**A Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness
in Rochester and Olmsted County**

Table of Contents

Dear Rochester and Olmsted County Policy-makers and Residents,

Olmsted County developed the Olmsted County Heading Home Plan in 2008, recognizing that our community had significant issues related to homelessness. Our plan was aligned with Governor Pawlenty's vision to end homelessness in Minnesota. The Olmsted County Heading Home Plan was another example of our community coming together and finding solutions to a problem. Members of our Head Home Planning Team include staff from across the county, business community and the non-profit sector.

This collaboration led to the creation of several new housing options for homeless adults with chemical health and mental health issues. Many people now have ope that they can have a better life. Some of the people helped are now reconnecting with their families, seeking employment, and getting much need treatment.

Unfortunately, our work is not done. Center City Housing recently completed a survey and our community has a significant problem with youth and family homelessness. As is typical, our community is coming together to find solutions for our youth and families dealing with this problem.

We want these youth and families to have a home and some hope for a better future. We think our community will find a way to make that happen. As we update our plan and continue this work, we encourage you to share your ideas and get involved by contacting Tammy Gross, Head Home Plan Coordinator, at 507-328-6669 or gross.tammy@co.olmsted.mn.us .

Thank-you,

Kenneth W. Brown, Second District Commissioner
Chairperson, Olmsted County Board

Executive Summary

The *Heading Home Olmsted* plan seeks to prevent and end homelessness in Rochester and Olmsted County by using evidence-based service models and combining public-private resources. Our vision is a community where all persons have options for safe temporary or emergency housing and choices for a permanent place to live.

According to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, there are approximately 640,000 men, women and children who are homeless in American on any single night in our country. In Minnesota, the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation has conducted a comprehensive *Statewide Survey of People Without Permanent Shelter* every three years since 1991. The most recent Wilder survey (October 2009)[1] reports there are 13,100 persons who are homeless or precariously housed on any given night in Minnesota. According to the Rochester/Southeast Minnesota Continuum of Care[2] point in time survey from January 25, 2012, there were 379 persons in our region experiencing homelessness on that particular evening. A large proportion of these persons are in Rochester or Olmsted County.   A separate survey on youth and families without stable housing in Rochester was prepared in April of 2012 by the Center City Housing Corporation.[3] The results of this report showed that there were 314 children who met the definition of homeless in Olmsted County schools.

The crisis of homelessness has not been ignored by localities or the nation. In fact, in 2010, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) published the first ever comprehensive strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. [4] This plan, "*Opening Doors*- Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness", serves as a roadmap for joint action by the 19 USICH member agencies along with local and state partners in the public and

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[1] Wilder Research, http://www.wilderresearch.org
[2] SEMN Regional Plan to End Long-term Homelessness
[3] Center City Housing Corporation. http://www.centercityhousing.org/
[4] United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
http://www.usich.gov/OpeningDoors.html#supp

private sectors. The plan intends to put us on a path to end veteran and chronic homelessness by 2015: and to ending homelessness among children, families and youth by 2020. [5]

Following suit, the state of Minnesota updated its *Business Plan to End Long-term Homelessness* and released *Minnesota's Roadmap for Ending Homelessness.*[6]

This roadmap provides us with a vision and framework to utilize to work toward the goal of ending homelessness. The basic values of the roadmap are:

- Homelessness is expensive
- A variety of housing options is important for addressing unique needs and preferences
- Trusting relationship are the building blocks for moving from homelessness to housing and;
- Partnerships and collaboration are fundamental to ending homelessness.

Over the past two decades much has been learned from the private and public agencies working together to prevent homelessness and helping to move people out of long-term despair. And what we have learned is that we can go beyond *managing homelessness* to actually *ending it*.

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[5] Opening Doors Federal and Strategic Plan to End Homelessness
www.usich.gov/PDF/OpeningDoors_2010_FSPPreventEndHomeless.pdf
[6] Heading Home MN www.headinghomminnesota.org

Heading Home Olmsted sets forth five objectives that mirror both the Federal and State Roadmaps to end homelessness. Within each objective there are Strategies and Action Steps to be taken locally. *Heading Home Olmsted* also suggests ways to strengthen community and public policy support for ending homelessness.

