FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Homeless Coalition responds to new Wilder Research findings

St. Paul—A new report from Wilder Research’s triennial Homelessness in Minnesota study estimates 14,000 Minnesotans are homeless on any given night, a 6 percent increase from 2009. One-third of homeless Minnesotans are children with their parents; 51 percent are age 5 or younger.

“Wilder Research confirms what we know. The need is still high. Shelters across the state are still operating at full capacity, and there are not enough affordable housing options for Minnesotans with very low-incomes,” Liz Kuoppala, Executive Director of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, stated. “We’re especially concerned about the 9 percent jump in child homelessness. Early childhood is so important for healthy development. No child should have to deal with the stress of homelessness.”

Greg Owen, Senior Researcher Manager for Wilder Research, will present new findings at the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless Annual Conference on October 14, 2013. A copy of his powerpoint is attached, summarizing major findings.

For more information about the Homelessness in Minnesota 2012 study contact Nancy Hartzler, Wilder Research Communications Manager, nancy.hartzler@wilder.org or 651-280-2696.

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The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is a statewide organization comprised of 150 nonprofit members. MCH’s mission is to generate public policies, community support, and local resources to end homelessness in Minnesota. www.mnhomelesscoalition.org