

Minnesota Coalition *for the Homeless*

2017 Legislative Agenda

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is comprised of over 100 member organizations throughout the state. MCH supports state policy that promotes housing stability, economic security, and racial equity across Minnesota.

1. Homes for All

Invest \$30 million to strengthen Minnesota's Housing Continuum.

From homelessness prevention to homeownership, Minnesota's Housing Continuum addresses the full spectrum of housing needs. Investments will prevent and end homelessness and promote stable housing for thousands of the lowest income Minnesotans. Funds are administered by the Department of Human Services and Minnesota Housing throughout the state.

Invest \$100 million in bonds for housing.

Bonds for housing will help build and preserve over 3,000 units of housing for the lowest income Minnesotans. Investments are administered by Minnesota Housing and serve communities statewide.

2. Prosperity for All

Increase MFIP cash assistance by \$100 per month.

The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) provides temporary cash assistance for children and their parents working toward full-time employment. But MFIP cash assistance hasn't increased since 1986. It's a maximum of \$532 per month for a family of three. This increase would immediately help families afford basic needs, including transportation, medicine, and diapers.

Improve the Working Family Credit.

The Working Family Credit is a part of our tax code that provides a tax credit for working people with lower incomes, which helps them meet basic needs and support their families. This proposal would increase the amount of the tax credit, expand eligibility, and include younger workers.

3. Restore the Vote

Restore voting rights for ex-offenders.

Minnesotans with criminal backgrounds face barriers to housing, employment, and civic participation. This proposal will reinstate voting rights for ex-offenders on probation or parole.

Our mission is to generate public policy, community support, and local resources to end homelessness.