



Heading Home Plymouth

Background: Supportive Services Fund

The Basic Points to make in your letter:

- We are asking for \$25 Million in funding this biennium to adequately fund the state's business plan to End Long-term Homelessness.
- The Long-term Homeless Supportive Services Fund IS WORKING, but is under-funded.
- The Governor's budget calls for \$13 million in Supportive Services over the biennium. This is a good start, but it comes far from meeting the present needs.
- Investment in providing services and housing for the long-term homeless is not only more humane, but it is cost-effective over the longrun.

More Information:

Supportive Housing combines supportive services and housing as a strategy to break the cycle of homelessness for people who have been homeless long-term. Two projects, the Supportive Housing and Managed Care Pilot (the Pilot) and the Long-Term Homeless Supportive Service Fund (the Fund), have been enacted to house this population and provide the services they need to live productive lives in our communities.

Under state law, the Pilot sunsets June 30, 2007. We would like the State to maintain the infrastructure established for the Pilot, capacity to support 60 families and 90 single adults. We are also requesting additional increases in the Fund to meet the needs of other Minnesotans experiencing long-term homelessness.

The **supportive services fund** has proven to be very effective in reaching the people who have been failed by other models of shelter and housing. In the metro area, over 200 households with an average length of 7 years homeless have now found permanent housing through this fund. Stability of housing has proven to reduce other more costly and detrimental services (ER

visits, detox, prison, etc.). In the Pilot, 88% of people who were housed through these funds remained housed after one year.

Outstanding Need:

- The State’s business plan to End Long-term Homelessness has a goal to provide stable housing to 4,000 Minnesota households by 2010, including \$150M (\$25M annually) from the Department of Human Services for supportive services. **We will not reach our goals if we do not fund the plan adequately.**
- The combined amount of proposed projects during the 2005 competitive funding round was \$17M. There is significantly more need than current projects in 37 counties can meet. There is also interest from other regions across the state in areas including Moorhead and St. Cloud.

| Long-Term Homeless Supportive Service Fund | Biennium |
|---|---------------------|
| Base for Long-Term Homeless Supportive Service Fund | \$10 million |
| Sustain capacity of Supportive Housing and Managed Care Pilot | +\$3 million |
| Invest in regional projects at originally proposed levels | +\$7 million |
| Expand to other counties | +\$5 million |
| Total Funding Request | \$25 million |