

**Senators Johnson, D.E.; Kubly; Fischbach and Sams introduced--
S.F. No. 665: Referred to the Committee on Finance.**

1 A bill for an act
2 relating to game and fish; appropriating money to
3 promote fishing.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
5 Section 1. [APPROPRIATION.]
6 \$325,000 is appropriated from the game and fish fund to the
7 commissioner of natural resources for a grant to "Let's Go
8 Fishing" of Minnesota to promote opportunities for fishing. The
9 grant recipient must report back to the commissioner by February
10 1, 2006, on the use and results of the appropriation.

LET'S GO



FISHING

Fishing and
Boating
Excursions for
Seniors

"Giving back
to those who
have given so
much to us"



Live filming for "Fishing the Midwest" television

Mission Statement

Our mission is to enrich the lives of senior citizens through fishing and boating activities that build relationships and create memories.



Our Goal

Let's Go Fishing is a non-profit organization with a goal to provide fishing and boating excursions as an activity for senior citizens (age 55+). We provide seniors an opportunity to spend quality time on our area lakes; which so many have done and enjoyed in the past. Further, we provide these services at no cost to seniors. It is our way to give back to those who have given so much.



Our Philosophy

“Giving back to those who have given so much to us”

Let's Go Fishing is interested in working with individuals and communities who have a heart for the organization and embracing its mission.

Our goal is to give every senior citizen the opportunity to fish and boat on our beautiful lakes.

Communities support the organization through time, money and resources; becoming partners with us, so we can strive toward our vision of one day seeing Let's Go Fishing chapters across the nation.

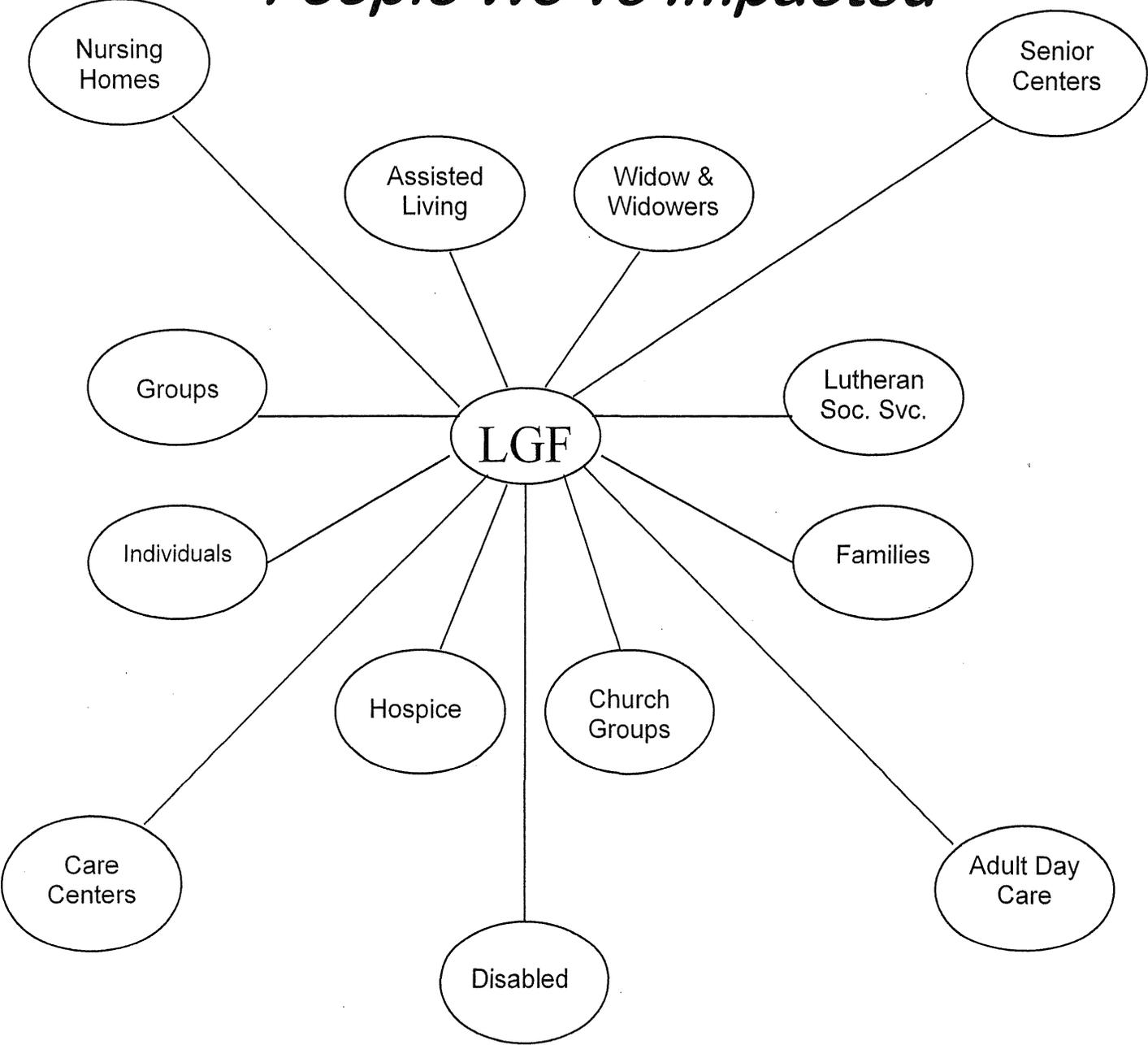
The following list describes what we have heard from seniors as to why they aren't able to enjoy these activities anymore.

- Lack of income
- No equipment
- Don't know how
- Don't know where to go
- No one to go with
- Loss of spouse
- Health Issues



Let's Go Fishing

People We've Impacted



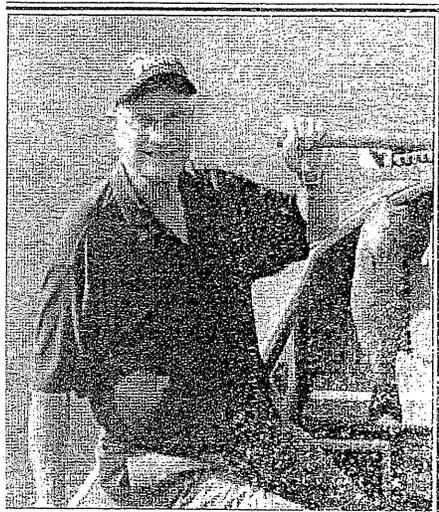
The Let's Go Fishing organization:

- provides opportunities to participate in stimulating and enriching social activities
- promotes health and socialization
- increases independence and confidence

But most important— we generate smiles
with good, clean fun

Together we did make a difference

Last summer we took Ralph Nelson out fishing. We snapped this picture of him and his catch. It turned out to be his last fishing trip. He passed away on September 11, 2003. At the funeral, his family used this picture and poem on the cover of his funeral brochure. His family called after the funeral to thank us and made a donation to Lets Go Fishing in his honor.



Fisherman's Prayer

*I pray that I may live to fish until my dying day,
And when it comes to my last cast, I most humbly pray,
When in the Lord's safe landing net
I am peacefully asleep,
That in his mercy I'll be judged
Good enough to keep.*

- Anonymous

Frank & Margaret Shimek on Diamond Lake, June 2003



On my first trip with Lets Go Fishing, I was assigned to help Duane Ryks with a fishing trip by a group of seniors from the Clara City Care Center. Duane decided to take them out on Diamond Lake. Duane took the big pontoon and I was on the small pontoon. As I was loading the wheel chair clients on the boat, one caught my eye. He seemed familiar. I asked his name and he responded "Frank Shimek" Of course; he ran the bait shop on Eagle Lake where I live! I have fond memories of how he never counted out the minnows and how there always were a few extra. Duane also had memories of him when he and his brother used to deliver night crawlers to Frank when he ran County Park #3 on Diamond Lake. He was nice to the kids and let Duane and his brother take a boat to go fishing for a buck. Frank and Margaret celebrated their 65th Anniversary last summer and Margaret passed away on January 2nd. In the last summer of their life together – we made a difference.

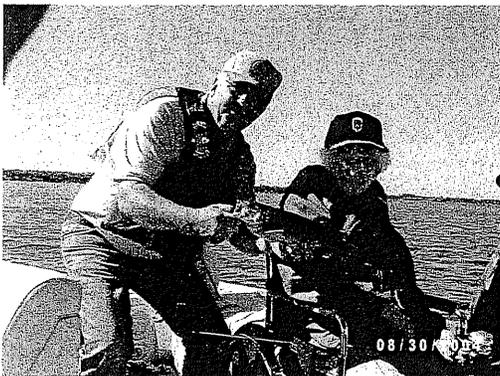
Together we did make a difference

We received this in the office:

.....Howard Lewison died in his sleep at the age of 87. He had worked for the city of Granite Falls for 25 years in the Water Treatment Department. He has been my friend for 40 years since I moved here. He has a wonderful family. His son Gerald accompanied us on one occasion on Green Lake. Mike Oleson was our crew chief; what a great "Mentor." Howard had said many times what a great outing and would like to go again. He had hip surgery shortly before and could hardly get around without help. His son Gerald came along to help and he also enjoyed the outing.

Thought you might want to know that every one of those people that I brought up there enjoyed every minute.

Sincerely
Bob Hammond



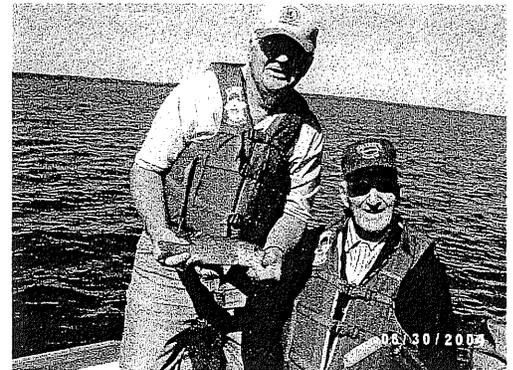
Doug & Ardell Welch

can't see the bobber anymore, he held on to the line to feel the bites. He felt the bite, set the hook and needed a little help getting the fish in, but he did it and the smile lasted all afternoon.

August Adventure

It was one of the rare August days on Green Lake that happened oh so seldom this year. It was a cloudless day in the middle

70's with very little wind. Doug Hanson and Roy Pedersen took out four clients from the Rice Care Center. Ardell out-fished the three men with two nice bass. While Clarence



Doug & Clarence Schumacker

Let's Go Fishing Exposure

In 2005 it is projected that Let's Go Fishing will reach out and touch the lives of over 2 million individuals through boating and fishing outings and a combination of the following opportunities:

BROCHURES

PARADES

WEBSITE

SR. EXPO

TELEVISION

NEW CHAPTERS

RADIO

WORD OF MOUTH

NEWSPAPERS

PRESENTATIONS

BOATSHOWS

BOOKLETS

TOURNAMENTS

ORGANIZATIONS

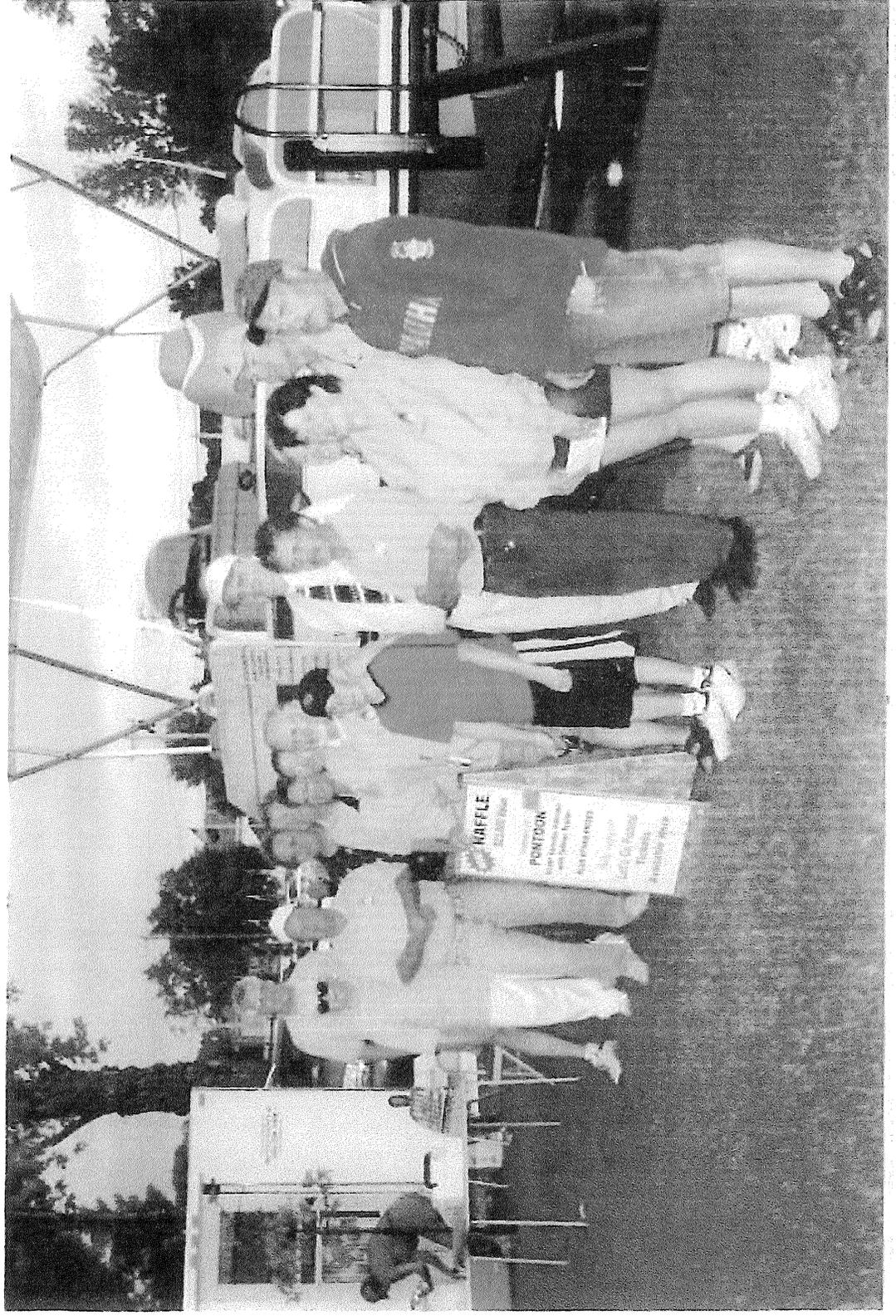


Participate in area parades



Annual Fish Fry

Major Fundraisers



Supporters of Let's Go Fishing

Every major contributors to the LGF program play a critical part in helping us fulfill our mission and reach our goals.

The benefits of being a major supporter:

The company name and/or logo may be displayed on television, radio, newspapers, in speaking engagements, brochures, magazine articles, boat and sportsman shows, newsletters, parades, and on our website.

Let's Go Fishing of MN Supporters

**Southwest Minnesota Foundation
Crystal Pierz Marine
Lund Boats
Crestliner Pontoons
Yamaha Motors
Stearns Manufacturing
Tebben Enterprises
Minn Kota
Lowrance
Pure Fishing
Shimano
Rapala
Plano**

March 7, 2005

Michael O'Brien
Let's Go Fishing of MN
1025 19th Ave. S.W.
Willmar, MN 56201



INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION

RE: CBA05-2372

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

Mike

Congratulations! This is to inform you that your application for the project entitled "*New Chapters Start-Up*" has been approved in the amount of \$10,000 with at least 70% of award to be spent within our region. Two original copies of the Grant Agreement are enclosed. This agreement explains the conditions of the award as well as the reporting requirements. **Please read the grant agreement carefully.**

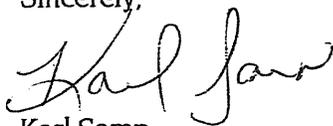
In order for your organization to receive funds, we require the following:

1. Return of one of the enclosed Grant Agreements signed by the authorized person.
2. Submission of the Request for Payment/Financial Progress form, which must have original signature, pursuant to Grant Agreement.

It is important to remember that any written or video materials resulting from this grant shall contain the following: "This project was funded in part by the Initiative Foundation, a regional foundation." Thank you - this helps all of us in future fundraising efforts.

Also, enclosed is a copy of the Grantee Action Plan and Evaluation form, which was submitted with your original grant application. Please retain this form, as it will need to be updated at both midpoint and completion of grant period. We are looking forward to working with you on this project. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Karl Samp
Vice President for Community Initiatives

Enclosures: Two Grant Agreements
Request For Payment/Financial Progress Forms
Copy of Grantee Action Plan and Evaluation Form

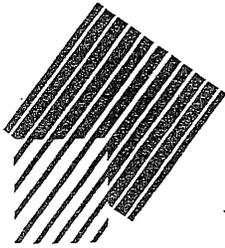
405 FIRST STREET SE

LITTLE FALLS, MN 56345

WWW.IFOUND.ORG

PHONE: 320.632.9255

FAX: 320.632.9258



SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA
FOUNDATION

Planting seeds. Growing partnerships. Nurturing communities.

September 2004

RE: Support Letter for "Let's Go Fishing"

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a privilege to express my support for the Let's Go Fishing (LGF) nonprofit organization that is headquartered in Willmar, MN. Joe Holm, chair; Mike O'Brien, coordinator; Lisa Paulson, staff; and the many volunteers who are involved in this innovative organization are truly to be admired as they enthusiastically carry out LGF's mission to "enrich the lives of senior citizens through fishing and boating activities."

I am impressed with the vision, volunteer commitment, partnerships, and accomplishments of Let's Go Fishing. The Let's Go Fishing program is highly successful and has experienced tremendous growth since its inception in 2002. The program has seen an increase in senior citizen participation and in volunteer involvement. New LGF chapters are being formed in surrounding communities and marketing and promotional efforts have become significantly more important as the program expands.

As program director for the Southwest Minnesota Foundation (SWMF), I reviewed and monitored the initial and second year LGF grant proposals that were submitted to our Foundation. Both proposals were successful. LGF has helped our Foundation accomplish its Aging Trust Fund goal to "promote productive aging." It has been a very positive experience and mutually respectful partnership between Let's Go Fishing and the Southwest Minnesota Foundation.

The organization's deep commitment to enhancing the lives of senior citizens in such an innovative way and their ability to engage community volunteer support is remarkable. Equally important to me as a funder is their capacity to manage the two grants that our Board has awarded them. LGF has satisfactorily completed the requirements of the first grant by submitting program and financial reports and are off to a good start with implementing the second year grant that they received in June 2004.

I have no reservations about investing funds or other support to this organization. It is my hope that other funding sources will assist LGF in carrying out their important service to seniors. Please contact me if you would like to further discuss this letter or have questions about our partnership with the Let's Go Fishing nonprofit organization.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support to Let's Go Fishing.

Sincerely,

Judy Larson
Program Director

COLLIN C. PETERSON
7TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

PERMANENT SELECT
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

2159 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-2165
FAX: (202) 225-1593
INTERNET: collinpeterson.house.gov

December 7, 2004

Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota
1025 19th Ave SW
Willmar, MN 56201

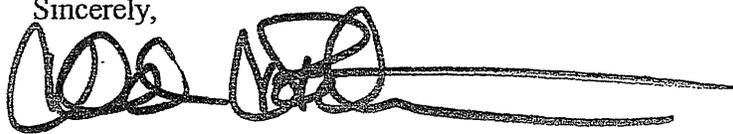
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of your program Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota (LGF). A long time tradition for Minnesotans is fishing and boating, and unfortunately as folks get older it becomes harder and harder to do these activities. Your program has given older Americans their favorite past times back.

Let's Go Fishing has given seniors an opportunity to spend quality time on our area lakes, doing an activity that they've always enjoyed. I believe that your mission does enrich the lives of senior citizens through these fishing and boating activities. It is remarkable that you are able to offer this program at no cost to seniors and that through volunteers and community support you have been able to form new chapters across Minnesota.

I look forward to working with you in future and rest assured you have my full support for this program. Thank you for your hard work and service.

Sincerely,



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress

DISTRICT OFFICES

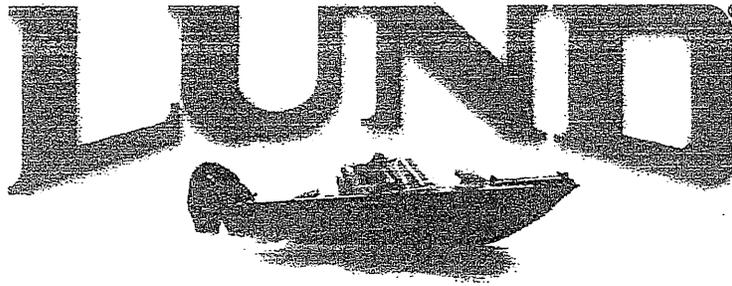
1420 EAST COLLEGE DRIVE
SW/WC
MARSHALL, MN 56258
(507) 537-2222

714 LAKE AVENUE
SUITE 107
DETROIT LAKES, MN 56501
(507) 537-2222

CENTRE POINT MALL
320 4TH STREET SW
WILLMAR, MN 56201
(507) 537-2222

MN WHEAT GROWERS BUILDING
2603 WHEAT DRIVE
RED LAKE FALLS, MIN 56750
(507) 537-2222

Lund Boat Company
West Centennial Drive
Box 248
New York Mills, Minnesota 56567



Phone: 218.385.2235
Fax: 218.385.2227
Web: www.lundboats.com

September 30, 2004

Joe Hoim
Let's Go Fishing
1025 19th Ave SW
Willmar, MN 56201

Dear Joe,

I recently received your media report and felt I needed to send you a note to compliment you and your Let's Go Fishing Team.