<u>*Heading Home Olmsted* Objectives:</u>

1. Educate/ Engage/Collaborate

2. Increase Access to Stable and Affordable Housing

3. Reach out to people who are Homeless or at Risk

4. Improve Wellbeing

5. Transform the Housing Crisis Response System

Persons experiencing homelessness have a variety of needs. Our community is recognized for its proactive, innovative approaches to community problems. Now is the time to move forward and end homelessness in Rochester and Olmsted County.

"Ending homelessness is the right thing to do and makes great economic sense."
- Governor Tim Pawlenty

Mission

We seek to prevent and end homelessness in Rochester and Olmsted County by developing local housing and supportive services that use evidence-based models and combine public and private resources.

Our vision is a community where all persons have options for safe temporary or emergency housing and choices for a permanent place to live.

"We can either waste money keeping people homeless or spend those dollars on a long-term solution that produces positive results for people and their communities."

Background

In 2000, the National Alliance to End Homelessness set forth *A Plan, Not a Dream: How to End Homelessness in Ten Years*[7]. Using research and innovative program data from around the country, the plan outlined a new vision ... one that included strategies to end the problem of homelessness by providing affordable housing, needed services, and by preventing homelessness from occurring in the first place.

The federal government announced its commitment to end homelessness in the FY-2003 Federal Budget and reinvigorated the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) to coordinate national efforts. The U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities, and the National Association of Counties all passed resolutions in 2003 to end chronic homelessness in ten years. Since then over 220 communities have undertaken efforts to end homelessness and 150 communities have completed plans to end homelessness.

In March 2004, Minnesota adopted a statewide plan to end the cycle of homelessness with *Minnesota's Business Plan to End Homelessness*[8] and *Heading Home Minnesota*, a coordinated public-private partnership to end homelessness, has funded four regional *Heading Home Initiatives* in Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis Counties and Southeast Minnesota.

Minnesota has well-established government agencies that have proven track records on issues of homelessness and affordable housing[9] - the

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[7] National Alliance to end Homelessness, available on website at http://endhomelessness.org

[8] Minnesota's Business Plan to end Homelessness (2004) is available online at http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/homelessness/index.aspx

[9] "Bring Minnesota Home," Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, http://mnhomelesscoalition.org

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has demonstrated national leadership in its creative approach to providing affordable housing, and the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness promotes coordination and efficient programming across agencies.

The "Heading Home Olmsted" plan is intended to be a complementary effort to both the State's Plan and the Heading Home Southeast Minnesota Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness[10].

Local Context

The median income for residents in Rochester and Olmsted County generally ranks above the State norm and our overall rates of unemployment and poverty are comparatively low. Mayo Clinic enriches the quality of healthcare available locally and regionally. There is an active, involved business community and political leaders who support citizen participation in local problem-solving. In Olmsted County there is a strong public and non-profit human service network.

Ironically, it is because of these factors that homelessness can be somewhat invisible and conditions of people in poverty unnoticed. There are people living under bridges in Rochester, and we have people who are unable to meet their basic needs throughout Olmsted County.

We are a wealthy community and fortunate to have a myriad of resources; yet we are still challenged with the same barriers to ending homelessness as exist in other communities in Minnesota and across the Nation:

- · ***Affordable housing***
  Housing is considered "affordable" if it consumes 30% or less of a household's gross income. The 2012 "Fair Market" rent[11] in Olmsted County is currently at $515/month for an efficiency apartment,

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[10] Southeastern Minnesota Regional Plan to End Long-term Homelessness (2005) is available online at http://wwwthreeriverscap.org/programs_coc.html

[11] National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), website http://www.nlihc.org

$549/month for a one-bedroom, and $722 for a two-bedroom. A majority of the homeless population lives on limited earnings or fixed incomes. Many adults with disabilities must rely solely on assistance benefits. The monthly Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for an individual is $698 in Olmsted County. If SSI represents an individual's sole source of income, $209 in monthly rent is considered affordable!

Rental subsidies can sometimes help with housing costs, but resources are limited. The Federal Department of Housing & Urban Development's Section 8 program has a portable subsidy arrangement, but in Olmsted County there is a waiting list of several years. While other housing assistance programs may have funding available, it's often restrictive (like no deposit payments or the money is available for one-time help or crisis assistance). In addition, some subsidized housing has restrictions that prevent certain segments of the homeless population (felony offenders) from gaining access to permanent housing at an affordable level.

