show decreases of more than 50% in tenants' emergency room visits and hospital inpatient days; and decreases in tenants' use of emergency detoxification services by more than 80%.
- Positive impacts on employment: Studies indicate increases of 50% in earned income and 40% in the rate of participant employment when employment services are provided in supportive housing.
- Positive impacts on treating mental illness: In one study, 83% of people with mental illness provided with supportive housing remained housed a year later, and experienced a decrease in symptoms of schizophrenia and depression.
- Reducing or ending substance use: A recent study of people leaving chemical dependency treatment programs found that 57% of those living independently remained sober; 56% of those living in a halfway house remained sober; while 90% of those living in supportive housing remained sober.

Efficient Use of Scarce Resources

In addition to providing better outcomes for people, supportive housing is also proven to be an effective and efficient use of scarce public resources. A growing body of evidence is demonstrating the success and cost effectiveness of supportive housing. Among the findings:

Providing ongoing public services for people with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system often costs Ramsey County more than $100,000 a year per person.

A recent article in the Saint Paul Pioneer Press examining low-level crime offenders with mental illness, and the costs related to serving them, found some startling results.26 According to Ramsey County, the cost of

[8] This entire appendix comes from Plan to End Homelessness: Saint Paul-Ramsey County PART ONE: ENDING LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS

serving a single individual meeting the criteria for mental health court includes a wide array of services, including but not limited to:

Service Cost

Average of 8 emergency rooms visits $19,200
5 months in a regional treatment center $69,000
Police involvement $6,750
Mental health case management $9,500
Adult Detention Center $3,500

Providing supportive housing is often no more expensive, and frequently cheaper than many alternatives.

According to the "Cost of Serving Homeless Individuals in Nine Cities" study of homeless single adult completed by the Lewin Group in November of 2004, providing supportive housing is a less expensive alternative than other services accessed by people experiencing long-term homelessness. Outlined below is a summary of the cost per day in the Cities of Columbus and Seattle.

Columbus Seattle
Supportive housing $30.48 Supportive Housing $26.00
Jail $70.00 Jail $87.67
Prison $59.34 Prison $95.51
Mental hospital $451.00 Mental hospital $555.00

In addition, a study conducted by the University of Pennsylvania Center for Mental Health Policy and Services tracked 4,679 homeless people with psychiatric disabilities who were placed into 3,615 units of supportive housing in New York City.28 The study compared the costs of serving these individuals while homeless to the costs of providing supportive housing and found that:

- Including the cost of supportive housing, it costs the public only $1,908 more a year to provide service-enriched housing to a person with mentally illness than it does to allow him or her to remain homeless.
- Participants used an average of $40,449 in publicly funded services over the course of year while homeless. Once placed into supportive housing, participants reduced their use of publicly funded services by an average of $12,145 per year.
- Accounting for the natural turnover that occurs as some of the residents move out of service-enriched housing, these service reduction savings translate into $16,282 per year for each unit of housing constructed.

Supportive housing leads to significant reductions in the utilization of crisis services, including detox facilities by single adults.

In 1998, Hennepin County issued reports on the Glenwood Residence and Anishinabe Wakiagun supportive housing in Minneapolis that serve formerly homeless men and women with late-stage alcoholism. These studies found that:

- Average detox admissions for residents with a prior detox history decreased from 8.0 to 2.4 annually for Glenwood residents, and from 18.0 to 2.5 annually for Anishinabe Wakiagun residents, resulting in an estimated annual savings of between $2,086 and $5,012 per tenant.
- The annual cost savings in detox use alone covers 24% of the Glenwood's annual operating costs.

- The annual number of criminal bookings for residents decreased 29% per year, and the average number of days spent in the Adult Detention Center per year dropped by 69%.

Supportive housing for families significantly reduces their reliance on other costly public systems, including chemical dependency services and foster care.

In 2002, Hennepin County began an evaluation of 43 families living in two supportive housing programs to determine whether supportive housing reduces county-funded crisis services in child protection, out-of-home placements and substance abuse treatment.30 The study looked at County crisis service expenses six months before and six months after families moved into supportive housing. This evaluation found that:

- Crisis costs declined by an average of $6,200.
- Although County spending remained about the same, the amount spent on crisis services decreased from 88% to 22%.
- There was a significant reduction in costs associated with chemical health treatment.
- Children spent fewer days in foster care.

Heading Home Scott-Carver Plan Workgroup Members

Cliona Archer *Carver County Citizen*	*Chad Bacon* *Carver County*	*Connie Baumann* *Scott County*
Kate Bitney *Hearth Connection*	*Rebecca Bowers* *CAP Agency*	*Sue Doehlert* *Carver County*
Chair—Teri Funk *Safe Haven for Youth*	*Eric Gentry* *Carver County CDA*	*Susan Hadley* *WomanKind/Safe Haven for Youth*
Karen Hayes *Carver County*	*Deacon Tim Helmeke* *St Hubert Catholic Church*	*Heather Hennen* *Carver-Scott Crisis Team*
Todd Kubinski *Scott County Veterans Services*	*Jane Lawrenz* *State of Minnesota DHS*	*Mike Manhard* *MESH*
Suzie Misel *Safe Haven for Youth*	*Deacon Jim Pufahl* *Church of St Mark*	*Lori Reller* *Scott County*
Jennifer Romero *CAP Agency*	*Dan Saad* *Safe Haven for Youth*	*Pam Selvig* *Scott County*
Angela Starling *Carver County*	*Allison Streich* *Carver CDA*	*Regan Warren* *Safe Haven for Youth*

For more information or to get involved, please contact:

Teri Funk

Safe Haven
13780 McKenna Road NW
Shakopee, MN 55379
952-288-2681
Teri.funk@safehavenmn.org

Rebecca Bowers

Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency
712 Canterbury Road
Shakopee, MN 55379
651-322-3513
Rebecca.bowers@capagency.org

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