It has been a pleasure to see how your efforts are enriching the lives of all participants, including the volunteers, and most of all the wonderful experiences you have made possible for the elderly.

I respect your determination and hope that perpetual funding becomes available so the Let's Go Fishing program can be extended to many more less fortunate but deserving elderly.

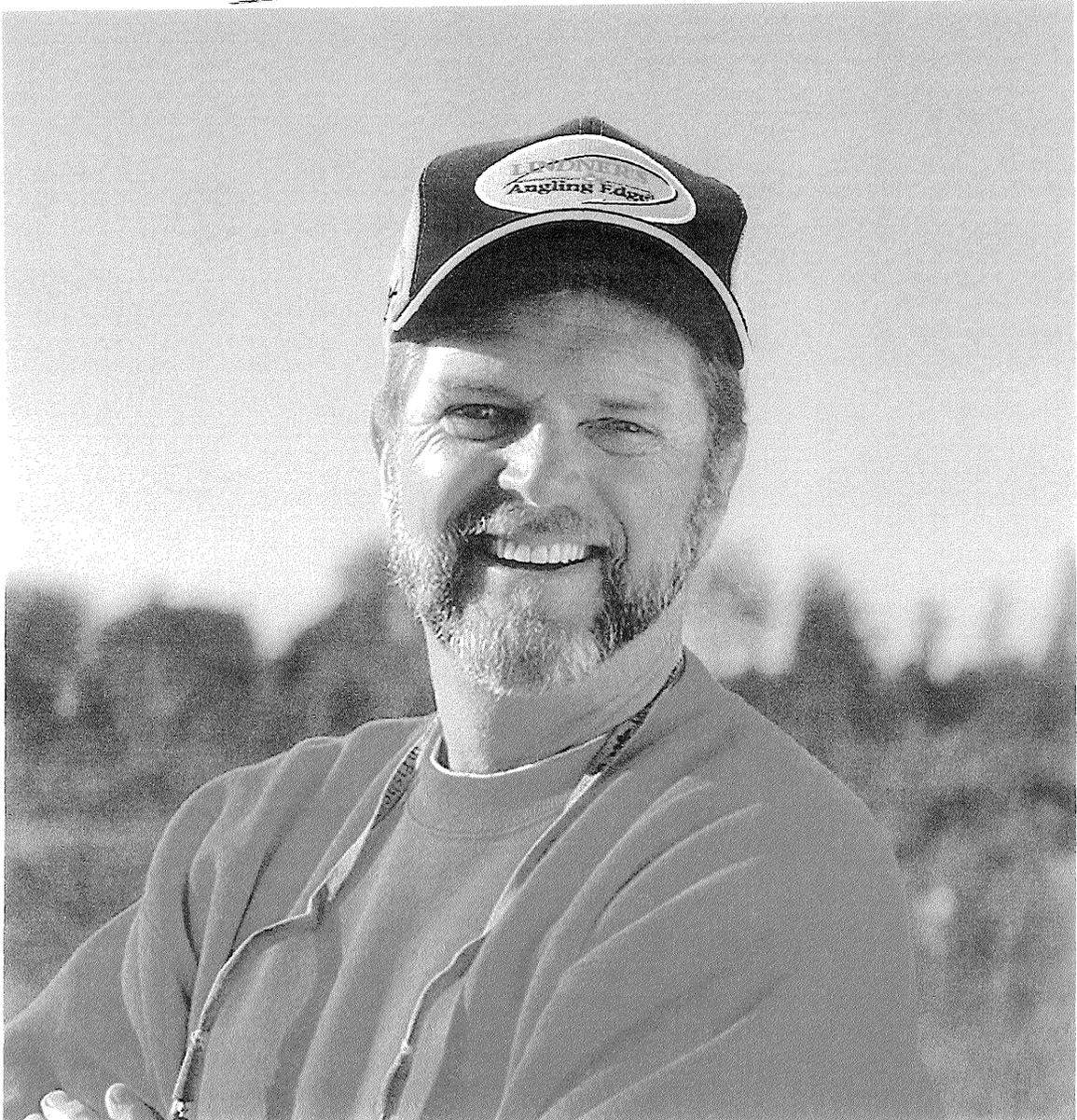
Let's hope future correspondence enlightens us with encouraging news for all involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Boyne".

Keith Boyne
Vice President of Marketing

LINDNER'S
Angling Edge



"We agree whole heartedly with the Let's Go Fishing mission of enriching the lives of senior citizens through fishing and boating activities.

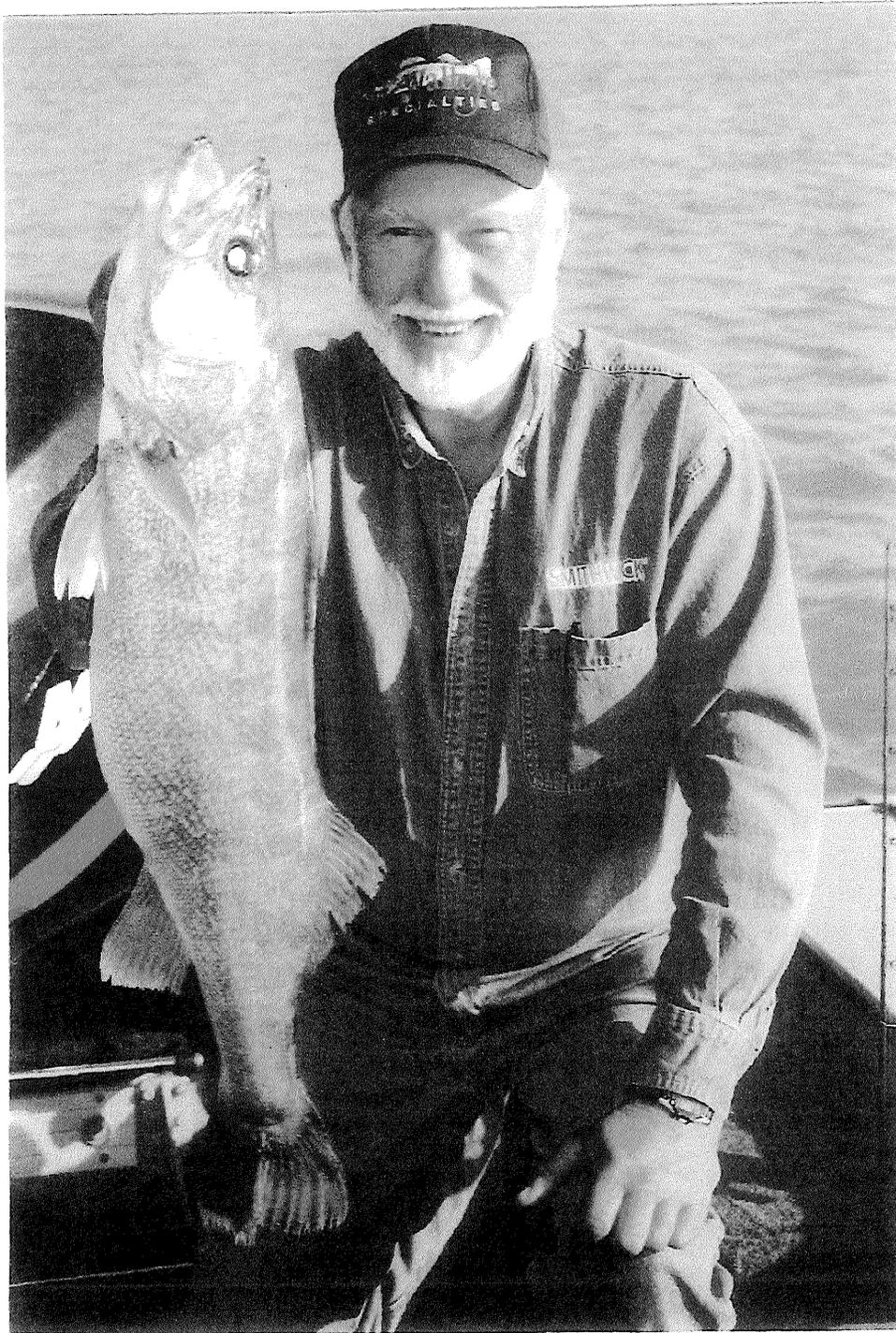
Our father, Pops Lindner, fished into his 80's and this sure added to his enjoyment of life. We believe all seniors should have this kind of opportunity and ask you to support the Let's Go Fishing organization."

~ Ron and Al Lindner



“Fishing and boating activities provides special moments for all of us, young and old, male or female. Unfortunately as we become older these moments become harder and harder to enjoy, this may be because of health, emotional trauma, loss of a partner or maybe the finances just aren't there any more. Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota and their many volunteers are working hard to give seniors the opportunity to once again have these special times on our great lakes of Minnesota and throughout the nation. I not only applaud these efforts but I support them and I ask you to do the same.”

~ Babe Winkelman

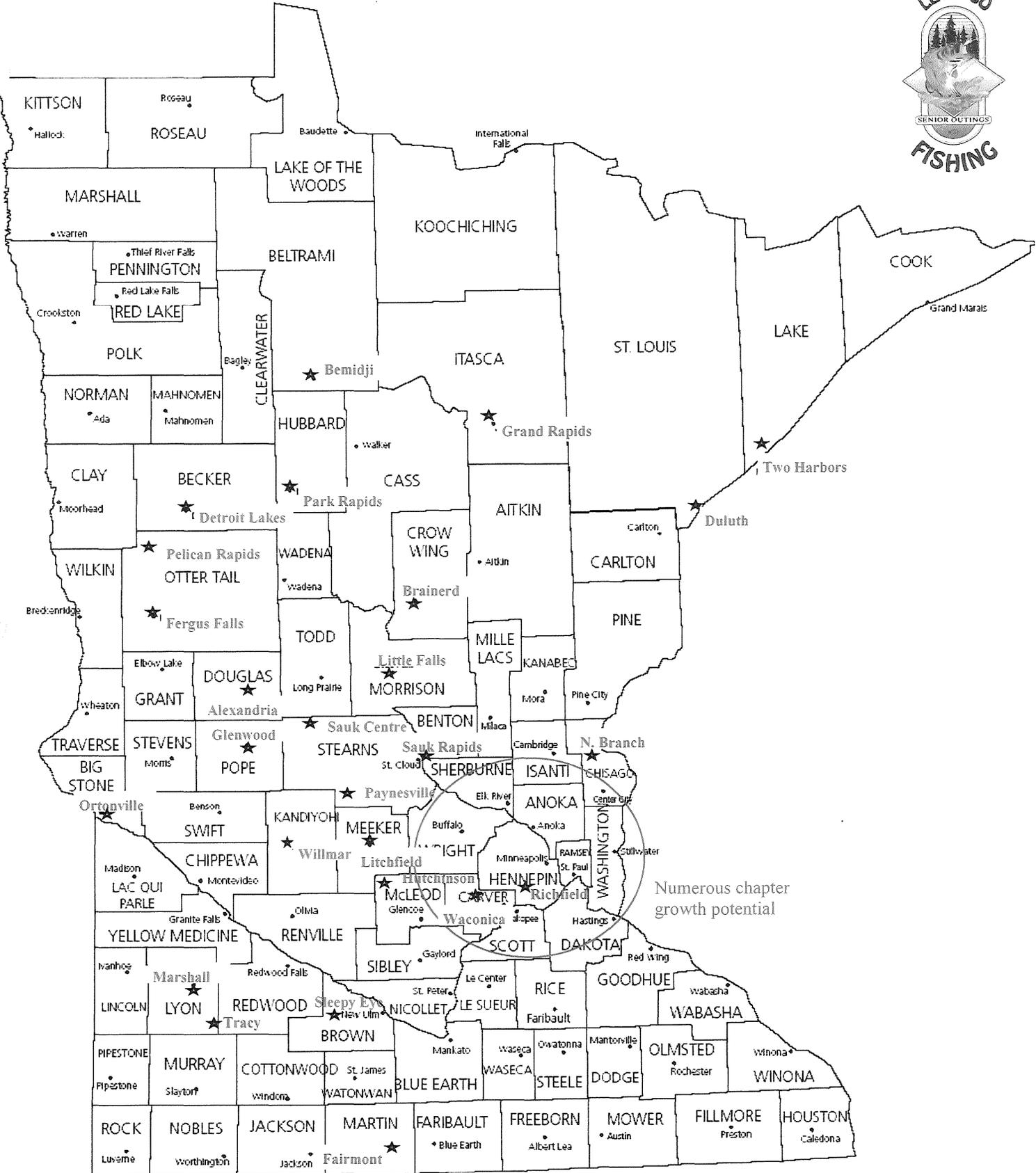


Great idea!! I think it's wonderful that "Lets Go Fishing" has made this program happen. What an opportunity for senior citizens who love fishing as much as I do, but can no longer go by themselves. Fishing has no age limitations, and I plan on enjoying it as long as I live.

Mr. Walleye®
Gary Roach

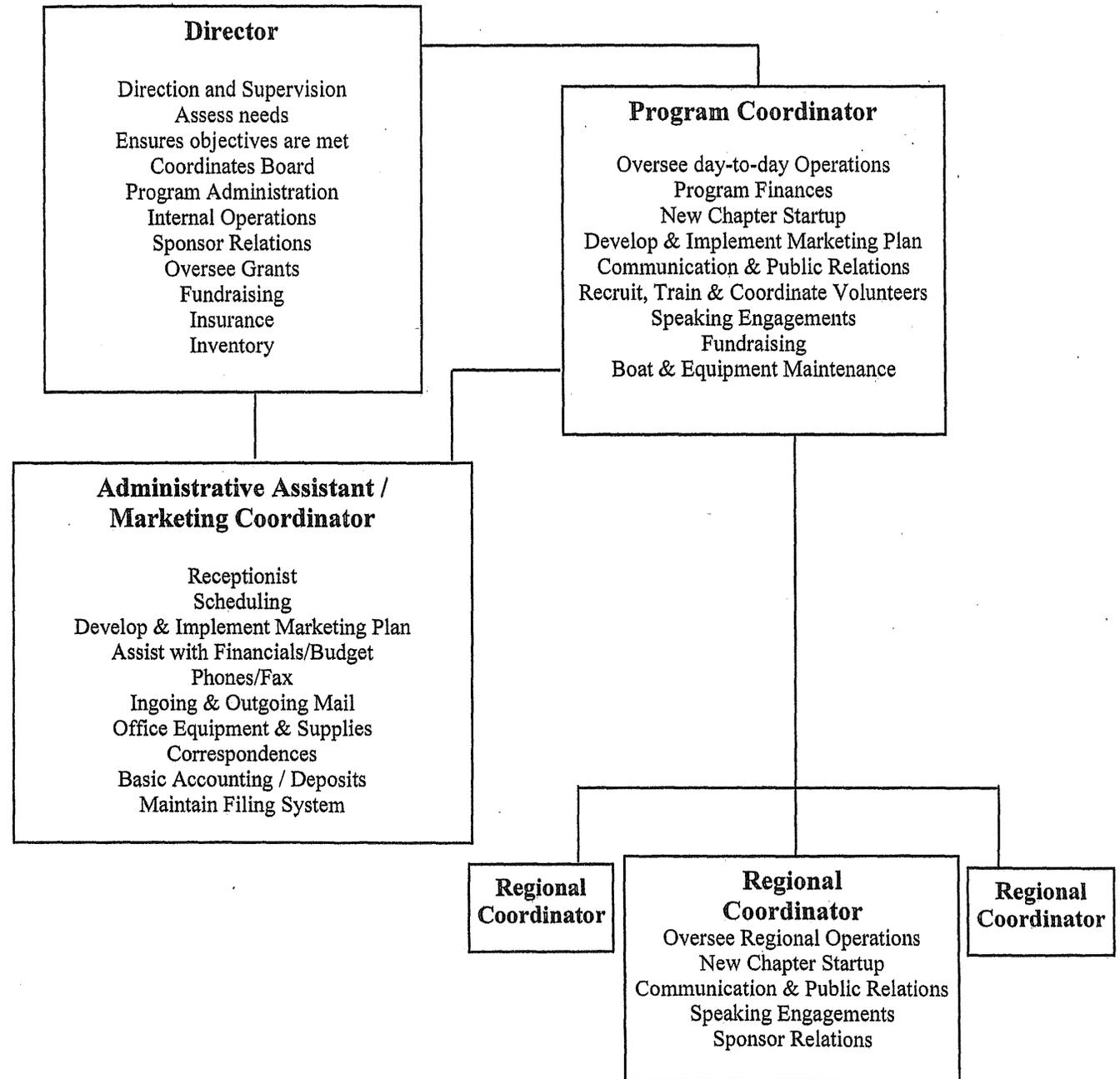
Minnesota Population Projections 2000-2030

The aging of the baby boom will produce an explosion in the 45-to-64 year old population between 2000 and 2010, and the **over-55 population** will grow by more than **2 million** in the coming 30 years. The median age will rise from 35.4 years in 2000 to 40.2 years in 2030.



- ★ Active Chapters
- ★ Interested Chapters

Let's Go Fishing of MN



LGF of MN Board Members

Tina Palmer, Eden Prairie
 Keith Boyne, New York Mills
 Harley Davenport, Atwater
 Joe Holm, Willmar
 Michael O'Brien, Spicer

**LGF of MN
 Advisory Board Members**

Wally Gustafson, Spicer – Legal
 Marti Nieland, Willmar – CPA
 Ronelle Schwalboski, - CPA assistant
 Lee Warren, Marshall – SWWC Services

Our Vision

It is our vision to one day
see Let's Go Fishing
chapters operating
throughout the U.S.A.

Letters
from our
Friends

AUG 6 2004

1425 19th Ave SW
Willmar, MN

"Let's Go Fishing" of Minnesota
1025 19th Ave. SW
Willmar, MN 56201

Dear friends,

In appreciation for the wonderful time and the extra effort all of you went for me and my grandkids August 2nd, I consider it a privilege to enclose a remuneration hoping it will help others enjoy a good time like we had.

It was not your fault when you so efficiently said Mr Dale Mahlow would be at Dock # _____ at 5:00 pm, Monday, but with my lack of sharpness assumed all docks were stationed on the west side of Green Lake!

After waiting an extended time on the assigned east side dock, Dale came to the rescue and found us on the west side dock. WE had a wonderful time, my two grandkids pulled in the sunnies with Dale's supervision. What a good time! They will talk about it for a long time. Having come from Michigan once a year it meant so much to me that you would arrange this in spite of my mistake.

Thank you muchly!

Rev Palmer Levig

JUL 2 - 2004

D.W.S.

Thank you again from the

6/1/04

clerk & staff at H.D.S. for a fun
men's day Boat Ride. I thought
it was funny that when we
were having the men fill out
the orange slips the only name
they could remember was
"Hunter" He made a good
impression & guess they have
talked about it being a lot of
fun still today

We appreciate your willingness to
share your time and talents with us.

Thank you for your continued support of
our program.

Thank you again
Very Much!!!

Bunne, Staff & Clients

Dear Staff of Let's Go Fishing,

We would like to thank
you for the wonderful
experience our residents and
staff had fishing with
you. It is a wonderful
program and we hope to do
it again next summer.

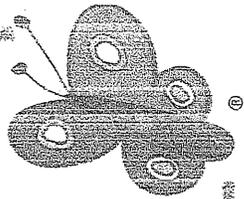
Thanks Again,

Bethesda Heritage
Residents & Staff

SEP 15 2004

Evenyn Freeman
1101 23rd St SE
Willmar MN 56201

Thank you so
much for the
wonderful
fried
dinner!
God Bless



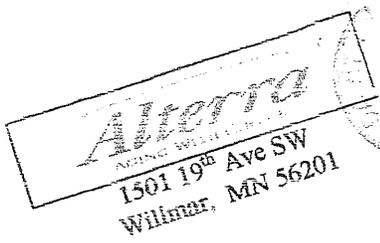
One of the staff members of the Clara
City Care Center asked me to go fishing,
I just could not refuse, it was a
beautiful day for fishing, so she drove a
number of residents to Green Lake.

There was just a gentle ripple
on the surface of the lake.
I saw just a fishing pole and I
cast it out on the right side of the
Pontoon for about an hour, and I
caught 13 fish; I was really pulling
in the fish, some were 4 inches in
length while others varied in size
up to 12 inches; other residents also
pulled in a few fish.

Then our Pontoon floated near the
shore of the Lake so we might see
the beautiful heron there.