- ***Funding and Service Silos***
  Although there is a fairly strong commitment to collaboration in our region, our "system" remains largely fragmented with funding and services lacking the integration needed to go beyond "managing the homeless" to "ending homelessness." For the most part, local collaborative initiatives have focused on *long-term homelessness*, mostly involving single adults who have a disability. Less has been developed for homeless youth, offenders, and families.

- ***Myths and Stigma***
  Housing proposals seeking to prevent or end long-term homelessness often face public push-back because of fear, misunderstanding, stigma, or bias.

State and local ordinances aimed at ensuring safe neighborhoods can add to the difficulty in securing temporary or transitional housing, for example, for those with credit problems or criminal backgrounds.

Planning Process

A "Heading Home Olmsted Committee" [12] was established by the Olmsted County Community Services Department in September, 2007. The work reflected in this document includes input from the entire Committee as well as information from three sub-committees who identified local needs and developed strategies to specifically address ending homelessness with disabled adults, youth, and offender populations.

The Rochester/Southeast Minnesota Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional planning consortium to organize and deliver housing and services to meet specific needs of people who are homeless. The planning region consists of 20 counties in southeast and south central Minnesota and allocates federal resources to projects based on a community ranking process. The CoC is a partner in the "Heading Home Olmsted" planning process.

Scope

The following definitions encompass those whose needs are being addressed in *Heading Home Olmsted*:

- Households experiencing **long term homelessness** include "individuals, unaccompanied youth, and families with children lacking a permanent place to live continuously for one year, or have been homeless at least four times in the past three years, excluding any period of institutionalization or incarceration." *State of Minnesota*
- A **chronic homeless** person is "an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years." *Federal HUD*

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[12] See Appendix A for full listing of members

- **Homeless youth** means a person 21 years of age or younger who is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian and is without shelter where appropriate care and supervision are available, whose parent or legal guardian is unable or unwilling to provide shelter and care, or who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. *State of Minnesota*

- **Youth at-risk of homelessness** means a person 21 years of age or younger whose status or circumstances indicate a significant danger of experiencing homelessness in the near future. *State of Minnesota*

Existing Local Resources

Olmsted County has a long track record of developing local partnerships with public, non-profit, and private-sector stakeholders to address solutions to community challenges. A variety of local and regional agencies, both public and private, have considerable experience in serving people experiencing housing instability and homelessness.

We are currently partners in the *Heading Home SE Minnesota Plan*. We receive funding through the Long Term Homeless Supportive Services Plan for our Homeless Services Team, which is a part of the Governor's Initiative to End Homelessness.

The listing below identifies the principle local services now addressing housing stability and permanency efforts in Rochester and Olmsted County. The list also identifies the organization that operates the services, indicating its non-profit, public, or private status. Almost without exception, services are supported through a combination of private and public funding (local, state, federal government).

Existing Emergency Shelter

Dorothy Day Hospitality House Private, non-profit agency	23 beds for homeless single adults; sometimes families if space is available
Rochester Salvation Army Private, non-profit agency	Emergency Shelter Vouchers. When Dorothy Day is full or if law enforcement finds a need in the night, homeless people seeking a place to sleep can access these vouchers for a short-term motel/hotel stay
Interfaith Hospitality Network Private, non-profit agency	14 homeless persons can be served at a time; families only, no singles
Women's Shelter Private, non-profit agency	30 beds in two shelters available for women and children who are homeless due to domestic violence or who fear harm.
Lutheran Social Services Private, non-profit agency	LINK Program. Limited funding to assist youth with emergency shelter
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center Private, non-profit agency	Residential Treatment. Short-term residential treatment for persons experiencing mental health episodes; 12 beds for up to 90-days; 4 crisis beds for no more than 10-day stay.

Existing Transitional Housing

Rochester Salvation Army	Transitional Living. 9 apartments with 35 beds for single adults and families.
Lutheran Social Services	LINK Program. Rent subsidies to assist homeless youth aged 18-21 in getting a stable living arrangement
Civic INN Private, for-profit company	Commercial property with flexible lease arrangements for Olmsted County Community Service clients

Women's Shelter	One house with 11 beds available for women and children who are homeless due to domestic violence or who fear harm.

