

# Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

## 2015 Legislative Agenda

---

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless 2015 Legislative Agenda advances common sense policies that promote housing stability and economic opportunity for Minnesotans across the state.

### Homes for All

#### 1. Invest \$39 million in housing and services.

Homes for All supports an additional \$19.5 million investment in the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and \$19.5 million in the Department of Human Services to promote stable housing:

- **PREVENT HOMELESSNESS** by expanding family homeless prevention, affordable rental options, and assistance for low-income adults living with serious mental illness.
- **EXPAND HOUSING OPTIONS** through rental assistance, transitional housing, single family home rehab, and affordable housing development.
- **STRENGTHEN SERVICES** for homeless and low-income Minnesotans by investing in emergency shelter, permanent and transitional housing and the Homeless Youth Act.

### Prosperity for All

#### 2. The MFIP Workforce Bill

MFIP is the largest workforce development program in the state, providing employment support for approximately 28,000 parents and assistance for 70,000 children. An additional \$100/month would help families:

- **GET STABLE.** A modest income boost is correlated with stronger education, health, and developmental outcomes for children. An additional \$100/month would help families cover basic expenses, including housing and transportation.
- **GET SKILLS.** Recent legislation allows parents to pursue education and job training while enrolled in MFIP—a reform that helps workers achieve stable, better paid employment. An additional \$100/month will help parents enrolled in school, certificate classes, and job-training programs pursue these activities.
- **GET TO WORK AND GET AHEAD.** Workforce professionals cite transportation as the top barrier to employment for parents enrolled in MFIP. An additional \$100/month would help parents afford transportation to job interviews, work, and employment activities.

---

*The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is comprised of 150 member organizations. Our mission is to generate policies, community support, and local resources for housing and services to end homelessness in Minnesota.*