Correct mistake Nancy

Marie Success
(the "young lady")



THANK YOU FOR COMING TO
ALTERRA STERLING HOUSE
AND SHARING YOUR TIME
AND TALENTS WITH
THE RESIDENTS.
WE TRULY
ENJOYED YOUR VISIT.



SINCERELY,
Tammy Spieker
TAMMY SPIEKER
LIFE ENRICHMENT
COORDINATOR

August 25th, the kart bus
will pick us up around 1:00 - 1:15pm
and will pick us up from Green Lake
around 3pm.
will this still work out?

Thanks
Tammy

320-235-1024

Joe,

Thank you for providing
Volunteers on race day at
the Ken-Dickey Derby. We had
a great Race + could not have
done it without your help.

Thanks Again, Joe Nelson
JOHN NELSON, KWLN

SEP 23 2004

Journal

Let's Go Fishing
All Hands on Deck

Joe Holm, Chairperson

Dear Joe and Crew,

On Sept. 16th 2004, a group of retired individuals from Granite Falls, Mn called the office of Joe Holm and made arrangements for a fishing outing with two (2) of the crew of "Let's Go Fishing", namely Ross Klindt and Jim Ty Dee.

We asked for a pontoon boat to fish Green Lake for the afternoon of Sept. 16th. These volunteers and are the most friendly, knowledgeable people in our great state of Minnesota.

What a great time we had catching small mouth bass (catch and release) and other fish for the fryling pan.

Those of us who have enjoyed the outdoors with such thoughtful people, would tell others of this program, & thank them for ^{the} outing.

Richard Winkels
Don Sebring
Vi Sebring

Sincerely,
Bob Hammond
861 3rd St
Granite Falls, Mn.

September 28, 2004

"Let's Go Fishing"-- this program provides wonderful opportunities for Seniors and also for the volunteers alike who make it work!! My husband and I, along with our family want to express a sincere Thank You to everyone who has made this program possible.

I'm taking this opportunity to show our support for this program and to state that we fully agree with the initiative to get perpetual funding for the "Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota" program. It truly 'makes a difference' in the lives of all who participate.

A year ago, August, 2003, my father became ill and the doctors told him, and us, that for his own safety and health he should no longer live alone, and also suggested that he stop driving. Dad then, after a hospitalization at Rice, made his home with us in Willmar. Needless to say, his independence and lifestyle changed drastically as he left the farm he had lived on since 1949 south of Dawson. He was, however, very accepting of these changes, and also very eager to have involvements in his new community and to meet more new friends. He had spent the past several winters in Willmar 'housesitting' a friend's home, but now he needed to live with us, no longer on his own. Then, in March, his building site was sold, and there was a farm auction....another life change.

When this summer came around I again heard about the 'Let's Go Fishing' program and inquired....Dad and his friend have become fishing partners and also friends with the volunteer who takes them out on Green Lake where they have now spent many hours of visiting, storytelling, and fishing.... and eating their lunch.

This week, Thursday, they again will go fishing with Kevin, meeting at the Old Mill in Spicer at 9:00 a.m., and they couldn't be more excited!! This will be their last time for this summer.

These fishing excursions have filled what otherwise would have been pretty 'boring' hours, with experiences to talk about, and also built friendships. What a 'difference it has made' in my Dad's life this summer.....the fishing trips themselves have been great, and because of those fishing trips he has had more to talk about and share in conversations with other people, as well as anticipation of the next fishing trip. Instead of sitting home with long hours of reading the paper and magazines, taking the dog for a walk, watching T.V., this program has given him, and his friend valuable experiences. My dad, Robert Werner, and his friend, Elvern Braaten, were friends, but now because of this program, they have become really close friends. They enjoyed being interviewed and sharing with others about their lives as dairy farmers, and having their fishing pictures in the paper, Both these men are retired farmers who always worked hard, and they were both always active in their churches and communities, and were always doing for others. Now they are enjoying what others are doing for them.

Both Manny and I want to say a sincere Thank You to all who have made the 'Let's Go Fishing' program a success and we hope it will continue and grow. I'm sure the many other people who participate are just as excited for the chance to 'go fishing'.

Thank you to all the volunteers, and especially to 'Kevin Raasch', whom we have heard so much about. Thanks Kevin.

Jeanie and Manny Ronneberg (Robert's daughter and son-in-law)

JUL 8 - 2004

19206 Co. Rd. 5 NW
New London, MN 56273
June 30, 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" of Minnesota
1025 19th Ave, S. W.
Willmar, MN 56201

To Whom It May Concern:

Jim Totushek and I had the privilege of going fishing with Mr. Ray Cie on Friday June 25, 2004.

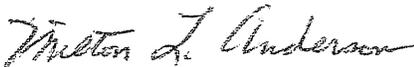
Ray was a perfect guide and mentor.

We only caught one walleye, but Ray was great in showing us, and especially me, how to bait the hook, etc.

I think that your program is great and I am enclosing a donation to help you recover some of the expenses that I know you have.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Milt Anderson

APR 28 2004

Please accept this overdue gift to the "Let's Go Fishing Program". Last August, Mike Mattern took us fishing on Green Lake. It was a gift from my husband and I to my dad, Erv Cremers, for his 84th birthday. The fish were scarce that evening, but Mike made the outing enjoyable just the same. Dad was an avid fisherman years ago; usually making a trip to Canada each June. Mom had been ill for a number of years and passed away in February. He was her full time caregiver for the last few years. He's talked all winter about going fishing again. He'll have time on his hands this summer with Mom gone. I'm sure you'll be hearing from him soon. Thanks for all you do. What a wonderful gift to the community!!

Sincerely,



Rick and Mary Dahline

To all the "Lets Go Fishing"
Crew -

The kind and thoughtful
things that you always
take the time to show,
Make you that special
PEOPLE
kind of ~~people~~ who's
so very nice to know.

Thank You Very Much -
Bob Hammond Phil Stuber,
Don Sebring Harold Schrupp
Vi Sebring Dorothy Schrupp
Jerry Lewiston Dick Emch
John O'Neal Howard Lewiston
R. Barker Karl Fromm
A. an Henke

Dear Volunteers of AUG 1 1974

Let's go Fishing!
Enclosed find a check
of 20.00 for the
On going expense of
your organization.
We hope had much
a "Fun time" with
Klein Flankbox.

Thank you so much
Jessica Grace
Ledeboer

Send Thankyou

Carolyn
Gilbertson
604 13th Ave SW
Willmar MN 56201

"How can we thank God enough for you in return for all
the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?"
I THESSALONIANS 3:9 NIV

JUN 17 2004
\$75⁰⁰ cash

...FRANKS A LOT.

In the day of Jesus

from

the Alexander

Albion

St. Joseph

Clayton

Report Cards

from

Fishing & Boating

Outings

2004

JUL 16 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: RAY OIE

Your Name: Sunrise Village Assisted Living

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Went for a wonderful Pontoon ride. Ray and Lore were great. What a wonderful program! Fun was had by all!!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 16 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave Sweep 7/21

Your Name: Cindy Fickinger R.N.C. / Bethesda Pleasantview

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: We had 4 residents, she stated they had a great time on the fishing outing. Thank you for having this program available to facilities. Our guide was very pleasant and accommodating. Thanks Cindy Fickinger

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

AUG 3 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Ray Oie & Nona

Your Name: Drain Dursen, Michelle Amundson

City: Clear Lake State: CA Zip: 56222

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Residents commented that it was a wonderful day. It was a day I will never forget. Caught lots of little fish. I bet I caught 12-13 fish. Volunteers were a great help with helping transport residents as we were clean & safe. Ray & Nona were very nice & helpful.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

8/19/04

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave Sweep 8/2

Your Name: Palmer Sevig

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Besides making sure all of us were catching sunnies, Dale gave nature tips, pointing out birds and fowl on the water and in the air. He was enjoying us, and made us exceedingly glad!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail.

Oct 7 2004

Sept. 20th

Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Doug Hanson

Name: Palmer Sevig

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: We had a cordial 2 hr ride on windy Green Lake though did not catch one fish for us besides Munnich and the owner of the pontoon

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: RAY DIE

Your Name: Burton Flann

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: a well managed ride. Calm day - Good guide for this was my first trip on Green Lake - Thanks!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Doug Hanson

Name: SIDNEY PHARRISON

City: NEW LONDON State: MN Zip: 56273

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Hope I am around next year as guide knew how to run pontoon, it was fun even we didn't get any fish. white caps

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

SEP 12 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Roger Brown, Dave Johnson

Your Name: Ronald Buer

City: Grove City State: MN Zip: 56243

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Wonderful ride!! Buck's were very accommodating. Good luck with this venture.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 1 - 2004

'Let's Go Fishing' Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Ray Oie

Your Name: Milton L. Anderson & Jim Kotushek

City: New London, State: MN Zip 56273

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: We had fun, we learned something about fishing

Ray is a great guide and a wonderful fisherman

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 2 - 2004

'Let's Go Fishing' Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Hunter's Dad Dave S

Your Name: Chlo Pustulka

City: Willmar State: MN Zip 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Fun

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 2 - 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave S

Your Name: Suzanne Elliott

City: Willmar State: MN Zip 56273

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Fun!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Philip M. Oie

Your Name: Wayne Wanner

City: Willmar State: MN Zip 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: We were sorry we couldn't go on for us had maybe enjoyed more. enjoyed

And very much

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

JUL 21 2004

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: By Sea Bass

Your Name: LEAH R. TRAVIS
 City: W. Uman State: TX Zip: 75620

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Had a great trip with a group from 1st Ev. Church - Wilmore on the water. I enjoyed the ride. The boat was cold & comfortable. Pontoon a clean & well kept. I would definitely recommend it. Thank you!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Karen

Your Name: Karen Kumborg
 City: Spice State: ME Zip: 02888

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: I recommend my information to Karen Kumborg for a fishing trip. We really enjoyed the time out fishing which we really got to know very friendly and a great volunteer who was well prepared with the fishing equipment. Love it. Thanks!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 21 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

JUL 23 2004

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Doug Hanson 7119

Your Name: Bob & Vivian E. Eilson
 City: Bird Island State: TX Zip: 55310

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Ron Ratachi was also a guide. Very enjoyable. The guides were very helpful and friendly.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: didn't get. (This 7-15)

Your Name: Remilla Nursing Home
 City: Remille State: TX Zip: 56284

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Guide was very good & helpful. Willing to answer the questions.

Needs to be more handicapped accessible

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

Let's Go Fishing Report Card

JUL - 2004

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Raynie Asst Nena Die
 Your Name: Stanna Carlson
 City: Wilmington State: MD Zip: 21151
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: I enjoyed the trip. The driver was a good guy.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 2 - 2004

Let's Go Fishing Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave S
 Your Name: William Lawrence
 City: Wilmington State: MD Zip: 21101
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Good time

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave S
 Your Name: John ...
 City: Wilmington State: MD Zip: 21101
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Good time

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 2 - 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Kevin Racker
 Your Name: Gerald (Jerry) Turner
 City: Wilmington State: MD Zip: 21107
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: you have a wonderful group of people. This was the first time in 35 yrs that my brother and I have been able to go fishing together. Kevin was great to be out there with. Just too bad the fish did not come to the occasion. Thank you so much for the good time.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Ray Die Amstron
 Name: Debra Peterson
William State: MIN Zip 56201
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Very pleasant trip it was chilly day
on morning wind blowing Ray took us to
head part of the lake the ride was wonderful
was prepared for the cool wind with a very nice jacket
appreciated this pontoon ride from here very much
 Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 28 2004

Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dale July 23
 Name: Emmett + Karen Roth
Ottawa State: IL Zip 61350
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: We had a great time. It was
better than we ever expected. We
all liked Dale. He was very friendly +
we caught alot of fish! We loved being out
at boat on your beautiful lake!
 Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Ray Die Amstron
 Your Name: KEVIN PETERSON
 City: WILLMAR State: MIN Zip 56201
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: THANK YOU FOR THE RIDE +
THE FELLOWSHIP. GREAT GIFT TO THE
COMMUNITY. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK
 Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Justin Mattson
 Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Ray Die Amstron
 Your Name: Supreme Squawson
 City: WILLMAR State: MIN Zip 56201
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: It was a very good time -
enjoyed it a lot. Thanks very much.
Great of you to do this!
 Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

SEP 11 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Russ Kint (Sept. 2)
 Your Name: Glen Oaks Adult Day Services
 City: New London State: RI Zip: 06273
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Very enjoyable - excellent guide. Thanks so much!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUL 2 - 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: 5-62-09 Dave S.
 Your Name: Shirley
 City: State: Zip
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: lot of fun

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUN 25 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Russ
 Your Name: Robert Thurn
 City: Robbinsdale State: MN Zip: 55422
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Kevin was wonderful! Very skilled at fishing, helping my dad, and making it a fun time. Thank you so much!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

JUN 25 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Kevin R.
 Your Name: Robert Thurn (+ daughter Janice)
 City: Robbinsdale State: MN Zip: 55422
 Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride
 Comments: Kevin was wonderful! Very skilled at fishing, helping my dad, and making it a fun time. Thank you so much!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Kevin Fladeboe

Your Name: Louis & Grace Ledebur

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: What a wonderful experience!
Kevin was helpful, courteous & kind
(no offensive language - what a treat!)
Pls let them know where I have to CATCH fish!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: RAY DIE (July 21)

Your Name: Kath Temple (Chick's Residents)

City: New London State: Mn Zip: 56273

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: It was wonderful
Thank so much you put a smile
on the residents faces you brought
back good memories.

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

SEP 2 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Dave Hansen (Ray Peterson)

Your Name: Robin Sondrol

City: Willmar State: MN Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: The volunteers were very helpful w/ residents
and visited w/ them - made it much funner! Thanks!!!

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.

AUG 9 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" Report Card

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your trip. This will help us plan future outings. Your Guide's Name: Kevin Kache

Your Name: Robert & Jennifer

City: Willmar State: Mn Zip: 56201

Type of excursion: Fishing Pontoon ride

Comments: Out say "Thanks for
helping Robert & Jennifer
fishing, the lake a
great time"

Please give this to your guide at the end of your trip or drop it in the mail. If mailed, please place postage on reverse side.



PAYNESVILLE
AREA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Washburne Court

September 29, 2004

To: Legislators of Minnesota

From: Washburne Court Assisted Living

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the "Let's Go Fishing" program.

Our tenants have enjoyed four outings through this program this summer. The first outing was "men only". They thoroughly enjoyed getting out on the lake and being able to go fishing again. They caught so many fish that we were able to enjoy a fish fry for supper that night. Those men glowed with pride.

This program makes it possible for our tenants with walkers and in wheel chairs to enjoy the lake and the beauty of nature while enjoying one of their favorite pastimes. They look forward to each outing.

We hope to take advantage of this great program in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Mari Louis

Mari Louis
Director of Housing Services

September 28, 2004

Let's Go Fishing Minnesota,

As you know, we in Sauk Centre have recently started a chapter of Let's Go Fishing Mn. As chairman of our newly formed board, I would like to thank you for all of the assistance that we have receive from you these past few weeks. The goal of providing fishing and boating opportunities for senior citizens who are unable to do so on their own is unquestionably a very worthwhile objective.

It is my understanding that several legislators have shown an interest in providing financial support to this program through legislation that will be introduced in the upcoming legislative session.

We would certainly give enthusiastic support to such a bill, as money to cover the costs of running a Let's Go Fishing program is our biggest challenge. We don't anticipate a shortage of the other main ingredients of a successful program – volunteer fishing guides and, most of all, seniors who would be eager to have a chance to get back out on the lakes again.

Sincerely,



Dave Lind
Chairman, Let's Go Fishing Mn. – Sauk Centre chapter
320-352-6622
Email: saukittome@mainstreetcom.com

MN State Senator Dean Johnson

Dear Sen. Johnson,

This letter is in support of the request for perpetual funding for the organization "Let's Go Fishing".

This group, as you know, that has its origins and main office in Willmar, MN, was created to meet a need and has done, and is doing, just that.

I have found this organization and the people that work with it to be a wonderful, enthusiastic, and creative force that allows volunteerism at its best.

From a medical and humanitarian aspect, the people that sign up and are taken on the fishing trips, boat rides, and various "outings" provided by these volunteers are benefited greatly in many ways. The physical benefits are that they are outdoors with some increased activity up to what they can handle in a well supervised manner. Psychologically the benefits cannot be measured. The social interaction, the recall of memories of former fishing trips with friends and loved ones, the stories they tell, the smiles and happiness they show, are all priceless! These are people who would and could not get out fishing unless someone like this group would take them.

Those same benefits come to the volunteers, too! – and so they keep coming back. A great deal of fun for everyone.

This idea, and the organization, is spreading! New chapters are being organized, and requests are coming from many directions.

Therefore, I am among several others asking for your considerable support to work for a continual or "perpetual" funding source to allow the development of new chapters, the support of administrative staff to do this work and create some promise that this can go on from year to year.

Thanks so much for your work and your help with this request.


James J. Tiede, MD
Spicer, MN

MN State Representative Al Juhnke

Dear Rep. Juhnke,

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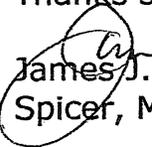
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Therefore, I am among several others asking for your considerable support to work for a continual or "perpetual" funding source to allow the development of new chapters, the support of administrative staff to do this work and create some promise that this can go on from year to year.

Thanks so much for your work and your help with this request.


James J. Tiede, MD
Spicer, MN

BETHESDA

HEALTH & HOUSING

Heritage Center
1012 3rd Street SE
Willmar, MN 56201
320-235-3924
Fax: 320-231-3399
E-mail: heritage1@bethesdawillmar.com
www.bethesdawillmar.com

Thursday, September 30, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

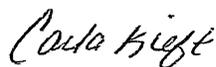
Please consider this letter of support for the Let's Go Fishing program. As an Activity Director for Bethesda Health and Housing in Willmar, I've had the opportunity to refer our elders to this program.

It's amazing to see the personal impact an elder experiences when able to participate in a passion they thought had been lost. Quality of life is truly improved, community relationships strengthened, and the lives of the elders respectfully honored through the efforts of Let's Go Fishing.

I am fully supportive of Let's Go Fishing efforts to secure continued funding for their program and am at your disposal if you have questions or require more detail.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,



Carla Kieft

NURSING CARE CENTERS

HERITAGE CENTER
PLEASANT VIEW

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

CENTENNIAL SQUARE
SUNRISE VILLAGE
TERRACE HOMES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ADULT DAY SERVICES
BETHESDA FOUNDATION
HOME HEALTH CARE

September 29, 2004

Dear MN Legislators,

For the past three years I have been fortunate enough to participate in the Willmar "Lets Go Fishing" program. I work for Lutheran Social Service at a Residential Assisted Living Program in Atwater; we serve elderly people who are no longer able to live alone in their homes. When I first heard about "Lets Go Fishing", I thought it was a perfect outing for our individuals, but I had no idea just how great the impact would be. I am so impressed by the vision of Joe Holm, who realized just how much our Senior population loses as they age and are no longer able to do many of the things they have enjoyed in life.

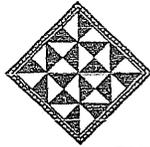
Many of our individuals have memory loss, but the one thing many of them remember week to week is the pontoon ride or fishing trip—whether we have just gone or if they are thinking about the next one and when that will be. The volunteers who have assisted our group have always been very kind, considerate and helpful; willing to aid our people with boarding the pontoons, getting gear ready for fishing, or just sharing stories about the lakes or remembered fishing trips. What a joy to see the faces of our individuals as we have enjoyed a leisurely trip around a nearby lake, sharing stories of their youth and of their families, relaxing in the sunshine. Or to see the excitement on the faces of those lucky enough to catch a fish. For most of our individuals, it had been many years since they had last been on the water, and the "Lets Go Fishing" volunteers have given them an opportunity to take part in a favorite pastime they thought they would never get to do again.

I feel very strongly that funding for this program is vital; it is a program I would personally like to see spread throughout the state and beyond. Our elders have given so much to us, we need to give back to them, especially in activities they can enjoy so much. When I am in my "golden years" I sincerely hope there is a "Lets Go Fishing" program nearby, because I plan to be a participant!

Sincerely yours,



Deb Friedrichs
Lead Staff at LSS SunnyView Assisted Living
Atwater, MN 56209



Clara City Care Center

1012 North Division Street, Box 797, Clara City, MN 56222 • (320) 847-2221 FAX: (320) 847-3553

Let's Go Fishing of MN
1025 SW 19th Ave
Willmar MN 56201

September 28, 2004

Dear Minnesota Legislators;

I have had 20 years of experience in providing activities to residents in long term care facilities; the last 4.5 years have been at the Clara City Care Center as the Activity Director. According to regulations, we are to find out what the residents enjoy doing, past or present and try find a way for them to continue that pastime, adapted to his/her current health condition.

With so many lakes in our area, many residents had enjoyed fishing, boating and spending time at the lake. One of the biggest challenges over the 20 years has been to try find a way to take residents fishing, and as the nursing home population changes to more critical health concerns (the more active clients are in assisted living, etc), the harder it has been to find adaptable ways to take them fishing.