Existing Ex-Offender Re-entry Housing

Next Chapter Ministries Private non-profit	Three homes that offer transitional housing for 9 males and 3 females who are exiting the prison system. Length of stay is 1 year. An additional 1 extended stay transitional bed is available for up to 6 months.
Damascus Way Private non-profit	Re-entry program, prior to release from prison system. One house with 16 beds for adult men who have 8 months or less left of sentence. The program is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Corrections and holds Supervised Release and Work Release Contracts.
Transitional Living Center	10 bed unit for ex-offenders coming out of local detention or prison, stays limited to 90 days. DFO Correction and ATTIC collaborative

Existing Supportive Housing for Adults with Disabilities <u>who are homeless</u>

Olmsted County Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Public agency	Francis Apartments. Permanent supported housing; 17 efficiency apartments for adults with mental illness, chemical dependency, or HIV who are homeless
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center	Shelter Plus Care Sites. Permanent support housing for adults with mental illness who are homeless; 12 subsidized apartments in scattered community sites
Olmsted County HRA	Bridges Program. Subsides to persons with a verifiable serious and persistent mental illness if they meet the State homeless definition and are financially eligible which is determined by HRA. There are 8 homeless subsidies and 1 long term homeless subsidy.
Rochester Salvation Army	Castleview Apartments. 16 units for single adults
Silver Creek Corners Private and Public	Permanent supportive housing for 40 single adults who are chronic inebriates. Collaboration with Center City Housing, Olmsted County HRA, Olmsted County Community Services

Existing Supportive Housing for Adults with Disabilities

Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center	Thomas House. Permanent supported group residential housing for adults with mental illness; 6 private bedrooms, board & lodging
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center	Shared Housing. Congregate supported housing for adults with mental illness
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center	Northgate Apartments. Permanent supported site subsidized apartments for adults with mental illness; 12 1-bedroom apartments
Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center	Scattered Site Apartments. Permanent supported housing for adults with mental illness; 38 subsidized apartments in scattered community sites
Olmsted County Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA)	Bridges Program. Subsides to persons with a verifiable serious and persistent mental illness if they are financially eligible which is determined by HRA. There are 9 subsidies.

Specialized Housing

Cronin Home Private, non-profit agency	44 beds for persons suffering from chemical dependency, 28 male and 16 female.

Specialized, Supportive Services

Olmsted County Adult Services Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center Hearth Connection Public-Private partnership	Homeless Services Team. Serves 40 long-term homeless single adults. Provides intensive case management services with a housing first focus. Services include, but not limited to: laundry, grocery shopping, applying for benefits from federal, state, and local agencies, mental and chemical health support and treatment, medication monitoring, and medical and dental needs.

Homeless Prevention & Other Housing Assistance

Olmsted Community Action Program Public agency	Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP). Provides homeless prevention assistance for rent to assist participants in remaining in their homes. Services include rent, some case management, budget counseling, information and referral.

Olmsted County Veteran Services Public agency	Assists veterans in applying for temporary financial assistance from the State Soldiers Assistance Program (SSAP). SSAP is income and asset based and includes shelter, personal needs allowances and utility payments for veterans who are unable to work for a period of at least 30 days. Veterans in receipt of public cash assistance benefits such as General Assistance (GA), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), are not eligible. In addition, there is a once in a lifetime "Special Needs Grant" for unforeseen financial emergencies. The Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) also provides assistance for veterans that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Services include resources for food, mortgage assistance, skills training, health care, chemical dependency treatment and sobriety aftercare, job search assistance, counseling and legal assistance. Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) grant to assist 10 homeless Veterans and their families.
Olmsted County Adult Services, Community Services Department Public agency	Crisis Housing Fund. These funds are used to help individuals with SPMI maintain their housing while in residential treatment for MI and/or CD. Funds can be used to pay mortgage, rent and/or utilities. Case Managers apply directly to MN Housing for funding.
Rochester Salvation Army	Rapid Re-housing and Emergency Solutions Grant- are programs for literally homeless individuals that can offer assistance and case management for up to a period of 24 months.

