

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2014

Contact: Kenza Hadj-Moussa, Communications Director, Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless  
Email: [kenza@mnhomelesscoalition.org](mailto:kenza@mnhomelesscoalition.org) Cell: 612-386-9556

News Release

## **Homeless advocates highlight solutions at the Capitol** *Lawmakers consider \$100 million investment in housing*

St. Paul -- Hundreds of Minnesotans converged on the state Capitol on Thursday March 6 to encourage legislators to support bonds for housing, during Homeless Day on the Hill. Minnesota lawmakers are considering an unprecedented \$100 million for housing in this year's bonding bill. Advocates detailed the need for housing during both a Capitol news conference and later at a hearing of the Senate Capital Investment committee.

The Capital Investment chairs in both chambers of the Legislature - Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul) and Sen. LeRoy Stumpf (DFL-Plummer) are chief authors of the bill.

**“A stable home is the foundation for better school outcomes, healthier living, and stronger communities--this bill moves us closer to the day all Minnesotans have a place to call home,”** Liz Kuoppala, Executive Director of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless stated.

The Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness recently released *Heading Home: Minnesota's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. Investing in housing options for low-income Minnesotans is a key strategy in the plan.

Because of federal investments, Minnesota is on track to end veteran homelessness by 2015. Additional state resources are needed to reduce homelessness--half of Minnesota's homeless population are children and youth under 21. An estimated 14,000 Minnesotans are homeless on any given night.

Addressing homelessness is a key feature of the Homes for All \$100 million bonding request. Supporters will make the case for housing investments in the Senate Capital Investment Committee Thursday afternoon.

###

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is comprised of 150 direct service providers across the state. Our mission is to generate public policies, community support, and local resources to end homelessness in Minnesota.

Homes for All advances shared policy initiatives that lead to housing stability for all Minnesotans.