We have had volunteers with boats who take residents fishing, but only a limited number could get on board. We have taken them to wheelchair accessible piers, but catching baby perch, sheep heads, bull heads and other 'not so good' eating fish just did not cut it for the resident. Because Let's Go Fishing of MN started in Willmar, we are now able to take most residents who want to go fishing out on the lake and catch walleye, northern and other 'good eating fish'. We also plan boat rides around the lake to look at homes and fall colors. We went from a handful of residents getting to do this activity to several boatfuls!

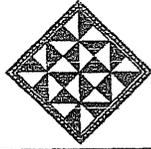
Residents talk about their pontoon excursion for days, families report back how happy they are that their parent had so much fun and family also noted the lasting positive affect on their mood. It also helps to keep them active both cognitively and physically. It is an answer to our concern of meeting regulations and we love to see the smiles on the resident faces when they are on the pontoon. One of our residents who goes along is 101 years young and becomes ecstatic when she catches a fish. They all have a wonderful time reminiscing about past fishing trips, taking their children and grand children fishing and then they say things like, "and to think we can still go fishing!"

I can't say enough good things about what Let's Go Fishing does for our elderly. We appreciate the organization and volunteers immensely. We would never be able to provide this service to our residents without Let's Go Fishing and I know they need funds to operate each summer. Please find it in your mind and heart to help them continue this great service. I support their initiative for perpetual funding. It affects many deserving seniors.

Sincerely,

Nancy Dwire, ADC
Activity Director

Enclosed: 5 pictures and 2 letters



Clara City Care Center

1012 North Division Street, Box 797, Clara City, MN 56222 • (320) 847-2221 FAX: (320) 847-3553

9/30/04

Dear Minnesota Legislators:

My name is Tracy Ruhl and I am the social service designee at Clara City Care Center in Clara City, Minnesota. I am writing in support of funding for Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota. The residents boat trips provided by Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota has been one of our most popular activities. Historically, our residents have spent many summers at "the lake" and so being able to offer them the chance to go on a boating excursion during the summer months is important for their mental well being. We want to be able to provide our residents the opportunity to continue to have the experiences they so enjoyed when they were younger. We would not be able to do so without the services of Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota.

I encourage you to look at the positive impact that Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota has had on the community and give financial support. As an advocate for long term care residents, I realize how important it is for our aging population to be given opportunities to go on trips that they enjoy and keep them active.

Best regards,

Tracy Ruhl

Representative Al Juhnke

Re' Let's Go Fishing

Dear Representative Juhnke

This letter is to ask your support of the initialization of the perpetual funding of a state-Wide Let's Go Fishing program. This has been a very successful entirely volunteer program in our local area. It is now expanded to some other counties in this area of the state. With some type of funding support it could become a state-wide program.

As a recent volunteer it has been my opportunity to observe some of our elderly citizens get out of doors in a boat on the lakes and enjoy again what they did when younger and thought those days were only memories. The sparkle in their eyes, smiles on their faces and the joy they have in talking about their old fishing days keep me looking forward to going on the next Trip again as a volunteer.

Thanks again for your time and consideration. We hope you can share some of our enthusiasm and help find a way to expand this opportunity for all of our elder citizens.



Lyle Munneke M. D.

Cc Senator Dean Johnson

Senator Dean Johnson

Re' Let's Go Fishing

Dear Senator Johnson

This letter is to ask your support of the initialization of the perpetual funding of a state-Wide Let's Go Fishing program. This has been a very successful entirely volunteer program in our local area. It is now expanded to some other counties in this area of the state. With some type of funding support it could become a state-wide program.

As a recent volunteer it has been my opportunity to observe some of our elderly citizens get out of doors in a boat on the lakes and enjoy again what they did when younger and thought those days were only memories. The sparkle in their eyes, smiles on their faces and the joy they have in talking about their old fishing days keep me looking forward to going on the next Trip again as a volunteer.

Thanks again for your time and consideration. We hope you can share some of our enthusiasm and help find a way to expand this opportunity for all of our elder citizens.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lyle Munneke', written in dark ink.

Lyle Munneke M. D.

Cc Representative Al Juhnke

Esteemed Members of the Minnesota Legislature:

As President of and speaking for the Willmar Area Senior Citizen's Club, please allow me to present some of my impressions of the "Let's Go Fishing" organization.

Consider the title "Let's Go Fishing" few phrases in the English language have such a uniformly pleasant connotation. Many senior citizens, both men and women, were once avid fishermen and spent many hours on Minnesota's beautiful and productive waters. Many of our 600 members look forward to the outings with "Let's Go Fishing". They have provided opportunities for both fishing and boating that many of us have lost as a result of aging or being left alone. The physical demands of equipping a boat and getting it into the water have just become too much for many of us. The "Let's Go Fishing" volunteers have shown a willingness and ability to deal with handicapped people. Therefore these outings have been available to nearly everyone.

There's an undeniable pleasure factor to these outings but there are other benefits as well. Just getting out in the fresh summertime air, and hopefully sunshine, can do a lot to bolster one's spirit. We've long known that physical activity is beneficial to the health of everyone even the elderly. Can you even imagine how practicing a skill you thought was forever lost to you, can do for your mental outlook? One older gentleman, who had been feeling depressed, told me, "I never had such a feeling of joy bringing my catch home when younger as I did bringing those two northerners home. Then too the nice young man who took me out, took pictures so that I could show my friends. Actually I made a new friend." There are many stories similar to this one.

This is a worthwhile organization and has a desire and potential for sharing these benefits with many more senior citizens. I hope you can see the advantage of supporting "Let Go Fishing" financially. This was a unique idea originated and organized in Willmar by Joe Holm. Now they have the possibility to expand to many other areas giving these opportunities to countless more people. Please, consider their need for support.

Sincerely,

Joyce E. Lovander
Pres. Willmar Area Senior Citizens C.
5861 Hwy 71 NE
Willmar MN. 56201

September 28, 2004

"Let's Go Fishing" -- this program provides wonderful opportunities for Seniors and also for the volunteers alike who make it work!! My husband and I, along with our family want to express a sincere Thank You to everyone who has made this program possible.

I'm taking this opportunity to show our support for this program and to state that we fully agree with the initiative to get perpetual funding for the "Let's Go Fishing of Minnesota" program. It truly 'makes a difference' in the lives of all who participate.

A year ago, August, 2003, my father became ill and the doctors told him, and us, that for his own safety and health he should no longer live alone, and also suggested that he stop driving. Dad then, after a hospitalization at Rice, made his home with us in Willmar. Needless to say, his independence and lifestyle changed drastically as he left the farm he had lived on since 1949 south of Dawson. He was, however, very accepting of these changes, and also very eager to have involvements in his new community and to meet more new friends. He had spent the past several winters in Willmar 'housesitting' a friend's home, but now he needed to live with us, no longer on his own. Then, in March, his building site was sold, and there was a farm auction....another life change.

When this summer came around I again heard about the 'Let's Go Fishing' program and inquired....Dad and his friend have become fishing partners and also friends with the volunteer who takes them out on Green Lake where they have now spent many hours of visiting, storytelling, and fishing.... and eating their lunch.

This week, Thursday, they again will go fishing with Kevin, meeting at the Old Mill in Spicer at 9:00 a.m., and they couldn't be more excited!! This will be their last time for this summer.

These fishing excursions have filled what otherwise would have been pretty 'boring' hours, with experiences to talk about, and also built friendships. What a 'difference it has made' in my Dad's life this summer....the fishing trips themselves have been great, and because of those fishing trips he has had more to talk about and share in conversations with other people, as well as anticipation of the next fishing trip. Instead of sitting home with long hours of reading the paper and magazines, taking the dog for a walk, watching T.V., this program has given him, and his friend valuable experiences. My dad, Robert Werner, and his friend, Elvern Braaten, were friends, but now because of this program, they have become really close friends. They enjoyed being interviewed and sharing with others about their lives as dairy farmers, and having their fishing pictures in the paper. Both these men are retired farmers who always worked hard, and they were both always active in their churches and communities, and were always doing for others. Now they are enjoying what others are doing for them.

Both Manny and I want to say a sincere Thank You to all who have made the 'Let's Go Fishing' program a success and we hope it will continue and grow. I'm sure the many other people who participate are just as excited for the chance to 'go fishing'.

Thank you to all the volunteers, and especially to 'Kevin Raasch', whom we have heard so much about. Thanks Kevin.

Jeanie and Manny Ronneberg (Robert's daughter and son-in-law)



PAYNESVILLE
AREA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

September 28, 2004

The Honorable Al Juhnke
Representative
State of Minnesota
3951 Horizon Hills Circle
Willmar MN 56201

Dear Mr. Juhnke:

Your concern for the "Let's Go Fishing" program of Minnesota is admirable, and the pursuit of a perpetual fund for this organization demonstrates this concern. I support this funding.

I am the Community Relations Coordinator at Paynesville Area Health Care System, an organization that includes a hospital, five clinics, two skilled nursing facilities, assisted living and independent living. Our residents and tenants from our senior living facilities have thoroughly enjoyed the many opportunities through "Let's Go Fishing" to go for a boat ride around the local lakes or to go fishing. Every outing has been a great success, and they eagerly look forward to the next event. This is an excellent program allowing seniors the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and relive fishing and boating memories of years past.

I encourage you to support perpetual funding of "Let's Go Fishing" in order to provide funds to continue to grow and expand the chapters in Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,

Stephanie Malingen
Community Relations Coordinator



PAYNESVILLE
AREA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

September 28, 2004

The Honorable Dean Johnson
Senator
State of Minnesota
PO Box 996
Willmar MN 56201

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Your concern for the "Let's Go Fishing" program of Minnesota is admirable, and the pursuit of a perpetual fund for this organization demonstrates this concern. I support this funding.

I am the Community Relations Coordinator at Paynesville Area Health Care System, an organization that includes a hospital, five clinics, two skilled nursing facilities, assisted living and independent living. Our residents and tenants from our senior living facilities have thoroughly enjoyed the many opportunities through "Let's Go Fishing" to go for a boat ride around the local lakes or to go fishing. Every outing has been a great success, and they eagerly look forward to the next event. This is an excellent program allowing seniors the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and relive fishing and boating memories of years past.

I encourage you to support perpetual funding of "Let's Go Fishing" in order to provide funds to continue to grow and expand the chapters in Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,

Stephanie Malingen
Community Relations Coordinator

Senator Pat Pariseau
District: 36

Senate Finance, Environment, Agriculture
and Economic Development Budget

Star Tribune Editorial

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Our perspective

End homelessness

The value in supportive housing

A year ago, news that Gov. Tim Pawlenty was launching a quest to end homelessness in Minnesota set off stifled snickers among more than a few who heard it. The notion seemed so implausible that many who should have been interested barely bothered to scan Pawlenty's plan. But time has a way of winning over the wary: This legislative session, last year's doubters are the program's most passionate backers. Pawlenty, they say, may be just the fellow to bring all Minnesotans inside.

It's rather a strange alliance — this link between helpers of the homeless and a penny-pinching governor — but it speaks to the power of a good idea. Much credit for the connection must go to Housing Commissioner Tim Marx, who has managed to market the new venture as an emblem of Minnesota's distinctive inclination toward compassion.

There's no question this idea's time has come. Scotched last session by a sullen Legislature's refusal to pass a bonding bill, the plan to end homelessness calls for \$20 million to start building 4,000 units of supportive housing by the year 2010. In fact, it was Pawlenty's emphasis on that style of housing — designed to give help to people who can't stay home without it — that so impressed homeless advocates. Those who work with the homeless have argued for years that their clients need more than an address and a key in order to finally find a home. A great many need their community's lifelong embrace — rides to doctors' appointments, drop-in visits to make sure they're staying on their meds, help simply learning how to get through the day when one lives under a roof.

This supportive approach has reduced homelessness wherever it's been tried. In fact, Marx and his Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) are already starting to transfer some homeless people into supportive housing by using some of the agency's existing funds. Making the most of this strategy of course requires the sort of scale Pawlenty envisions. But as it happens, there's just as much reason to worry about the fate of the Pawlenty plan this year as last — and perhaps more. The concern isn't so much the \$20

million in bonding money; its approval now seems quite likely.

The problem is that underwriting the bricks-and-mortar of the bonding bill is just the first step in guiding the homeless to a new life. Just as crucial is financing rent subsidies so that new tenants can manage month to month. And beyond that is the tricky but essential business of guaranteeing that every new unit of supportive housing is connected to a steady stream of "service dollars" — funding to guarantee that every tenant receives the array of social services that gives supportive housing its name.

There are many wells legislators might tap for those funds. One is the new \$50 million program-development fund slated for establishment this session within the Human Services Department. A byproduct of block-grant reorganization a few years back, the promised fund is meant to help counties pay for "projects of regional significance" — a description that certainly applies to the effort to end homelessness. Lawmakers would also be wise to invest an additional \$4 million or so in the MHFA's Housing Trust Fund to boost access to rent subsidies as more homeless citizens move from sleeping bags to warm beds.

Other funding sources certainly exist — including a direct appropriation from state leaders eager to invest in ending homelessness. And they should be eager, for research shows that moving the homeless indoors is generally cheaper than allowing them to remain unsheltered. And there's no accounting for the monumental change experienced by a human being who last month lived nowhere and this month feels the attention of many who want him to stay warm and well.

This basic expression of humanity is the chief reason to back the governor's bid to end homelessness. It will indeed require cash to add the "support" to the special housing the bonding bill will finance. But this fact has long been evident, and the governor and legislators should make a point of mustering the money. Over the long haul, doing so is nothing but wise — not only in terms of the money it will save, but also in terms of the lives it will transform.

StarTribune Editorial

www.startribune.com/opinion e-mail: opinion@startribune.com

Scruffy and sick

How to really help the homeless

What should you do if a homeless guy asks you for money? A scan of Monday's "Mindworks" section — the Star Tribune's showcase for school-age writers — suggests that many young Minnesotans think it's only right to be wary. Why, the students wonder, don't these scruffy characters find work? And if a giver hands over cash, how can one know it will be well-used? Such skepticism is only natural coming from young minds, though it underscores how little most Minnesotans — young and old — really know about homelessness.

They probably do not know, for instance, that most of Minnesota's "scruffy people" are actually very sick — with mental illness, with addiction, with other medical or learning impairments. Their disabilities make ordinary self-care a challenge and regular employment a near-impossibility. They are people almost anyone would agree deserve government help — but even those who qualify for assistance lack the knowledge and perseverance to obtain it. And while a few outreach workers make a point of keeping these lost men and women from freezing or starving, the government has long shown little concern for their plight.

Until now. Though much can be assailed in the Bush administration's proposed housing budget — the plan envisions a nearly \$4 billion cut (a 12 percent drop from current spending) for already strapped public housing programs — the White House is at least offering help to the long-neglected homeless. Its new budget calls for 8.5 percent more than was spent last year on accelerating federal attempts to lure America's unsheltered off the streets. Other spending hikes are also proposed: The Bush budget would boost the VA's program to assure health care for homeless vets, increase unsheltered citizens' access to health care and to addiction treatment, and seek to avert homelessness among ex-cons by investing more money in prison-discharge planning.

This is the sort of community-building venture Americans should expect from their government: It shows sensitivity to the immutable

needs of society's least able — even as it curbs the astonishing costs of overlooking homelessness. If such initiatives did not come at the cost of harsh cuts to other housing efforts, citizens could applaud without compunction.

So perhaps they should cheer instead for Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty and Housing Commissioner Tim Marx, who are continuing to swim upstream in their quest to end homelessness. Turned down by the Legislature on a bonding-bill bid last session, the two have returned with a more ambitious plan than before. Their goal? To move the thousands of Minnesotans who now sleep outside or on shelter floors into long-term "supportive housing" — an environment that keeps vulnerable people happily at home by making sure they get the monitoring and assistance they need.

This session Pawlenty and Marx are aiming not just for \$20 million in bonding to kick-start construction of needed housing for the homeless. They're also seeking many new millions: \$4 million for the state's Housing Trust Fund and, with help from Human Services Commissioner Kevin Goodno, \$10 million for his department's new "flexible service fund" — to finance the social services that provide the "support" in supportive housing.

This is just the start of a multiyear quest, and no one should expect all homeless citizens to move inside any time soon. Though Marx's Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has already used some of his department's discretionary funds to move several hundred homeless families indoors, ending homelessness altogether will require many millions of dollars and many years of dedication. Ultimately, it will demand an infrastructure and a social-service approach designed especially to welcome society's unluckiest citizens in from the cold. That offering such a welcome is less costly than withholding it almost beside the point. What should matter — to grade-schoolers and grownups, to the archest of conservatives and the most brazen of liberals — is not that ending homelessness is thrifty, but that it is right.



Fact Sheet: Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative

The Issue

Homeownership is a principal element of the "American dream." For most Americans, homeownership is the primary means of wealth creation and, for generations, national and state policies have encouraged homeownership because of its demonstrated impact in strengthening families and building communities. However, there is a significant gap in homeownership rates, both nationally and in Minnesota, between the White non-Hispanic population and emerging market groups.

The Vision

The long-term vision of the *Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative (EMHI)* is to eliminate the gap in the homeownership rates between emerging markets and White non-Hispanic communities. However, given the current disparity in homeownership rates among these groups, it is appropriate to establish intermediate goals that clearly demonstrate progress. As a result, two primary goals that will be presented to EMHI participants for their consideration: (i) increases in the homeownership rate in emerging market populations each year for the next eight years, and (ii) homeownership rates for all emerging market groups greater than or equal to 50% by the year 2010.

The Statistics

In 2002, Minnesota enjoyed the highest homeownership rate in the country at 77.3%.¹ Yet, data from the most recent American Community Survey (2002) shows that the homeownership rate within communities of color at 41% lagged far behind that of the White non-Hispanic population at 78%. In Minnesota, Asian, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders experienced the highest homeownership rate among emerging market groups in 2000 at 52% and American Indians at 49%.² The homeownership rate for other emerging market groups was below the national average of 46%³, with Hispanics at 43% and African Americans at 32%.

Addressing the disparity in homeownership rates is critical as Minnesota becomes increasingly diverse. Between 1990 and 2000, the White non-Hispanic population grew by 6.5% while the population of communities of color grew by 112%. In 2000, nearly 12% of Minnesotans identified themselves as persons of color or of Hispanic/Latino origin in comparison to slightly over 6% in 1990⁴.

The Approach

The conveners, the committee and the advisory groups will develop and implement a business plan to increase homeownership in Minnesota's emerging markets. A proposed business plan outline is as follows: (i) a description of the need; (ii) a vision and primary goals; (iii) principal strategies necessary to achieve the goals; (iv) likely objectives in support of the vision and goals; (v) a financial plan and (vi) an implementation plan for managing the effort and establishing accountability. It is anticipated that a final business plan will be submitted to Governor Pawlenty in early June 2005.

The Participants

Approximately 50 groups have committed to participate in this effort. Representatives of the participant groups will meet at least monthly to evaluate the issue and determine how best to address the problem. A list of participants committed to the initiative follows.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau. <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/housing/hvs/annual02/ann02t13.html>. Minnesota tied with South Carolina for highest homeownership rate in the nation.

² U.S. Census Bureau.

³ U.S. Census Bureau

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau



Conveners

Fannie Mae
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

Honorary Conveners

Helen Blue-Redner, Chair, Upper Sioux Community
Maritza Mariani, Co-Director and Housing Program Manager, Neighborhood Development Alliance
Mee Moua, Senator, State of Minnesota
Don Samuels, City Council Member, Minneapolis

Committee

At-Large Membership:

Bremer Bank
TCF Bank
U.S. Bank
Wells Fargo
Homeownership Center
Independent Community Bankers of Minnesota
MN Assn of Mortgage Brokers
MN Assn of Realtors
MN Bankers Assn
Mortgage Assn of MN

Advisory Group

African American Family Services	Metropolitan Alliance of Community Centers
African Development Center	Metropolitan Council
American Indian OIC	Mille Lacs Indian Housing Authority
Bremer Bank	Minneapolis Area Association of Realtors
Bremer Foundation	Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
Builders Outreach Foundation	Minneapolis Urban League
Center for Asians and Pacific Islanders	Minnesota Coalition of Community Land Trusts
Chicanos Latinos Unidos En Servicios	Minnesota Credit Union Network
City of Minneapolis	Minnesota Housing Partnership
City of St. Paul	Minnesota Manufactured Housing Association
Cross Cross Cultural Home Ownership Alliance	Mortgage Guaranty Insurance Company
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Multicultural Network of Real Estate Professionals
Don't Borrow Trouble	National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (MN)
Duluth Local Initiatives Support Corporation	Pohlad Family Foundation
Family Housing Fund	St. Paul Area Association of Realtors
First Homes	St. Paul Urban League
Freddie Mac	TCF Bank
Greater Minnesota Housing Fund	United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc.
Greater Twin Cities United Way	US Bank
Habitat for Humanity MN	USDA Rural Development
Hmong American Partnership	Wells Fargo
Joint Religious Legislative Coalition	
Local Initiatives Support Corporation	



Strategic Plan and Goals Program Years 2004-2007

 End Long-Term Homelessness

 Minority Homeownership

 Preserve Affordable Housing

 Housing Choices for Workers

 MHFA - Housing Partner of Choice

This summarizes the strategic plan and strategic goals of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for program years 2004-2007 (October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2007). This period coincides with the 2003-2005 and 2005-2007 affordable housing plans.