Other Options for Housing stability or permanency

Olmsted County Family Support & Assistance Public agency	Emergency County Aid is intended to provide a cost-effective intervention that resolves a current shelter crisis that the eligible household cannot otherwise meet with their own resources. Assistance available once in a 12-month period.
Rochester Salvation Army	Rural Housing Assistance and Stability Program (RHASP) assists homeless families and individuals with first month's rent and/or deposit. Assistance is provided to households who find themselves homeless according to HUD's definition.
Olmsted County Housing &	Transitional Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP). A

Redevelopment Authority (HRA)	program funded by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) that will be used to serve single female heads of household with at least one minor child, households of color, and priority for homeless or near homeless. Household must have income below 30% of the median income. The maximum rent assistance will be $250 and the Olmsted County HRA expects to serve 20 households.
Choices of Southeastern Minnesota Private, non-profit agency	The Choices program serves displaced home makers in the community. The assistance depends on what the displaced person needs to become employed in the community and is determined on a case by case basis.

Objective and Strategies to End Homelessness

Objective #1: Educate/Engage/ Collaborate

Strategy 1.a:

Develop a comprehensive community awareness and understanding of what homelessness looks like and what is being done in our community to address the issue.

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Develop presentation to be delivered to Community Services Advisory Board and service providers	Lead Entity: Olmsted County Adult and Family Services Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center (ZVMHC) Homeless Services Team Salvation Army Lutheran Social Services SE MN Continuum of Care Center City Housing Rochester Women's Shelter Members of the Homeless Response Team	December 2013
Develop educational presentation on youth homelessness to be presented at local high schools	Lead Entity: Lutheran Social Services Olmsted County Youth Commission Homeless Response Team Department of Human Services- Youth Homelessness Liaison	December 2013

Objective #2: Increase access to stable and affordable housing

Strategy 2a: **Obtain funding to renovate/build a housing facility to provide supportive housing/limited emergency housing for homeless youth and families**

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Develop single site housing for homeless youth and families and secure funding for supportive and outreach services	Lead Entities: Center City Housing Olmsted County Adult and Family Services Lutheran Social Services, LINK Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Minnesota Housing Rochester Area School System Continuum of Care Rochester Area Foundation	December, 2013

Strategy 2b: **Obtain funding to develop an employment and skills training based operation to support homeless youth and families**

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Develop business plan to investigate possible funding and to educate and inform the community about the need and ideas surrounding development	Lead Entities: Center City Housing Olmsted County Adult and Family Services Lutheran Social Services, LINK Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Olmsted County Waste to Energy Rochester Community College Rochester Technical College Rochester Area School System Olmsted County Public Health SE MN Continuum of Care Rochester Area Foundation	December, 2013

Objective #3: Reach out to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Strategy 3a: **Find and develop opportunities and resources to connect with homeless individuals where they are at.**

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Project Community Connect	Lead Entity: Homeless Response Team	January, 2013
Maintain and develop on-going funding for "Community Resource", a resource guide for homeless individuals	Lead Entity: Homeless Response Team	Ongoing
Support local initiatives and grant endeavors to enhance youth and Veterans outreach services	Lead Entity: Lutheran Social Services and Regional Veterans Office Rochester School system Local Veteran Service officers Olmsted County Adult and Family Services Olmsted County Youth Commission	December 2013

Objective# 4: Improve Well-being

Strategy 4a: **Obtain funding to expand availability of support services, outreach and case management for individuals with Mental Illness, Chemical Dependency in housing sites within the community**.

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Support legislative and State Operated Service Redesign efforts to add support service funding to the existing resources and subsidies	Lead Entity: Olmsted County Adult Services Hearth Connection Local Legislative Delegation Minnesota Housing	December, 2013

	MACSSA	
Increase Community Social Service Advisory Board's priority with regard to support for supportive housing funding	Lead Entity: Olmsted County Adult Services Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center (ZVMHC) Homeless Services Team and CD Outreach Rochester Area Foundation Homeless Response Team	December, 2013
Improve the skills of Olmsted County and Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center Behavioral Health case managers in regard to supportive housing services	Lead Entity: Olmsted County Adult Services Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center (ZVMHC) Homeless Services Team and CD Outreach Continuum of Care Hearth Connection	December , 2013

Strategy 4b: **Continue developing partnerships with other organizations to provide for an array of supportive services and treatment options for homeless individuals and families.**