This plan is the result of input from MHFA stakeholders throughout the state, Governor Tim Pawlenty and Pawlenty Administration staff, the MHFA Board, senior leadership and staff.

The vision, mission and values of the MHFA are related; mutually reinforcing and based on the principle that decent, safe, affordable housing is required for individuals to be healthy, for families to be strong, and for communities to be vibrant.

Our vision is for all Minnesotans to have the opportunity to live in decent, safe, affordable homes and strong communities.

Our mission is to meet Minnesotans' needs for decent, safe, affordable homes and stronger communities.

Our values provide the principles and guidelines for effective pursuit of our mission over the long-term:

- Stewardship
- Focus on those with the greatest housing hardships and challenges
- Collaborative
- Results Driven

Our strategic goals are to:

1. End long-term homelessness in Minnesota by 2010
2. Increase minority homeownership
3. Preserve strategically the existing affordable housing stock
4. Provide housing choices for low and moderate-income workers
5. Establish the MHFA as a housing partner of choice



END LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS

Long-term homelessness is a breakdown in Minnesota's social compact - our vulnerable should not be left to the streets. The MHFA will continue to provide leadership to implement the Administration's business plan to end long-term homelessness by 2010.



INCREASE MINORITY HOMEOWNERSHIP

The "homeownership gap" for households of color stymies the American dream and prevents wealth creation. The Agency will work to increase minority homeownership through implementation of the business plan of the Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative.



PRESERVE STRATEGICALLY THE EXISTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING STOCK

Much of our existing single family and multi-family affordable housing stock is at risk of deteriorating and replacement is cost prohibitive. The Agency aims to preserve the existing affordable housing stock to the extent economically feasible.



PROVIDE HOUSING CHOICES FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME WORKERS

The lack of housing choices for Minnesota workers affects the state's economic vitality. The Agency will work to increase housing choices for low- and moderate-income workers to support the State's economic vitality.



ESTABLISH THE MHFA AS A HOUSING PARTNER OF CHOICE

Scarce resources require redoubled efforts at customer service, collaboration, greater creativity in identifying resources, and review of regulatory requirements. The Agency aims to establish the MHFA as a housing partner of choice. The MHFA is a great Agency that will get even better to respond to today's challenges.

A complete copy of the strategic plan can be found at:
http://www.mhfa.state.mn.us/about/strategic_plan.pdf

Visit our web site at www.mhfa.state.mn.us

Financing Plan Estimate (2004 - 2010)
(in millions)

<u>Sources</u>		<u>Costs/Uses</u>	
<u>Identified Sources</u>		New Construction (500 units)	\$ 85
State General Obligation Bonds	\$ 90	Acquisition and Rehabilitation (1,500 units)	\$125
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency State Appropriated Programs and Agency Resources	\$ 90	New Units Integrated into Mixed-Income Developments (400 units)	\$ 50
Private Tax Credit Equity (MHFA allocation)	\$ 60	Rental/Operating Assistance (1,600 units for available units in the rental market -\$40 million; remainder to support other new units identified above - \$60 million)	\$100
Department of Human Services	\$120	Housing Support/Community Living Services/Income Supplements	\$180
<u>Remaining Sources:</u>	\$180		
Federal Government			
Local Government			
Philanthropic/Non-Profit			
State (Departments of Human Services, Corrections, and MHFA)			
Total	\$ 540	Total	\$ 540

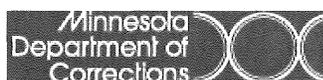
The financing plan demonstrates that the state is providing significant resources (capital financing, rental/operating assistance, and service funding) but that the state cannot finance this effort alone. A significant portion of the state funding is one-time funding only. Federal and other sources must be forthcoming if the business plan is to be successfully implemented over the long-term. The Minnesota congressional delegation has provided significant bipartisan support for the effort. At the State level, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency established an Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative Fund providing an initial \$10 million in capital and operating funding. Consistent with the business plan, Governor Pawlenty proposes \$20 million in General Obligation Bonds and other related initiatives for legislative consideration in 2006. Private sector support includes a service "Initiative Fund," to be administered by the Family Housing Fund, which has received initial grants from the McKnight Foundation and St. Paul Travelers Foundation.

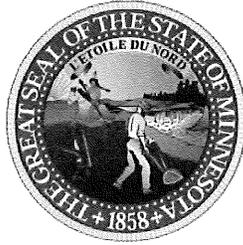
The Implementation Plan: Establish accountability and be proactive

The business plan requires sound execution. The following are key elements of the implementation plan:

- *Continued Interagency Cooperation.* The Departments of Human Services, Corrections, the Housing Finance Agency, and other departments should enhance and institutionalize their joint efforts to proactively solicit and fund supportive housing for persons experiencing long-term homelessness.
- *Develop the System for Supportive Housing.* Creative funding strategies that increase the use of "mainstream" resources and allow for a more natural "system" to develop and fund supportive housing is necessary. The federal government, counties and other local governments, and nonprofit organizations should be involved as partners.
- *Evaluation.* Rigorous evaluation, tracking of data on homelessness, and search for best practices should be integrated into the implementation process.
- *Stakeholder Participation and Capacity Building.* A broadly representative advisory body similar to the Working Group will be established in early 2005 to assist in implementing the business plan and tracking progress. Persons who have experienced or are experiencing homelessness will be involved. In addition, local governments, developers, and service providers should be involved to develop and maintain the capacity to implement the plan and assist in addressing siting and similar issues.
- *A Long-Term Homelessness Director Without New Bureaucracy.* A director for ending long-term homelessness has been engaged, using existing resources, to coordinate implementation of the business plan. The director reports to the commissioners of Human Services, Housing Finance and Corrections.

Further information on the Working Group and the business plan can be found at www.mhfa.state.mn.us/multifamily/LTH.htm.





A BUSINESS PLAN TO END LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS IN MINNESOTA BY 2010

Background: Multi-disciplinary strategies

In 2003, the Minnesota Legislature, at the request of Governor Tim Pawlenty, directed the state Commissioners of Human Services, Corrections, and Housing Finance to convene a broadly representative Working Group to address the issue of chronic or long-term homelessness in Minnesota. The Working Group consisted of representatives from government (state, local, and federal), the private sector (developers and business interests), non-profits (foundations and service providers), and faith-based organizations.

In March 2004, the Working Group submitted to the Minnesota Legislature a goal-oriented, reform-minded business plan to end long-term homelessness in Minnesota by 2010. The business plan calls for multi-disciplinary (housing, human services, corrections), multi-sector (government, business, nonprofit), and multi-jurisdictional (federal, state, and local) strategies to address long-term homelessness. The following summarizes key elements of the business plan.

Vision and Goal: End long-term homelessness by 2010

Minnesota joins in the federal goal adopted by President Bush and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to end long-term homelessness by the end of this decade. Housing and appropriate support service options should be made available to those experiencing long-term homelessness so they can be successfully housed over the long-term. The needs of the broader homeless and near homeless populations must be met as we pursue this goal, including Minnesota's effective homelessness prevention efforts.

The Need: Provide housing and support services to 4,000 households

According to the 2003 statewide survey of homelessness in Minnesota conducted by the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, there are approximately 3,300 persons who experience long-term homelessness over the course of a year. This includes nearly 500 children. Consistent with national studies of the chronically and long-term homeless, many report mental illness (52%), chemical dependency (33%), domestic abuse (24%), a criminal history affecting their housing (26%), and status as military veterans (16%). Based on the survey and other information, the business plan calls for providing supportive housing opportunities to 4,000 additional households by 2010. This will accommodate some growth in the long-term homeless population.

The Strategy: Cost-effective supportive housing

Minnesota currently has about 2,000 units of supportive housing for the formerly homeless. Similar to national experience, Minnesota has found that supportive housing reduces the use of expensive crisis services (emergency rooms, detox, and shelters) and improves outcomes for the long-term homeless. The business plan calls for building on this experience and improving Minnesota's ability to provide supportive housing by controlling development costs through use of innovative designs, alternative materials, and limiting transaction costs; maximizing the use of the private, competitive rental market to avoid the costs of new construction; and carefully scrutinizing support service levels to focus on successful, long-term housing stability.

The Financing Plan: State leadership and a call to action to potential partners

The following table summarizes the financing plan, which is a unique effort to estimate over time the costs and potential sources for providing housing and support services from multiple funding sources, each of which has different allowable uses and eligibility criteria. The financing plan does not account for reduced expenditures for "crisis" services or the benefits of better outcomes for the long-term homeless. By the end of 2004, more than 270 additional units of supportive housing for persons experiencing long-term homelessness were funded by the MHFA and funding partners. The Departments of Human Services and Corrections and the MHFA continue to work on service funding and other strategies to implement the business plan.



Minnesota Housing
Finance Agency

••• MHFA - Housing Partner of Choice
••• Minority Homeownership ••• Preserve Affordable Housing
••• Housing Choices for Workers ••• End Long-Term Homelessness

Presentation to

Senate Finance Environment, Agriculture and Economic Development Budget Committee

Agency Overview FY 06-07 State Appropriated Budget

March 10, 2005

We are committed to meeting Minnesotans' needs for decent, safe, affordable homes and stronger communities
651-296-7608 • 800-657-3769 • TTY 651-297-2361 www.mhfa.state.mn.us

Presentation Summary

- State of Housing in Minnesota
- Key Housing Challenges
- The MHFA – The State's Mission Driven Housing Financial Institution
- Mission and Organization
- Program Financing
- Program Delivery
- Strategic Goals
- FY 06-07 Recommended State Appropriated Budget
- Supporting Materials:
 - Strategic Plan Summary
 - MHFA Assessment Report – Federal FY 2004
 - Summary: Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness
 - Summary: Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative

State of Housing In Minnesota

- **Highest Homeownership Rate in the Nation, 2003 – 76.6%**
- **Second Lowest Percentage of Households (8%) with Critical Housing Needs** (paying more than 50% of income for housing)
- **The “Grand Alliance” and Minnesota’s Commitment to Affordable Housing**

3

Key Housing Challenges

Current	MN Households
■ The Long-Term/Chronically Homeless	2,800
■ Temporary Homeless	7,100
■ Critical Housing Needs (paying more than 50% for housing)	125,000
■ Cost Burdened (low income paying more than 30% for housing)	<u>165,100</u>
■ Minority Homeownership Gap: White rate 80%; Minority rate 47%. Eighth Highest gap in the nation	300,000

4

Sources: Next Decade of Housing in Minnesota, 2003 Wilder Foundation Survey of Homelessness, and Census Data

Key Housing Challenges

(Cont'd)

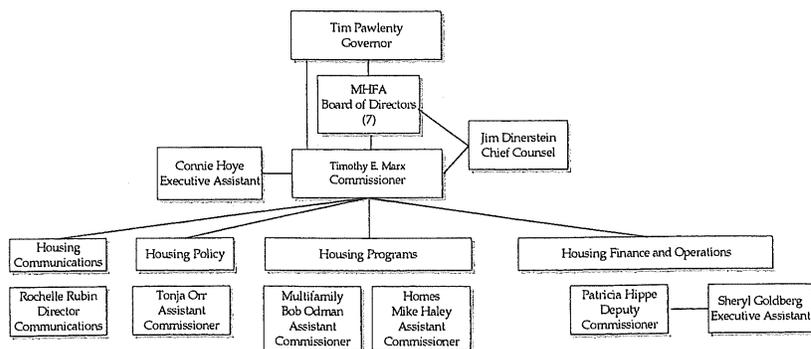
Future

- Minnesota will add 116,000 new "low income" households between 2000-2010
- Private sector will affordably house 56,000
- Public, non-profit will affordably house 26,000
- Potential unmet need is 33,000 (2/3 Metro; 1/3 Greater Minnesota)
- Declining federal support
- Continued affordability gap
 - 1990-2003 median income rose 63%; median home values rose 130%
 - Number of renters with incomes less than \$35,000 paying more than 30% for housing increased from 50% in 1990 to 62% in 2003

5

MHFA – Mission Driven Housing Financial Institution

We are committed to meeting Minnesotans' needs for decent, safe, affordable homes and stronger communities



- 190 FTEs
- Self-funded operating budget of \$22 million
- Debt portfolio of \$1.8 billion
- Ratings: AA+ Standard & Poors, Aa1 Moody's

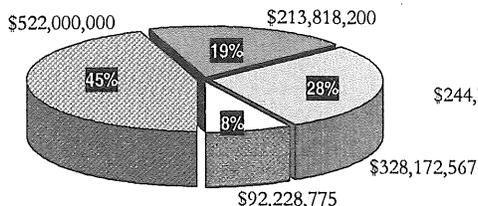
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MHFA Program Financing

MHFA Affordable Housing Plan

10/1/03 – 9/30/05*

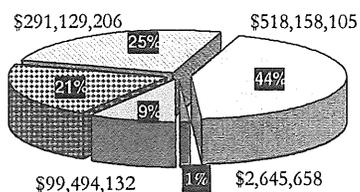
Sources of Funds



Total: \$ 1,156,219,542

- ▣ Revenue Bond Sales
- ▣ Agency Resources
- ▣ Federal Funds
- ▣ State Appropriations

Uses of Funds



Total: \$1,156,219,542

- ▣ Home Improvement Program
- ▣ Rental Programs
- ▣ Rental Portfolio Management
- ▣ Homeownership Programs
- ▣ Other **

* Amended as of June 24, 2004.

** Other includes: Federal HOME Funds Administrative Expenses, Agency Technical Assistance Fund and the Disaster Relief Contingency Fund

7

MHFA Program Delivery

Homes Division

- 51% of Agency Program Expenditures (FFY '01-'03)
- \$675 million – primarily delivered through loans
- Serves approximately 12,000 households per year in homeownership financing, assistance, rehabilitation and counseling, and development/redevelopment

Multi-Family Division

- 49% of Agency Program Expenditures (FFY '01-'03)
- \$645 million – primarily delivered through loans
- Serves approximately 43,000 households per year in supportive housing, rental assistance, preservation, new construction, development/redevelopment, and homelessness prevention

8

MHFA Strategic Goals

- End long-term homelessness in Minnesota by 2010
- Increase the minority homeownership rate
- Preserve strategically the existing affordable housing stock
- Increase housing choices for low and moderate-income workers
- Establish the MHFA as a housing partner of choice

9

FY 2006-07 Governor's Recommended State General Fund Budget

Budget Principles

- Protect programs for the most vulnerable
- Advance strategic goals
- Maximize contributions of non-state resources to affordable housing
- Prioritize activities that have no other source of funding
- Lower priority for activities if non-financial tools are available

10

Governor Pawlenty's Proposal MHFA General Fund Budget

Program	FY 04-05	FY 06-07
Challenge	\$19,244,000	\$8,814,000
Urban Indian Housing	\$360,000	Consolidated with Challenge program
Housing Trust Fund	\$8,610,000	\$12,610,000
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance	\$7,430,000	\$7,430,000 ¹
Bridges	\$3,276,000	\$3,276,000
Rehabilitation Loans	\$7,944,000	\$5,308,000
Homeownership Assistance Fund	\$0	0
Tribal Indian Housing	\$2,210,000	Consolidated with Challenge program
Affordable Rental Investment Fund - Preservation	\$18,546,000	\$17,062,000
Homeownership Education, Training and Counseling	\$1,540,000	\$1,540,000
Non-Profit Capacity Building Grants	\$610,000	\$500,000
TOTAL	\$69,770,000¹	\$56,540,000

¹ In addition, \$500,000 was appropriated as one-time only funds for Roseau flood buy-out efforts.

FY 2006-07 Governor's Recommended State General Fund Budget (continued)

- The MHFA will be able to maintain all activities previously funded with state appropriations. The Agency will review the availability of other resources and the extent to which program activity will have to be reduced or restructured.
- Programs assisting the most vulnerable households are protected. This includes the Housing Trust Fund, Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance, and Bridges.

FY 2006-07 Governor's Recommended
State General Fund Budget (continued)

- The commitments made in the Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness are met in the proposed budget—a \$4 million increase to the Housing Trust Fund. In addition, the MHFA reduction facilitated a proposal by the Department of Human Services for a \$10 million supportive service fund to advance the business plan to end long-term homelessness.

 **MHFA - Housing Partner of Choice**

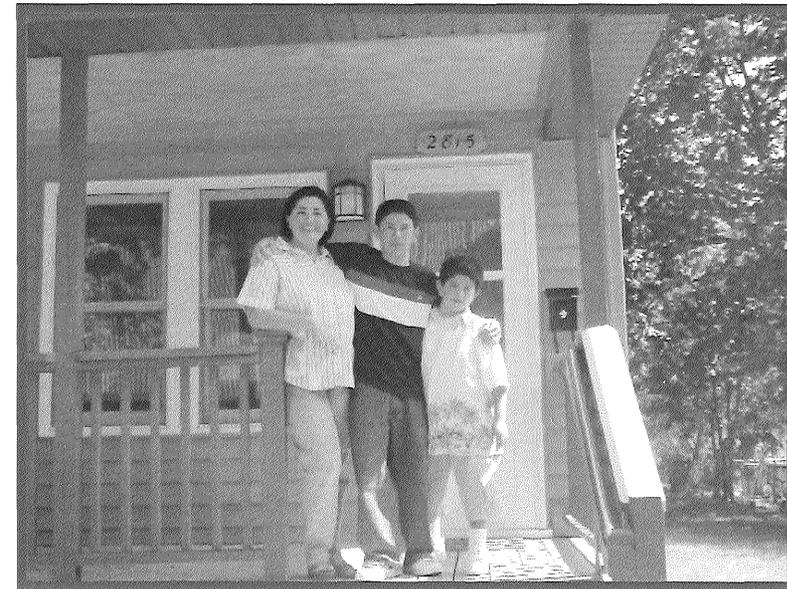
 **Preserve Affordable Housing**

 **End Long-Term Homelessness**

 **Provide Housing Choices for Workers**

 **Increase Minority Homeownership**

Housing Assistance in Minnesota



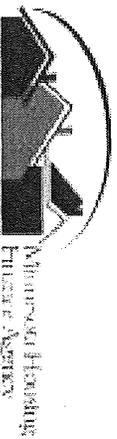
Program Assessment: October 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004

"We are committed to meeting Minnesotans' needs for decent, safe, affordable homes and stronger communities."



Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

Housing Assistance
In Minnesota



Contents

Introduction 2

Sources and Uses of Funding 2

Highlights in 2004 3

MHFA’s Strategic Plan for Assisting Households 4

Conclusion..... 9

Understanding Housing Assistance Data 10

Table 1 - Income Distribution, MHFA-Assisted Households, FY 2004
..... 12

Table 2 - MHFA-Assisted Households Compared with Selected
Income Standards, FY 2004 13

Table 3 - MHFA Housing Assistance in Minnesota, FY 2004 15

Table 4 - MHFA Housing Assistance in Duluth, FY 2004 18

Table 5 - MHFA Housing Assistance in Minneapolis, FY 2004..... 20

Table 6 - MHFA Housing Assistance in Saint Paul, FY 2004..... 22

Table 7 - MHFA Housing Assistance by Type, FY 2004 24

Table 8 - MHFA-Assisted Female-Headed Families, FY 2004 26

Table 9 - MHFA-Assisted Households of Color, FY 2004 28

Table 10 - MHFA Assistance by Region, FY 2004..... 30

Introduction

The mission of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) is to meet Minnesotans' needs for decent, safe, affordable homes and stronger communities. The MHFA works to accomplish this mission by focusing on five strategic goals: ending long-term homelessness, increasing the homeownership rate for underserved ethnic groups, preserving the existing stock of affordable housing, increasing housing choices for low- and moderate-income workers, and establishing the MHFA as a housing partner of choice. The MHFA strategic plan for 2004-2007 is available at:

www.mhfa.state.mn.us/about/strategic_plan_summary.htm

In pursuing its mission in FY 2004 (October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004) the MHFA:

- ⇒ provided \$534 million in housing assistance
- ⇒ assisted more than 55,600 households or units of housing

Single Family Homes

MHFA Homes programs provided \$316.6 million in assistance to nearly 14,000 property owners and homebuyers. That assistance includes: improvement and rehabilitation loans, development and preservation support, entry cost assistance, and mortgage financing. It also includes financial support and technical assistance for training, education, homeownership counseling, and foreclosure prevention.

Multifamily Housing

MHFA Multifamily programs provided \$217.4 million in assistance, including Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments, to sponsors or tenants of nearly 42,000 units of affordable rental housing. State and MHFA-funded assistance for rental programs includes: vouchers, deferred loans, preservation of the affordability of existing housing, permanent financing for new affordable rental housing, and assistance for people with special needs.