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Continue to identify needed support services for Homeless individuals, youth and families	Lead Entity: Olmsted County Community Services Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center Center City Housing Corp. Salvation Army Dorothy Day Women's Shelter Homeless Response Team Olmsted County Public Health Y-Link- Rochester Area Y Other interested groups/individuals	December, 2013

Objective #5 Transform the Housing Crisis Response System

Strategy 5a:

Action Steps	Potential Partners	Timeline
Encourage local homeless service providers to participate in local Homeless Response Team meetings- invite those who are missing	Homeless Response Team Continuum of Care	December, 2013
Through Homeless Response Team/Continuum of Care- identify other resources needed for client advocacy and support to prevent/end homelessness	Homeless Response Team Continuum of Care	December , 2013
Development of centralized and coordinated intake system	Continuum of Care Homeless Response Team Salvation Army	December 2013

Appendix A: Heading Home Olmsted Committee

- Jeff Allman, Developer
- Jim Behrends, Director, Olmsted County Adult Social Services
- Shery Block , Homeless Services Team
- Linda Bradford, Olmsted Community Action Plan
- Arlen Carey, Winona State University
- Corrine Erickson, Olmsted County Adult Services
- Lisa Flanders, Adult Foster Care Provider
- Paul Fleissner, Director, Olmsted County Community Services Department
- Bill Franken, DFO Community Corrections
- Tammy Gross, Olmsted County Adult Services
- Josh Hameister, Lutheran Social Services, LINK

- Brenda Johnson, Olmsted Community Action Program
- Nate Johnson, SE MN Association of REALTORS
- Sandy Keith, Downtown Alliance
- Doug Lambert, Director, Dodge-Fillmore-Olmsted (DFO) Community Corrections
- Gary Lueders, Olmsted County Housing Redevelopment Authority
- Mary Mewhorter, The Francis, Olmsted County Adult Services
- Cindy Norgaard, Salvation Army
- Judy Ohly, Olmsted County Commissioner and Landlord
- Alan O'Malley Laursen, Olmsted County Child & Family Services
- Kayla Schuchman, Minnesota Housing
- Mary Ulland-Evans, Rochester/Southeast Minnesota Continuum of Care
- Mary Vrieze, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services
- Joe Weis, Developer
- Mina Wilson, Director, Olmsted County Family Support and Assistance
- Patrick Arden Wood, Advocate

Appendix B: Terms and Definitions

The <u>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</u> (HUD) defines ***homeless or homeless individual or homeless person*** to include—

1. an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
2. an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is —
3. a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
4. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
5. a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

<u>HUD</u> defines ***homeless youth*** as a person under 18 years of age that meets the criteria for homeless or homeless individual or homeless person.

<u>HUD</u> defines ***chronic homeless*** as either (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, OR (2) an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years."

The <u>State of Minnesota</u> defines as ***homeless*** any individual, unaccompanied youth or family that is without a permanent place to live that is fit for human habitation." Doubling-up is considered homeless if that arrangement has persisted more than 1 year.

The <u>State of Minnesota</u> defines an individual, unaccompanied youth or family as ***long-term homeless*** if they are without a home for a year or more OR have had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.   Any period of institutionalization or incarceration (including transitional housing, prison/jail, treatment, hospitals, foster care, or refugee camps) shall be excluded when determining the length of time the household has been homeless).

Homeless youth means a person 21 years of age or younger who is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian and is without shelter where appropriate care and supervision are available, whose parent or legal guardian is unable or unwilling to provide shelter and care, or who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The following are not fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residences:

- a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations;
- an institution or a publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations;
- transitional housing;
- a temporary placement with a peer, friend, or family member that has not offered permanent residence, a residential lease, or temporary lodging for more than 30 days; or
- a public or private place not designed for, nor ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. Homeless youth does not include persons incarcerated or otherwise detained under federal or state law.

Youth at risk of homelessness means a person 21 years of age or younger whose status or circumstances indicate a significant danger of experiencing homelessness in the near future. Status or circumstances that indicate a significant danger may include:

- youth exiting out-of-home placements;

- youth who previously were homeless;
- youth whose parents or primary caregivers are or were previously homeless;
- youth who are exposed to abuse and neglect in their homes;
- youth who experience conflict with parents due to chemical or alcohol dependency, mental health disabilities, or other disabilities; and
- runaways.