This report identifies the MHFA's efforts to advance its mission and summarizes some of the basic characteristics of households assisted.

Sources and Uses of Funding

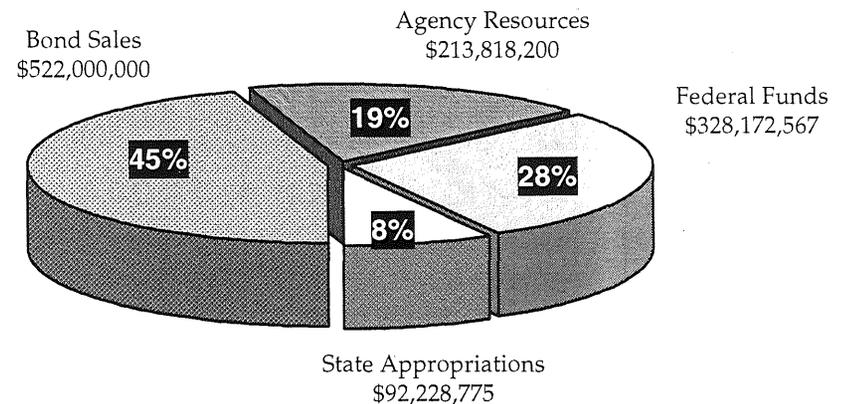
Bonds

The MHFA's largest source of financing is the sale of revenue bonds, which accounts for 45% of the MHFA's resources in the 2004/2005 Affordable Housing Plan (as of June 24, 2004). Because most of the bonds sold by the MHFA are tax-exempt, they carry a lower interest rate, allowing the Agency to provide financing at below-market interest rates to qualifying low- and moderate-income applicants.

Federal Funds

Federal appropriations, primarily for Section 8 assistance to low-income tenants, account for 28% of the MHFA's resources. In FY 2004, HUD allocated more than \$12 million in federal HOME funds to the MHFA and \$110,000 under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program.

Sources of Funds



Agency Resources

The MHFA uses its own funds, e.g., reserves, for a variety of activities including bond sale contributions, low interest loans, and deferred loans. These Agency funds, which make up approximately 19% of the MHFA's resources, enable the Agency to maximize leverage in housing assistance programs.

State Appropriations

The MHFA uses state appropriations, which make up 8% of the MHFA's resources, to provide deferred loans, grants, and other housing subsidies to people who are unable to repay a loan. The Minnesota Legislature appropriated \$70.3 million for the 2004/2005 biennium, including baseline and one-time appropriations.

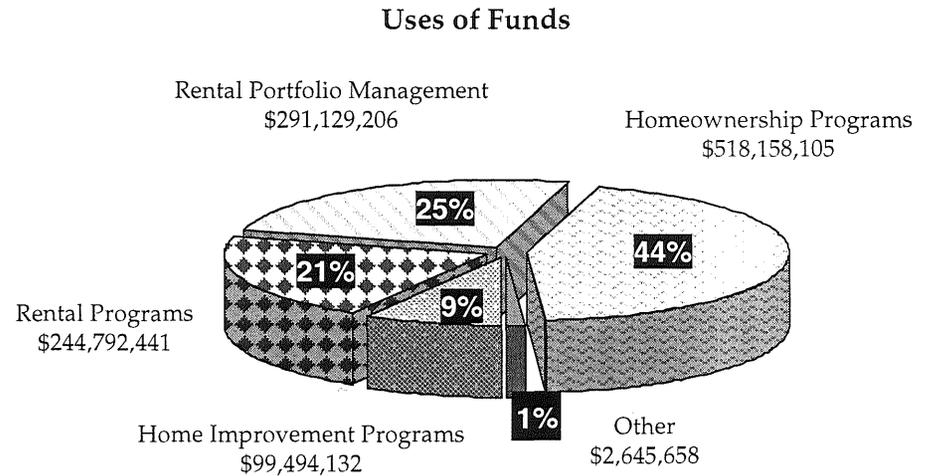
Housing Trust Fund

Finally, Minnesota's Housing Trust Fund, supported through a combination of the interest earnings on real estate escrow accounts and revenue bond application fees, and state appropriations, enables the MHFA to provide zero-interest deferred loans for housing development, operating costs, and rent assistance for very low-income tenants. Housing Trust Fund assistance is targeted by applying maximum income limits for program eligibility.

Using tax-exempt bonds, taxable bonds, Agency resources, and appropriated dollars, the MHFA offers various types of housing-related assistance ranging from homeownership training for first-time buyers to incentives to rental property owners for preservation of existing affordable housing. The MHFA targets assistance to low- and moderate-income Minnesotans or those with special housing needs, such as the homeless and the disabled, by establishing maximum income limits for eligibility in all but a few of its programs.

In the 2004/2005 Affordable Housing Plan as of June 24, 2004, the MHFA allocated resources to the following basic uses (note that

Rental Portfolio Management includes assistance payments on behalf of approximately 30,000 tenants of Section 8 housing):



Highlights in 2004

⇒ Funding provided for efforts to end long-term homelessness: The MHFA began accepting proposals for financing supportive housing under its Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative Fund (ELHIF), which includes an initial allocation of \$10 million in MHFA resources, \$2.7 million in state appropriations, and \$1.75 million in federal appropriations. The Fund advances the state's business plan to end long-term homelessness, which is slated to provide 4,000 new housing opportunities by 2010.

⇒ Funding homeless prevention efforts: Recipients of funds from MHFA's Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) provided more than \$3.5 million in cash assistance and support services to homeless people and people

at imminent risk of becoming homeless in rural Minnesota as well as metropolitan areas.

⇒ Closing the homeownership gap among minority groups:
The Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative (EMHI) began in June, 2004 with a directive from the Governor to increase homeownership rates of communities of color throughout the state. Fannie Mae, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and the MHFA are leading this public-private collaborative effort in which 50 organizations are working to increase the access to homeownership resources by communities of color in Minnesota and close the gap in homeownership rates.

⇒ Financing targeted homeownership initiatives:
The MHFA increased the amount of financing available through its Community Activity Set-Aside Program (CASA). CASA helps communities and their lending partners address specific locally identified housing needs by providing the lowest interest rate available through the Agency's first-time homebuyer loan programs. In 2004, first-time homebuyers borrowed \$92.2 million in CASA mortgage financing.

⇒ Assisting people to achieve economic self-sufficiency:
Through its Affordable Rental Investment Fund, the MHFA provided \$12.5 million to finance the development of housing targeted to recipients of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and to people who have lost MFIP benefits due to increased earnings or increased child support collections. MFIP is the state's major welfare program.

⇒ Developing affordable housing:
The MHFA worked to maximize leverage of the financial assistance provided to affordable housing developers. The Agency provided first mortgage financing or deferred loan assistance for 84% of the units for which rental property owners claimed tax credits in the last

reporting year. During the reporting year, owners claimed more than \$5.6 million in tax credits for 906 housing units occupied by low-income tenants.

⇒ Educating and counseling to ensure successful homeownership:
The MHFA, the Family Housing Fund, the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, and the Homeownership Center collaborated as funding partners to ensure the success of current homeowners and to provide information and guidance to first-time homebuyers through Homeownership Education, Counseling and Training. Nearly 7,400 households received information or foreclosure prevention assistance through contributions from public agencies and the private sector.

MHFA's Strategic Plan for Assisting Households

1) Implement the Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness

In 2003, the Minnesota Legislature, at the request of Governor Pawlenty, directed the state Commissioners of Human Services, Corrections, and Housing Finance to convene a broadly representative Working Group to address the issue of chronic or long-term homelessness in Minnesota. In March 2004, the Working Group submitted to the Minnesota Legislature a goal-oriented, reform-minded business plan to end long-term homelessness in Minnesota by 2010. The business plan calls for multidisciplinary, multi-sector and multi-jurisdictional strategies to address long-term homelessness. The business plan calls for a \$540 million investment over 7 years to create 4,000 additional housing opportunities.

By December 2004, the MHFA will have funded 274 additional units of housing for people experiencing long-term homelessness, exceeding the 2004 goal of 200 units. Funded projects are located throughout the state. More information on the business plan to end long-term homelessness is available at:
www.mhfa.state.mn.us/multifamily/LTH.htm

The MHFA has funded supportive housing under its assistance programs, such as the Housing Trust Fund, for years. Under the new

Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative Fund (ELHIF), additional assistance is available for development, rehabilitation, acquisition, or preservation, as well as for operating subsidies and rent assistance for permanent supportive housing. Proposals selected for funding since the spring of 2004 committed over \$13.5 million of MHFA financing to serve this population. Local foundations have capitalized an "Innovations Fund" for seed money to advance the business plan, local governments are supporting the plan, and significant interest and support exists from many other sectors including the Governor's bonding proposal, developers, and service providers.

Lydia Apartments involves the acquisition and rehabilitation of a previously vacant nursing home in Minneapolis into 40 units of permanent rental housing with supportive services for disabled homeless individuals. It is anticipated that 40% to 60% of residents will be employed, with a high percentage of those working full time. All units will be assisted through the Minneapolis Public Housing Agency's project-based Section 8 program and six of the units will be set aside for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The floor plan of the existing building will be reconfigured into efficiency units, each with its own bathroom and kitchen. Community-building activities and supportive services will be available on-site, as well as conference rooms, offices for staff, and laundry facilities. Built in 1960, the property was purchased in April 2001 by Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation, a separate nonprofit entity formed by members of the Plymouth Congregational Church. Spectrum Community Mental Health will provide support services for the residents.

The total development cost of the Lydia Apartments, approximately \$6.3 million, was funded through a large collaborative effort that included: housing tax credit syndication proceeds; the Federal Home Loan Bank's Affordable Housing Program; HUD's Supportive Housing Program; Hennepin County's AHIF program; federal HOME

and CDBG funds made available through the MCDA; Housing Trust Fund and federal HOPWA funds from the MHFA; the Family Housing Fund; and general partner cash available through fundraising.

2) Increase the Homeownership Rate for Underserved Ethnic Groups

According to *Census 2000*, more than 77% of all households in Minnesota own their own homes; however, Census data also reveals that only 41% of all households of color in Minnesota owned their homes in 2000. The MHFA is one of three conveners of the public-private Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative to increase the accessibility of information and resources to communities of color and close the gap in homeownership rates. The Governor has directed the group to create a business plan to increase homeownership rates "significantly and dramatically" in the next six years. More information on this initiative is available at: www.mhfa.state.mn.us/homes/EMHI.htm

Pursuing its strategic goal to increase the homeownership rate for underserved ethnic groups, the MHFA provided more than \$68 million in entry cost assistance and first mortgages to assist 665 households of color achieve homeownership between October 1, 2003 and September 30, 2004.

Habitat for Humanity Minnesota has provided homeownership opportunities to people in need, with a high participation rate by communities of color, since its inception. Of the homebuyers assisted through Habitat to date, 65% in the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area and 17% in Greater Minnesota have been of color. The Agency continued its partnership with Habitat in 2004 with a commitment of \$4 million in MHFA 2% loan funding to Habitat's *Next 1,000 Homes Campaign*.

Based on data from *Census 2000*, the MHFA has estimated households of color as a percentage of all households in Minnesota who may be eligible for MHFA assistance. These estimates allow assessment of

MHFA performance in meeting the need for homeownership and other types of housing assistance among underserved groups during FY 2004. As the following table reflects, the MHFA serves a relatively high percentage of households of color.

Households of Color as a Percentage of All Households
Estimated to be Eligible and the
Percentage of MHFA-Assisted Households of Color in 2004

First-time buyers		Renters		Home improvement		Home rehab	
Eligible	Assisted	Eligible	Assisted	Eligible	Assisted	Eligible	Assisted
17%	20%	20%	31%	5%	9%	5%	12%

3) Strategically Preserve Existing Affordable Housing Stock

The MHFA disbursed funds to rehabilitate, improve, or preserve the affordability of nearly 5,500 units of existing single and multifamily housing in FY 2004. This activity includes more than \$7.7 million used to preserve 675 units of existing subsidized rental housing through the Preservation Affordable Rental Investment Fund (PARIF) and \$5.1 million to rehabilitate 461 units of owner-occupied housing through the Rehabilitation Loan Program.

Preservation of existing housing remains the most cost-effective means of providing affordable housing. Each dollar of state spending under various Agency programs, since 1998, has preserved \$5 of federal investment in affordable rental housing.

Preservation of Federally Assisted Rental Housing

Number of developments	Total units	Assisted units	Average MHFA subsidy per assisted unit	Remaining subsidy term, preserved units	Return on preservation
103	7,949	7,170	\$11,052	15 years	5.0

Through assistance and redefined equity programs, the MHFA has worked with owners of more than 130 developments (a total of more than 8,600 existing subsidized rental units) to extend their participation in federal housing assistance programs, therefore retaining affordable rents for an average of 15 additional years.

The MHFA allocates the greatest proportion of its federal HOME funds (75% of the \$12 million grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2004) to the HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program and the Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program, in which vacant or abandoned properties are rehabilitated and sold to at-risk homebuyers.

The MHFA disbursed \$5,803,825 in asset management funds, including assistance for deferred maintenance, to owners of rental housing previously funded by the Agency. The MHFA also assisted owners to meet a variety of needs, such as tenant service coordination and counseling, using MHFA resources from the Multifamily Endowment Fund.

The MHFA disbursed \$1,755,924 in federal funds under Section 236 for ongoing interest reduction payments to owners of 567 units of affordable rental housing previously financed by the Agency.

4) Increase Housing Choices for Low- and Moderate-Income Workers

The lack of housing choices for Minnesota workers affects the state's economic vitality. The Agency is working to increase housing choices

for low- and moderate-income workers to ensure they can live in the communities they choose. The MHFA works collaboratively with a broad range of entities including employers, philanthropic organizations, local governments, nonprofits, and others to provide increased housing choices for workers.

Households in the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area spend more on transportation, annually, than residents of LA, Chicago and the US as a whole. Clearly, efforts are needed to provide more housing affordable to workers close to their places of employment so that more of the workers' income is available for other necessities, and to help build wealth.

The following illustrations show how MHFA is helping to address the lack of housing choices for people with low and moderate incomes in their communities.

Upper Landings-Block 7 is 90 units of primarily market rate rental housing, part of downtown Saint Paul's riverfront development. This new development includes 15 affordable units that provide lower income tenants with a new, mixed-income, urban community located close to a park with child play areas and to many job opportunities. The MHFA has contributed a \$1,772,523 deferred loan to make these 15 units affordable to tenants whose incomes qualify them for MFIP (public assistance). The City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County will work together to provide supportive services to the tenants. Upper Landings is only one example of the truly cooperative efforts to provide more "workforce housing" in Minnesota.

According to the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission's survey of public assistance recipients, the three largest barriers for area residents attempting to leave public assistance are lack of housing, lack of childcare, and lack of transportation. The YWCA hopes to help single mothers work toward self-sufficiency by removing these barriers through Spirit Valley. Spirit Valley provides

permanent supportive housing to low-income, single young pregnant women or mothers between the ages of 16 and 24. The project reuses an existing brick commercial building in the West Duluth business corridor, and includes on-site day care as well as a full-time staff person/caretaker who will live on the site. Job training and support services will be provided by Memorial Family Resource Center located two blocks away. A transit hub that will provide transit throughout Duluth is planned for location across the street from the development. The mix of housing and services offered at Spirit Valley was developed with the input of Rural Urban Housing Coalition, the Low Income Housing Consortium, and Saint Louis County. The MHFA provided \$720,000 to fund the project from the Minnesota Affordable Rental Investment Fund.

Heritage Park



With a total of 900 new units of owner-occupied, rental and public housing units to be constructed in a variety of styles when the project is completed, as well as new parkways, parks and a community

building, Heritage Park is a comprehensive, collaboratively planned and implemented development in north Minneapolis for which the total project cost amounts to \$225 million. These mixed-income housing units, including apartments, townhomes, single-family homes and other housing types, replace the 700-unit Sumner-Olson project razed as part of a 1995 consent decree that resolved the Hollman v. Cisneros lawsuit. The decree brought \$117 million in development funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as substantial investment from MHFA – nearly \$8.4 million to fund 440 rental units – and other public and private funders. The expected completion date for the new mix of market rate, subsidized, and Habitat homes is December of 2009. Heritage Park has revitalized the long distressed neighborhood near downtown Minneapolis and is providing attractive, quality housing for families and individuals with a wide range of incomes.

5) Establish the MHFA as a Partner of Choice

The Agency is working to enhance its status as a preferred partner and has instituted a number of initiatives to accomplish this goal. Commissioner Tim Marx created the Housing Resource Advisory Group through which staff and funding partners, local and municipal representatives, and nonprofits advise the Commissioner and Agency staff on the investment and allocation of housing resources. The group is exploring a variety of issues, considering how MHFA funds can best complement local housing assistance resources and discussing approaches to resource investment to most effectively meet Minnesotans' need for decent, safe, affordable housing and stronger communities.

The MHFA awards much of its funding through a collaborative, multi-organizational Super RFP process in which applicants can apply for a variety of resources for a specific housing project from numerous sources through a one-stop-shopping system using one application. During FY 2004, the MHFA's Multifamily Division began implementing a significant effort to improve customer service,

efficiency, and effectiveness after thorough examination of its processes. Staff members are reviewing and revising underwriting standards, processing systems, design standards, and application and closing documents in an effort to streamline processes and develop easier, better, faster ways for housing sponsors and other customers to do business with the MHFA.

Affordable housing requires the creative use of funding resources from many entities, as well as regulatory and other nonmonetary contributions like land donation, density allowances, zoning flexibility, and tax increment financing that enhance the affordability of housing. These many resources are necessary to produce housing at rents or sales prices affordable to low- and moderate-income households. Under the programs such as the Community Activity Set-Aside and the Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund, the MHFA awards extra "points" in the funding selection process for development proposals that provide such assistance.

The following illustrations demonstrate MHFA collaborative activities to help communities rebuild, revitalize, or flourish.



Roseau Court Townhomes is one of many examples of how the MHFA, communities and other partners leverage their resources to develop affordable housing. Roseau Court Townhomes is a new 24-unit development of workforce housing that the MHFA

selected for funding following a 2002 flood that displaced many families in this northwestern Minnesota community. The MHFA provided a \$396,923 LMIR loan; \$1,246,824 in flood recovery funds; and \$1,000,000 in general obligation bond funds. Project funding also included tax credit syndication proceeds, city tax increment financing, and the contribution of Roseau's largest employer, Polaris Industries.

Rochester's First Homes program is a unique public-private collaborative designed to provide 875 starter homes by 2005 in the Greater Rochester area. The initiative, established with major contributions from the Mayo Clinic, the Rochester Foundation, and the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund creates owner-occupied homes and rental housing for area families and individuals within the program's income limits. The program receives significant support from a wide variety of other funders including area businesses; federal, state, and local governments; builders; lenders; and many philanthropic and nonprofit organizations. First Homes employs a variety of programs and approaches to fulfill its mission, such as Habitat homes and community land trusts. As of the end of this program year, more than 600 residences have been built. First Homes is the MHFA's single largest commitment of resources to a venture, with almost \$49 million devoted to the effort as of the end of this program year.



In FY 2004, Habitat for Humanity worked with local organizations to assist additional low-income homebuyers by matching the \$4.2 million provided to 49 homebuyers under the MHFA's Bruce Vento Affordable Housing Program.

Communities, nonprofits, and others provided \$9.2 million for a variety of housing projects to meet local housing needs, projects for which the MHFA provided nearly \$6.4 million in Community Revitalization funding. The MHFA also provided \$5 million in rehabilitation loan assistance during 2004, which homeowners used for rehabilitation projects with \$378,000 from other funding sources.

In FY 2004, MHFA loans to rental housing developments leveraged \$8,440,116 in annual Housing Tax Credits with \$23,376,936 in financing from the MHFA's first mortgage program; \$21,517,453 in other MHFA resources; and \$6,010,502 from the MHFA's funding partners.

The MHFA also assists nonprofit entities to increase their ability to deliver affordable housing in communities. The Organizational Support Program provides deferred repayment assistance that ranges from nonprofit staff training to operating expense payments for affordable housing projects owned by a nonprofit entity. The Nonprofit Capacity Building Loan Program provides short-term loans to housing sponsors for predevelopment costs, such as architectural fees, for affordable housing. Under that program, the MHFA made 21 loans totaling \$1,829,827 in FY 2004. (These short-term loans are repaid at the time of initial closing on permanent financing, frequently through an MHFA program, so they are not included in this report as assistance to households or sponsors.)

With the collaboration of its partners, the MHFA assisted households throughout Minnesota's regions in relatively close proportion to the distribution of all households estimated to be eligible for MHFA assistance (see Table 10).

Conclusion

In the fall of 2004, from the Agency's most recent funding cycle, the MHFA Board of Directors approved \$35 million in commitments to affordable rental housing development, rehabilitation and preservation projects, operating subsidies, and rental assistance. The

Board also approved \$8 million in commitments to finance affordable single-family housing development and rehabilitation, and to rehabilitate and sell blighted and abandoned property to at-risk homebuyers. The next funding cycle, in the spring of 2005, will provide new MHFA commitments to affordable housing in Minnesota.

In 2005, the MHFA will work with staff of the Minnesota Department of Human Services to continue implementation of the elements of the Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness. Agencies will seek ways in which to reduce development and operating costs for supportive housing.

The MHFA will continue to work with Fannie Mae, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and community partners to develop and implement a business plan for increasing homeownership among communities of color through the Emerging Markets Homeownership Initiative.

Clearly, the MHFA is achieving progress with the goals set out in its new strategic plan, which focuses on ending long-term homelessness, increasing the homeownership rate for underserved ethnic groups, preserving the existing stock of affordable housing, increasing housing choices for low- and moderate-income workers, and establishing the MHFA as a housing partner of choice.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like to obtain additional copies of this assessment or any other reports referenced here, please contact the MHFA at:

400 Sibley Street, Suite 300
St. Paul, MN 55101-1998
Telephone: (651) 296-7608 or (800) 657-3769 toll-free or
(651) 297-2361 for TTY

You also will find this report posted on the MHFA's website at:
www.mhfa.state.mn.us
(See *About the MHFA, Agency Reports*)

Understanding Housing Assistance Data

Under rental housing programs, the dollar amount of MHFA assistance reported is by the program from which MHFA disbursed the funds. Units in developments that received funding from more than one MHFA program have been identified once; units are "assigned" to the program that provided the greatest amount of funding of the total assistance to the development. Based on the use of different MHFA funding sources and amounts for each development, average assistance per unit for rental housing varies greatly and is most meaningful for specific developments, rather than by program.

Average annual assistance amounts shown are based on total assistance disbursed and total households assisted. For tenant households receiving voucher assistance, this is an average annual assistance amount per household regardless of months of assistance. Assistance amounts are estimated based on the voucher amount at the most recent certification for household participation in a program.

Annual tenant demographics are based on data reported to the MHFA by owners of those developments occupied for the first time during the reporting year; information provides a one-time "snapshot" taken at initial occupancy. Demographics may vary widely from year to year, reflecting the number, size, and type of developments for which owners report occupancy information. Occupancy information may not be immediately available to the MHFA for rental housing programs; demographics for housing occupied in FY 2004 may be for housing financed in a previous year.

The MHFA allocates federal Housing Tax Credits (HTC) to qualifying rental property owners and also provides financing to many tax

credit developments. The annual HTC amount is reported and units are counted once, either under the program from which the MHFA provided financing, or as units for which the MHFA allocated credits without funding.

Some programs, such as Organizational Support (for nonprofit organizations), do not directly assist households; therefore, demographic data are noted as being "not applicable." Where fewer than three loans have been made in an area, data are not shown by program, but are included in subtotals and totals.

The Minnesota Mortgage Program, Community Activity Set-Aside, and Minnesota City Participation Program provide Homeownership Assistance Funds (HAF) for entry cost assistance, monthly payment assistance, and Entry Cost Assistance Plus loans to eligible households. HAF is available as a second mortgage to qualifying lower income borrowers. We report information on HAF assistance and HAF-assisted households in several different ways; however, households are counted only once, under the MHFA program that provided first mortgage financing. The total average MHFA amount provided to HAF-assisted borrowers includes both the first mortgage and second mortgage amounts shown.

A household includes the members of an occupied housing unit. For the purposes of this report, a female-headed family is defined as one adult woman (the borrower or householder) living with one or more children who are under the age of 18. A household of color is defined as one in which the borrower or householder is identified as being of a race other than white, or white and of Hispanic ethnicity. Data from *Census 2000* show that female-headed families comprise 6% of all households in Minnesota and households of color comprise nearly 8% of all households. Census data for some metropolitan areas indicate higher proportions of households of color in metropolitan areas, for example nearly 25% in Minneapolis and 22% in Saint Paul. These two groups, female-headed families and households of color, traditionally

have had lower incomes, special housing needs, or limited access to existing resources. The MHFA is committed to meeting the needs of these households. Female-headed families and households of color are included in data shown in all data tables; however, the MHFA also reports separately on the assistance to each of these household types.

MHFA bases the distribution of all households estimated to be eligible for MHFA assistance on Census data. Estimates include households eligible for first-time homebuyer assistance (income-eligible renters), households eligible for improvement or rehab loans (income-eligible homeowners) and households eligible for Section 8 (renters with incomes 80% or less of HUD's estimated area median income.) Under Section 8, roughly 50% of the units assisted are in developments for elderly tenants and 50% are in developments for families. A review of occupancy data in developments for families (only) shows, historically, that between 80% and 85% of units in Section 8 developments for families have been occupied by female-headed families.

Table 1
Income Distribution, MHFA-Assisted Households, FY 2004

Gross Annual Household Income	MHFA Assistance, not including Section 8		MHFA Assistance, Section 8 only		All Assisted Households Reporting	
	Number of Households Reporting	Percent of Total Reporting	Number of Households Reporting	Percent of Total Reporting	Number of Households Reporting	Percent of Total Reporting
\$0-\$1,999	765	4%	1,552	5%	2,317	4%
\$2,000-\$3,999	510	2%	1,085	4%	1,595	3%
\$4,000-\$5,999	1,051	5%	2,093	7%	3,144	6%
\$6,000-\$7,999	2,086	10%	6,276	21%	8,362	16%
\$8,000-\$9,999	1,124	5%	4,438	15%	5,562	11%
\$10,000-\$11,999	948	4%	4,049	13%	4,997	10%
\$12,000-\$13,999	931	4%	3,107	10%	4,038	8%
\$14,000-\$15,999	903	4%	2,268	7%	3,171	6%
\$16,000-\$17,999	706	3%	1,580	5%	2,286	4%
\$18,000-\$19,999	863	4%	1,152	4%	2,015	4%
\$20,000-\$21,999	798	4%	870	3%	1,668	3%
\$22,000-\$23,999	735	3%	613	2%	1,348	3%
\$24,000-\$25,999	867	4%	488	2%	1,355	3%
\$26,000-\$27,999	792	4%	303	1%	1,095	2%
\$28,000-\$29,999	721	3%	246	1%	967	2%
\$30,000-\$31,999	822	4%	145	0.5%	967	2%
\$32,000-\$33,999	692	3%	96	0.3%	788	2%
\$34,000-\$41,999	2,358	11%	142	0.5%	2,500	5%
\$42,000 and above	3,760	18%	31	0.1%	3,791	7%
Total	21,432	100%	30,534	100%	51,966	100%

This table includes households who received MHFA assistance under programs with varying income guidelines.

Table 2
MHFA-Assisted Households Compared with Selected Income Standards, FY 2004

Program	Median Annual Household Incomes and Income Standards
General Assistance maximum benefit (single adult)	\$2,436
Housing Trust Fund-Transitional	\$4,338
Housing Trust Fund (HTF)	\$6,384
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$6,847
Bridges	\$7,560
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance (HTF RA)	\$8,796
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)	\$9,100
Section 8 Contract Administration	\$9,422
ARIF-Minnesota Families (MARIF)	\$9,780
ARIF-Preservation (PARIF)	\$10,131
MN Family Investment Program (one adult, two children) maximum cash benefit	\$10,224
HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program	\$10,578
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-MHFA	\$10,579
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$12,400
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization (RAFS)	\$14,040
Affordable Rental Investment Fund (ARIF)	\$15,020
Poverty Threshold (3-person household)	\$15,670
Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$16,800
Housing Tax Credits (HTC)	\$17,599
Poverty Threshold (4-person household)	\$18,850
Low and Moderate Income Rental Program (LMIR)	\$20,905
Innovative and Inclusionary Housing	\$23,826
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$24,444

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Table 2
MHFA-Assisted Households Compared with Selected Income Standards, FY 2004 *(continued)*

Program	Median Annual Household Incomes and Income Standards
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program (MURL)	\$24,960
Community Revitalization (CRV)	\$29,500
Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund	\$29,788
Homeownership Education, Counseling, and Training (HECAT)	\$30,000
50% of HUD Median Income, Statewide	\$33,000
Homeownership Assistance Fund (HAF)	\$33,048
Minnesota Mortgage Program (MMP)	\$33,557
Tribal Indian Housing Program	\$34,091
Minnesota City Participation Program (MCP)	\$34,505
Community Activity Set-Aside Program (CASA)	\$35,958
Disaster Relief	\$28,066
50% of HUD Median Income, Minneapolis/Saint Paul	\$38,200
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program (ECHO)	\$38,484
Community Fix-Up Fund (CFUF)	\$41,710
60% of HUD Median Income, Minneapolis/Saint Paul	\$45,840
Fix-Up Fund (FUF)	\$46,981
HUD Median Income, Statewide	\$66,000
HUD Median Income for Minneapolis/Saint Paul	\$76,400

Table 3
MHFA Housing Assistance in Minnesota, FY 2004

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage Female-Headed Families	Percentage Households of Color
Single Family Homes						
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$4,206,613	49	\$85,849	\$24,444	45%	51%
Community Activity Set-Aside Program	\$92,212,403	694	\$132,871	\$35,958	22%	32%
no HAF	\$5,738,126	47	\$122,088	\$37,200	6%	36%
with HAF	\$86,474,277	647	\$133,654	\$35,796	23%	31%
Community Fix-Up Fund	\$9,390,082	731	\$12,846	\$41,710	13%	13%
Community Revitalization	\$6,373,051	326	\$19,549	\$29,500	18%	9%
Disaster Relief	\$501,627	39	\$12,862	\$28,066	8%	10%
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity	\$1,458,445	479	\$3,045	\$38,484	14%	25%
Fix-Up Fund	\$26,187,110	1,939	\$13,505	\$46,981	7%	7%
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$8,380,333	1,105	\$7,584	\$33,048	22%	27%
Homeownership Education, Counseling, and Training	\$1,673,490	7,388	\$227	\$30,000	22%	26%
Minnesota City Participation Program	\$47,848,379	442	\$108,254	\$34,505	12%	12%
no HAF	\$32,913,327	296	\$111,194	\$36,458	6%	7%
with HAF	\$14,935,052	146	\$102,295	\$31,004	24%	23%
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$105,850,801	1,114	\$95,019	\$33,557	11%	13%
no HAF	\$75,724,185	802	\$94,419	\$34,890	8%	6%
with HAF	\$30,126,617	312	\$96,560	\$28,843	20%	30%
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading	\$1,365,750	19	\$71,882	\$24,960	32%	16%
Organizational Support Program	\$475,000	Not applicable				
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$5,093,435	461	\$11,049	\$12,400	15%	12%
Tribal Indian Housing Program	\$5,578,194	76	\$73,397	\$34,091	20%	97%
Subtotal, Single Family	\$316,594,713	13,757				

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Table 3
MHFA Housing Assistance in Minnesota, FY 2004 (continued)

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage Female-Headed Families	Percentage Households of Color
Homeownership	\$274,947,459	10,587				
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$41,172,254	3,170				
Organizational support	\$475,000	Not applicable				
Multifamily Housing**						
Affordable Rental Investment Fund	\$826,335	16	\$9,837	\$15,020	43%	18%
ARIF-Minnesota Families	\$12,492,057	84	\$105,865	\$9,780	77%	46%
ARIF-Preservation	\$7,659,719	675	\$8,140	\$10,131	17%	28%
Bridges***	\$1,453,137	429	\$3,387	\$7,560	20%	15%
Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund	\$6,791,702	523	\$10,353	\$29,788	30%	21%
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)***	\$3,526,547	6,657	\$530	\$9,100	48%	60%
HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program	\$3,165,222	255	\$12,413	\$10,578	15%	7%
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$161,029	226	\$820	\$7,920	16%	35%
Housing Tax Credits (HTC)****	\$5,627,229	906		\$17,599	31%	48%
With MHFA assistance	\$4,812,411	760		\$20,306	37%	49%
Without MHFA assistance	\$814,818	146		\$8,086	4%	40%
Housing Trust Fund (HTF)	\$3,105,146	479	\$6,483	\$6,384	24%	55%
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance	\$1,226,387	397	\$3,089	\$8,796	56%	53%
HTF-Transitional		Not applicable		\$4,338	0%	25%
Innovative and Inclusionary Housing	\$325,000	8	\$40,625	\$23,826	67%	0%
Low and Moderate Income Rental Program	\$25,917,656	749	\$34,603	\$20,905	47%	29%

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Table 3
MHFA Housing Assistance in Minnesota, FY 2004 (continued)

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage Female-Headed Families	Percentage Households of Color
Multifamily Employer Matching Grants	\$193,550	Not applicable				
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization***	\$702,486	337	\$2,085	\$14,040	73%	53%
Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$1,439,694	372	\$3,870	\$16,800	27%	45%
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-MHFA	\$73,992,013	12,927	\$5,724	\$10,579	21%	15%
Section 8 Contract Administration	\$68,783,348	17,607	\$3,907	\$9,422	17%	29%
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$217,388,257	41,887				
Total	\$533,982,970	55,644				

*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Due to the fact that some developments are assisted under more than one MHFA rental program, tenant household characteristics inadvertently might be reported more than once. Annual tenant demographics are based on data reported to the MHFA by owners of developments occupied for the first time during the reporting year. Demographics may vary widely from year to year, reflecting the number, size, and type of developments for which owners report occupancy information.

***This amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance for services during the reporting year.

****Units for which owners claimed federal tax credits for the first time in the previous calendar year and annual amount of credit. These units are occupied or available for occupancy. Tax credit units receiving MHFA assistance are counted only once, under the program from which the agency disbursed assistance funds. The total amount of tax credit and those HTC units the MHFA allocated without MHFA assistance are included in subtotal and total counts.

Note: Households of color include a borrower or householder who is identified either as being of a race other than white, or white with Hispanic ethnicity shown as a percentage of all households assisted under a program.

Table 4
MHFA Housing Assistance in Duluth, FY 2004

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female- Headed Families	Percentage of Households of Color
Single Family Homes						
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing		< 3	Not available			
Community Activity Set-Aside Program	\$1,689,579	20	\$84,479	\$26,646	25%	0%
Community Fix-Up Fund		< 3	Not available			
Community Revitalization Fund	\$660,684	20	\$33,034	\$23,350	30%	5%
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program	\$190,167	57	\$3,336	\$30,396	14%	4%
Fix-Up Fund	\$268,708	30	\$8,957	\$34,920	3%	0%
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$104,395	39	\$2,677	\$27,948	26%	0%
Minnesota City Participation Program	\$2,280,553	21	\$108,598	\$33,408	10%	0%
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$2,741,250	28	\$97,902	\$31,008	14%	0%
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program		< 3	Not available			
Organizational Support Program	\$80,000	Not applicable				
Rehabilitation Loan Program		< 3	Not available			
Tribal Indian Housing Program		< 3	Not available			
Subtotal, Single Family	\$8,443,023	183				
Homeownership	\$8,058,894	150				
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$304,128	33				
Organizational support	\$80,000	Not applicable				

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Table 4
MHFA Housing Assistance in Duluth, FY 2004 (continued)

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female- Headed Families	Percentage of Households of Color
Multifamily Housing**						
ARIF-Minnesota Families	\$594,000	6	Not applicable	\$7,747	67%	67%
ARIF-Preservation	\$540,000	60	Not applicable			
Bridges***	\$225,811	60	\$3,764	\$7,734	22%	22%
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program***	\$94,898	333	\$285	\$7,638	33%	38%
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program and Contract Administration***	\$3,997,980	855		\$9,392	10%	7%
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$5,452,689	1,314				
City Total	\$13,895,712	1,497				

*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Due to the fact that some developments are assisted under more than one MHFA rental program, tenant household characteristics inadvertently might be reported more than once. Annual tenant demographics are based on data reported to the MHFA by owners of developments occupied for the first time during the reporting year. Demographics may vary widely from year to year, reflecting the number, size, and type of developments for which owners report occupancy information.

***Voucher assistance amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance estimated to be provided for services during the reporting year. Section 8 assistance amount is estimated based on statewide average assistance per household.

Note: Where the MHFA funded fewer than three households or units (i.e., < 3) data were withheld at the program level to limit disclosure, but were included in subtotals and totals.

Table 5
MHFA Housing Assistance in Minneapolis, FY 2004

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female-Headed Families	Percentage of Households of Color
Single Family Homes						
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$1,295,841	13	\$99,680	\$26,880	38%	92%
Community Activity Set-Aside Program	\$9,861,442	67	\$147,186	\$37,136	25%	40%
Community Fix-Up Fund	\$1,908,913	165	\$11,569	\$52,068	13%	29%
Community Revitalization Fund	\$259,364	25	\$10,375	\$31,146	4%	28%
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program	\$243,669	81	\$3,008	\$39,360	19%	41%
Fix-Up Fund	\$2,061,617	153	\$13,475	\$51,097	14%	24%
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$856,400	77	\$11,122	\$37,136	21%	39%
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$6,305,606	41	\$153,795	\$42,696	0%	24%
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$701,731	60	\$11,696	\$11,750	17%	43%
Subtotal, Single Family	\$23,494,583	605				
Homeownership	\$18,822,322	227				
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$4,672,262	378				
Multifamily Housing**						
ARIF-Minnesota Families	\$2,194,597	25	Not applicable	\$5,244	90%	90%
ARIF-Preservation	\$600,000	50	Not applicable			
Bridges***	\$225,811	46	\$4,909	\$7,515	9%	37%
Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund	\$1,645,000	154	Not applicable			

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Table 5
 MHFA Housing Assistance in Minneapolis, FY 2004 (continued)

Programs	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female-Headed Families	Percentage of Households of Color
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program***	\$602,591	2,109	\$286	\$7,452	57%	87%
Housing Tax Credits (HTC)**	\$450,000	Not applicable		\$21,112	29%	95%
Housing Trust Fund (HTF)	\$713,044	97	Not applicable	\$2,436	0%	60%
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance	\$361,301	98	\$3,687	\$8,706	54%	78%
Low and Moderate Income Rental Program	\$10,722,725	222	Not applicable	\$13,849	92%	100%
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization***	\$147,136	66	\$2,229	\$11,512	77%	83%
Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$436,583	192	\$2,274	\$29,120	10%	73%
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program and Contract Administration***	\$21,341,264	4,564		\$7,980	18%	57%
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$39,440,052	7,623				
City Total	\$62,934,635	8,228				

*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Due to the fact that some developments are assisted under more than one MHFA rental program, tenant household characteristics inadvertently might be reported more than once. Annual tenant demographics are based on data reported to the MHFA by owners of developments occupied for the first time during the reporting year. Demographics may vary widely from year to year, reflecting the number, size, and type of developments for which owners report occupancy information. HTC units with MHFA assistance are counted under the program from which MHFA disbursed funds; credit amount is shown.

***Voucher assistance amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance estimated to be provided for services during the reporting year. Section 8 assistance amount is estimated based on statewide average assistance per household.

Table 6
MHFA Housing Assistance in Saint Paul, FY 2004

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female-Headed Families	Percentage Households of Color
Single Family Homes						
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$911,609	10	\$91,161	\$22,848	30%	90%
Community Activity Set-Aside	\$10,072,513	68	\$148,125	\$38,619	26%	59%
Community Fix-Up Fund	\$899,229	77	\$11,678	\$44,223	16%	30%
Community Revitalization Fund	\$314,101	19	\$16,532	\$26,462	21%	5%
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program	\$254,876	80	\$3,186	\$42,376	13%	43%
Fix-Up Fund	\$1,087,028	83	\$13,097	\$51,597	14%	25%
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$827,664	86	\$9,624	\$38,547	20%	47%
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$6,984,469	46	\$151,836	\$38,486	0%	50%
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$253,992	25	\$10,160	\$15,192	28%	76%
Subtotal, Single Family	\$21,605,482	408				
Homeownership	\$19,365,233	223				
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$2,240,249	185				
Multifamily Housing**						
Affordable Rental Investment Fund	\$400,000	16	Not applicable			
ARIF-Minnesota Families	\$2,808,549	19	Not applicable	\$7,043	75%	100%
Bridges***	\$180,552	38	\$4,751	\$7,752	11%	34%
Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund	\$800,000	79	Not applicable			
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program***	\$545,181	1,156	\$472	\$8,364	47%	79%
Housing Tax Credits**	\$266,030	Not applicable				

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Table 6
MHFA Housing Assistance in Saint Paul, FY 2004 *(continued)*

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household or Unit	Median Annual Household Income	Percentage of Female-Headed Families	Percentage Households of Color
Housing Trust Fund (HTF)	\$806,852	259	Not applicable	\$9,102	10%	67%
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance	\$187,930	30	\$6,264	\$7,608	37%	67%
HTF-Transitional	Not applicable			\$4,338	0%	25%
Low and Moderate Income Rental Program	\$735,000	58	Not applicable			
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization***	\$165,080	70	\$2,358	\$11,887	69%	77%
Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$143,134	31	\$4,617	\$25,000	16%	50%
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program and Contract Administration***	\$19,087,432	4,082		\$7,596	19%	55%
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$26,125,740	5,838				
City Total	\$47,731,222	6,246				

*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Due to the fact that some developments are assisted under more than one MHFA rental program, tenant household characteristics inadvertently might be reported more than once. Annual tenant demographics are based on data reported to the MHFA by owners of developments occupied for the first time during the reporting year. Demographics may vary widely from year to year, reflecting the number, size, and type of developments for which owners report occupancy information. HTC units with MHFA assistance are counted under the program from which MHFA disbursed funds; credit amount is shown.