Runaway means an unmarried child under the age of 18 years who is absent from the home of a parent or guardian or other lawful placement without the consent of the parent, guardian, or lawful custodian.

Definition Links:
www.hud.gov
www.wilder.org
www.deed.state.mn.us/youth

Supportive housing is permanent affordable rental housing with linkages to services necessary for persons to maintain housing stability, live in the community, and lead successful lives.

Supportive housing includes a landlord-tenant relationship and services offered in conjunction with housing.

- *Single-site* housing is located in one building or in one area. Single-site supportive housing can be as small as a duplex or as large as an apartment building.

- *Scattered-site* housing may be single-family homes, townhomes, duplexes or apartments throughout the community.

Studies of supportive housing nationwide and in Minnesota show a better use of housing and service resources that result in improved outcomes for persons without substantially increasing costs

Minnesota's Business Plan to end Homelessness, 2004

Housing First is a housing-service model based on the premise that issues such as mental illness and chemical dependency cannot be addressed without a stable place to live. Without housing, services and supports cannot be effective.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Blueprint for Change: ending Chronic Homelessness
for Persons with Serious Mental Illness and/or Co-Occurring
Substance Use Disorders, 2003

Veteran defined. The word "veteran" as used in Minnesota Statutes, except in sections 136F.28, 196.21, and 243.251, means a citizen of the United States or a resident alien who has been separated under honorable conditions from any branch of the armed forces of the United States after having served on active duty for 181 consecutive days or by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty, or who has met the minimum active duty requirement as defined by Code of Federal Regulations, title 38, section 3.12a, or who has active military service certified under section 401, Public Law Number 95-202. The active military service must be certified by the United States Secretary of Defense as active military service and a discharge under honorable conditions must be issued by the Secretary.

Appendix C: Contacts and Resource Links

- ATTIC Correctional Services. www.correctionalservices.org

- Bridges Program – Serious and Persistent Mental Illness – 507-328-6644

- Center City Housing Corporation. www.centercityhousing.org

- Choices Displaced Homemaker Program, 507-280-5510

- Cronin Home, 507-282-1204, on the internet, do a search for Cronin Homes, Rochester MN

- Damascus Way, 507-292-1700. www.damascusway.com/rochester.html

- Dorothy Day Hospitality House, 507-282-5172

- Homeless Services Team, 507-287-1392 http://www.zumbromhc.org click on services, click on homeless services

- Interfaith Hospitality Network, 507-281-3122 http://www.ihn-greater-rochester.org

- LINK Program at Lutheran Social Services: http://www.lssmn.org/LINK/

- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency http://www.mnhousing.gov click on homeless and housing assistance, click on Heading Home Minnesota Business Plan To End Long Term Homelessness.

- Next Chapter Ministries. www.nextchapterministries.org

- Northgate Community Housing, 507-287-2099, http://www.zumbromhc.org/ click on services, click on Housing Options Program

- Olmsted County Community Services Department, http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/ click on county departments, click on Community Services,

  Adult and Family Services Division, 507-328-6400; click on Adult and Family Services

  Family Support & Assistance Division, 507-328-6500; click on Family Support & Assistance Division

  Olmsted Community Action Program, 507-328-6333; click on Family Support & Assistance Division, click on Community Action Services

  Olmsted Community Corrections, 507 328-7200: click on Community Corrections

- Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, 507-328-7150, http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us, click on county departments, click on Rochester/Olmsted Planning Dept., click on Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (OCHRA)

- Olmsted County Veteran's Office, 507-328-6355, http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/ click on county departments, click on Community Services, click on Veteran's Services

- Rochester/Southeast Minnesota Continuum of Care, http://www.threeriverscap.org/ click on Programs, click on Continuum of Care.

- Thomas House, 507-287-2025, http://www.zumbromhc.org/ click on services, click on Housing Options Program

- The Francis, 507-328-6316

- The Salvation Army, 507-288-3663, http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org scroll down to find a location by zip code, enter zip code 55904.

- Women's Shelter 507-285-1010, http://www.womens-shelter.org

- Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center, 507-289-2089 http://www.zumbromhc.org

- Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center Housing Options programs, 507-287-2025, http://www.zumbromhc.org click on services, click on Housing Options Program