***Voucher assistance amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance estimated to be provided for services during the reporting year. Section 8 assistance amount is estimated based on statewide average assistance per household.

Table 7
MHFA Housing Assistance by Type, FY 2004

Program	Rehabilitate/ Preserve Existing Housing	Construct New Housing	Purchase Existing Housing	Rental Assistance	Homeless Prevention	Education and Training	Total Assisted
Single Family Homes							
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing		49					49
Community Activity Set-Aside Program		243	451				694
Community Fix-Up Fund	731						731
Community Revitalization Fund	102	161	63				326
Disaster Relief	39						39
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program		12	466				478
Fix-Up Fund	1,939						1,939
Homeownership Education, Counseling, and Training						7,388	7,388
Minnesota City Participation Program		40	402				442
Minnesota Mortgage Program		41	1,073				1,114
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program	19						19
Rehabilitation Loan Program	461						461
Tribal Indian Housing Program	10	23	43				76
Subtotal, Single Family	3,301	569	2,498	0	0	7,388	13,756
Homeownership	131	569	2,498	0	0	7,388	10,586
Home improvement/rehabilitation	3,170	0	0	0	0	0	3,170
Multifamily Housing							
Affordable Rental Investment Fund	16						16
ARIF-MN Families	13	71					84
ARIF-Preservation	675						675

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Table 7
MHFA Housing Assistance by Type, FY 2004 (continued)

Program	Rehabilitate/ Preserve Existing Housing	Construct New Housing	Purchase Existing Housing	Rental Assistance	Homeless Prevention	Education and Training	Total Assisted
Bridges				429			429
Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund	163	360					523
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program					6,657		6,657
HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program	255						255
HOPWA				226			226
Housing Tax Credits (no MHFA assistance)	39	107					146
Housing Trust Fund	321	158					479
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance				397			397
Innovative and Inclusionary Housing		8					8
Low and Moderate Income Rental Program	324	425					749
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization				337			337
Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program	372						372
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-MHFA				12,927			12,927
Section 8 Contract Administration				17,607			17,607
Subtotal, Multifamily	2,178	1,129	0	31,923	6,657	0	41,887
Total	5,479	1,698	2,498	31,923	6,657	7,388	55,643

Table 8
MHFA-Assisted Female-Headed Families, FY 2004

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household	Median Annual Household Income
Single Family Homes				
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$1,741,997	22	\$79,182	\$21,108
Community Activity Set-Aside Program	\$19,366,931	151	\$128,258	\$34,445
Community Fix-Up Fund	\$1,144,691	94	\$12,178	\$33,209
Community Revitalization Fund	\$1,074,741	59	\$18,216	\$26,100
Disaster Relief	\$26,250	3	\$8,750	\$18,660
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program	\$207,450	68	\$3,051	\$35,094
Fix-Up Fund	\$1,958,570	140	\$13,990	\$36,288
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$2,049,757	246	\$8,332	\$31,630
Minnesota City Participation Program	\$5,375,746	54	\$99,551	\$32,002
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$10,983,682	128	\$85,810	\$27,580
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program	\$523,491	6	\$87,249	\$24,010
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$739,449	69	\$10,717	\$14,350
Tribal Indian Housing Program	\$1,241,295	15	\$82,753	\$27,856
Subtotal, Single Family	\$46,434,050	809		
Homeownership	\$42,565,090	503		
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$3,868,960	306		
Multifamily Housing				
Bridges**	\$342,868	85	\$4,034	\$7,230
FHPAP**	\$1,610,867	3,187	\$505	\$8,364
HOPWA	\$18,480	22	\$840	\$7,920
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance**	\$681,869	222	\$3,071	\$9,050

Continued on next page

Table 8
MHFA-Assisted Female-Headed Families, FY 2004 (continued)

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household	Median Annual Household Income
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization**	\$514,172	245	\$2,099	\$13,872
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-MHFA **	\$15,523,488	2,712		\$9,289
Section 8 Contract Administration**	\$11,721,000	3,000		\$7,719
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$30,412,744	9,473		
Total	\$76,846,794	10,282		

*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Voucher assistance amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance estimated to be provided for services during the reporting year. Section 8 assistance amount is estimated based on statewide average assistance per household.

Table 9
MHFA-Assisted Households of Color, FY 2004

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household	Median Annual Household Income
Single Family Homes				
Bruce Vento Affordable Housing	\$2,513,161	25	\$100,526	\$26,940
Community Activity Set-Aside Program	\$33,118,550	219	\$151,226	\$40,000
Community Fix-Up Fund	\$1,277,564	97	\$13,171	\$42,880
Community Revitalization Fund	\$583,136	28	\$20,826	\$31,914
Disaster Relief	\$58,658	4	\$14,665	\$33,623
Entry Cost Homeownership Opportunity Program	\$362,945	121	\$3,000	\$38,256
Fix-Up Fund	\$1,705,386	133	\$12,822	\$49,040
Homeownership Assistance Fund*	\$2,737,943	302	\$9,066	\$40,148
Minnesota City Participation Program	\$6,581,864	54	\$121,886	\$38,672
Minnesota Mortgage Program	\$16,511,672	140	\$117,941	\$39,104
Minnesota Urban and Rural Homesteading Program	\$171,940	3	\$57,313	\$24,308
Rehabilitation Loan Program	\$647,608	56	\$11,564	\$14,604
Tribal Indian Housing Program	\$5,506,994	75	\$73,427	\$34,089
Subtotal, Single Family	\$71,777,421	955		
Homeownership	\$68,088,205	665		
Home improvement/rehabilitation	\$3,689,216	290		
Multifamily Housing				
Bridges**	\$268,967	65	\$4,138	\$7,020
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program**	\$1,788,375	4,027	\$444	\$8,080

Continued on next page

Table 9
MHFA-Assisted Households of Color, FY 2004 (continued)

Program	MHFA Assistance	Households/ Units Assisted	Average MHFA Assistance Per Household	Median Annual Household Income
HOPWA	\$42,000	50	\$840	\$7,920
HTF-Tenant Based Rental Assistance**	\$690,662	209	\$3,305	\$8,364
Rental Assistance for Family Stabilization**	\$405,565	180	\$2,253	\$13,821
Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-MHFA **	\$11,133,180	1,945	\$5,724	\$9,601
Section 8 Contract Administration**	\$20,144,492	5,156	\$3,907	\$9,668
Subtotal, Multifamily	\$34,473,241	11,632		
Total	\$106,250,662	12,587		

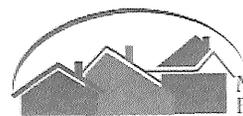
*For programs in which the MHFA provides second mortgages in conjunction with other MHFA assistance, units will be reported under the program providing the first mortgage.

**Voucher assistance amount is estimated assistance based on current voucher amounts. Average shown is assistance per household regardless of months of assistance. FHPAP includes actual cash assistance and assistance estimated to be provided for services during the reporting year. Section 8 assistance amount is estimated based on statewide average assistance per household.

Table 10
MHFA Assistance by Region, FY 2004

Initiative Fund Region	Units or Households Assisted through the MHFA	Amount of Assistance the MHFA Disbursed	Area Share of Households Estimated to be Eligible for MHFA Assistance	Area Share of Units or Households Assisted by the MHFA	Area Share of MHFA Funds Disbursed
Central	1,337	\$42,534,091	13%	8%	11%
Metro	9,809	\$178,606,858	55%	56%	46%
Northeast	1,628	\$21,102,425	6%	9%	5%
Northwest	995	\$19,783,547	5%	6%	5%
Southeast	1,738	\$66,899,768	9%	10%	17%
Southwest	1,024	\$30,008,954	10%	6%	8%
West Central	972	\$29,959,919	2%	6%	8%
Total	17,503	\$388,895,562	100%	100%	100%

This distribution does not include some programs, e.g., Section 8 and Homeownership Education, Counseling, and Training, for which data either were unavailable or not applicable to this distribution of assistance provided.



Minnesota Housing
Finance Agency

400 Sibley Street, Suite 300
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Phone 651-296-7608
Toll-free 800-657-3769
TTY 651-297-2361
www.mhfa.state.mn.us

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alternative formats by calling:
651-296-7608 Voice or 651-297-2361 TTY



Equal Opportunity Housing
and Equal Opportunity Employment



FILE POCKETS
1" EXPANSION-SP2-4910
TWO-PLY TAB

Manufactured in the U.S.A.
for S.P. Richards Co., Atlanta, GA

Return on State Investment in Funding Workforce Housing

State Gap Investment in Affordable Housing Unit	\$ 10,000
--	------------------

Total Cost of Home	\$ 150,000
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Return to State on Investment

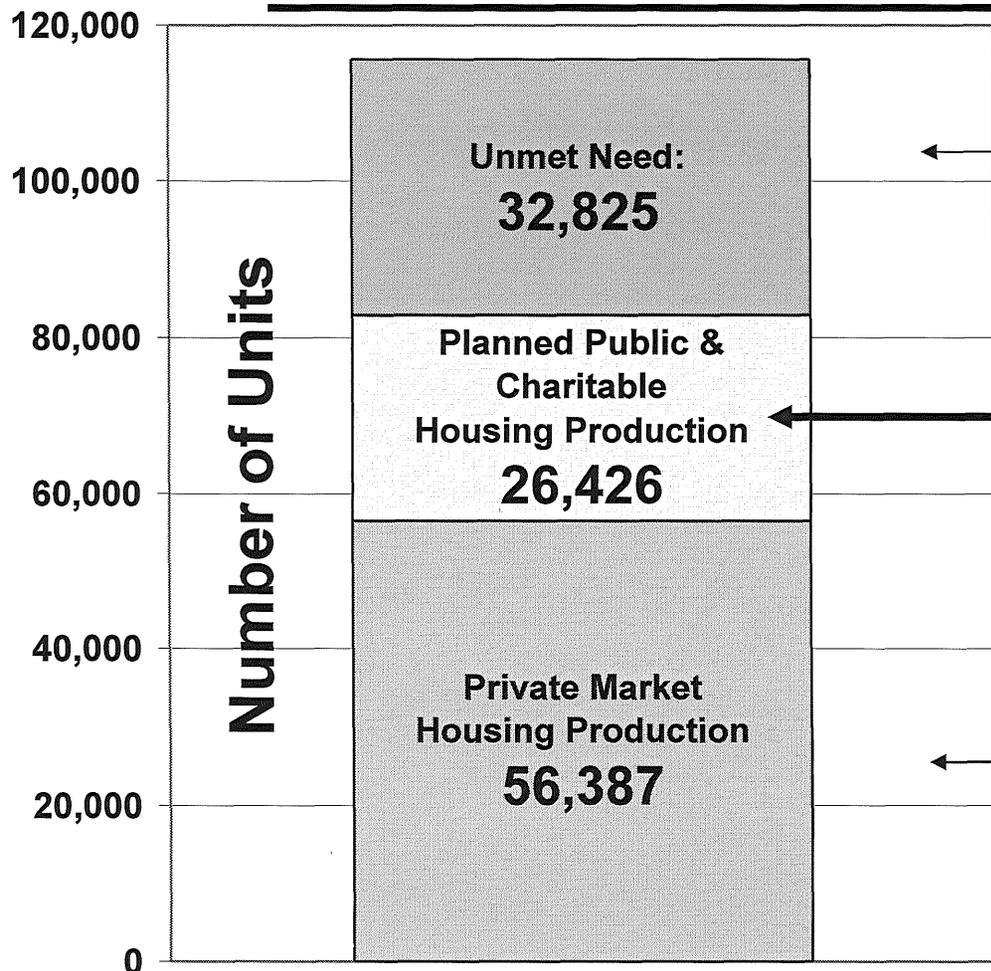
Sales Tax on Materials (6.5% on 40% of Home Cost)	\$ 3,900
State Income Tax Paid by Construction & Professional Labor at 60% of Home Cost	\$ 7,200
Mortgage Registry Tax (Paid when home is financed .0023 debt)	\$ 345
Deed Tax (paid when deed is recorded .0033 value)	\$ 495

Year One Immediate Return to State on Gap Loan	\$ 11,940
---	------------------

Plus:

Gap Loan <i>Returned</i> at Year 30 (or before)	\$ 10,000
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If Challenge Fund Is Cut Unmet Workforce Housing Needs Rise



BBC's conservative estimate of Need does not include:

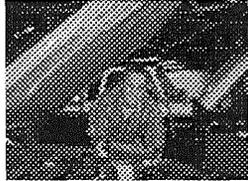
- * Homeless of 8,900
- * Ongoing loss of housing stock
- * Overcrowding
- * Rehab Needs / Unsafe housing conditions

**"Challenge Fund" Cuts
Will Reduce Workforce
Housing Production**

- Charitable dollars increasingly limited
 - Private market will not fill void
- = INCREASED "UNMET NEED"**

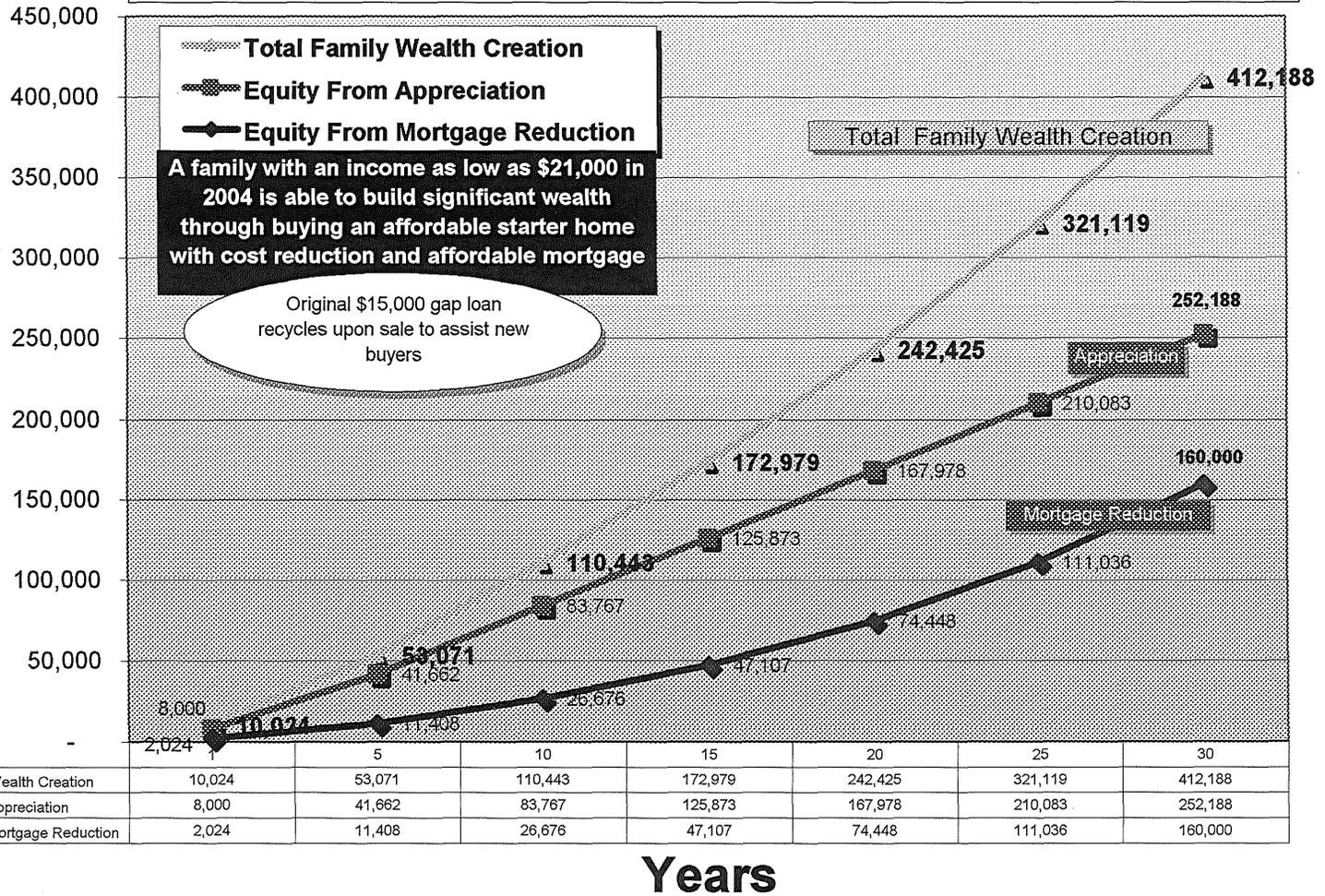
Adverse Market Trends Limit Affordability:

- Increasing Land Costs
 - Increasing Material Costs
 - Increasing Appreciation
 - Stagnant Wages
- = Less "affordable" Units



Community Stability and Family Stability Workforce Home Ownership

Wealth Level





A BUSINESS PLAN TO END LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS IN MINNESOTA BY 2010

Background: Multi-disciplinary strategies

In 2003, the Minnesota Legislature, at the request of Governor Tim Pawlenty, directed the state Commissioners of Human Services, Corrections, and Housing Finance to convene a broadly representative Working Group to address the issue of chronic or long-term homelessness in Minnesota. The Working Group consisted of representatives from government (state, local, and federal), the private sector (developers and business interests), non-profits (foundations and service providers), and faith-based organizations.

In March 2004, the Working Group submitted to the Minnesota Legislature a goal-oriented, reform-minded business plan to end long-term homelessness in Minnesota by 2010. The business plan calls for multi-disciplinary (housing, human services, corrections), multi-sector (government, business, nonprofit), and multi-jurisdictional (federal, state, and local) strategies to address long-term homelessness. The following summarizes key elements of the business plan.

Vision and Goal: End long-term homelessness by 2010

Minnesota joins in the federal goal adopted by President Bush and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to end long-term homelessness by the end of this decade. Housing and appropriate support service options should be made available to those experiencing long-term homelessness so they can be successfully housed over the long-term. The needs of the broader homeless and near homeless populations must be met as we pursue this goal, including Minnesota's effective homelessness prevention efforts.

The Need: Provide housing and support services to 4,000 households

According to the 2003 statewide survey of homelessness in Minnesota conducted by the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, there are approximately 3,300 persons who experience long-term homelessness over the course of a year. This includes nearly 500 children. Consistent with national studies of the chronically and long-term homeless, many report mental illness (52%), chemical dependency (33%), domestic abuse (24%), a criminal history affecting their housing (26%), and status as military veterans (16%). Based on the survey and other information, the business plan calls for providing supportive housing opportunities to 4,000 additional households by 2010. This will accommodate some growth in the long-term homeless population.

The Strategy: Cost-effective supportive housing

Minnesota currently has about 2,000 units of supportive housing for the formerly homeless. Similar to national experience, Minnesota has found that supportive housing reduces the use of expensive crisis services (emergency rooms, detox, and shelters) and improves outcomes for the long-term homeless. The business plan calls for building on this experience and improving Minnesota's ability to provide supportive housing by controlling development costs through use of innovative designs, alternative materials, and limiting transaction costs; maximizing the use of the private, competitive rental market to avoid the costs of new construction; and carefully scrutinizing support service levels to focus on successful, long-term housing stability.

The Financing Plan: State leadership and a call to action to potential partners

The following table summarizes the financing plan, which is a unique effort to estimate over time the costs and potential sources for providing housing and support services from multiple funding sources, each of which has different allowable uses and eligibility criteria. The financing plan does not account for reduced expenditures for "crisis" services or the benefits of better outcomes for the long-term homeless. By the end of 2004, more than 270 additional units of supportive housing for persons experiencing long-term homelessness were funded by the MHFA and funding partners. The Departments of Human Services and Corrections and the MHFA continue to work on service funding and other strategies to implement the business plan.

Financing Plan Estimate (2004 - 2010)
(in millions)

<u>Sources</u>		<u>Costs/Uses</u>	
<u>Identified Sources</u>		New Construction (500 units)	\$ 85
State General Obligation Bonds	\$ 90	Acquisition and Rehabilitation (1,500 units)	\$125
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency State Appropriated Programs and Agency Resources	\$ 90	New Units Integrated into Mixed-Income Developments (400 units)	\$ 50
Private Tax Credit Equity (MHFA allocation)	\$ 60	Rental/Operating Assistance (1,600 units for available units in the rental market -\$40 million; remainder to support other new units identified above - \$60 million)	\$100
Department of Human Services	\$120	Housing Support/Community Living Services/Income Supplements	\$180
<u>Remaining Sources:</u>	\$180		
Federal Government			
Local Government			
Philanthropic/Non-Profit			
State (Departments of Human Services, Corrections, and MHFA)			
Total	\$ 540	Total	\$ 540

The financing plan demonstrates that the state is providing significant resources (capital financing, rental/operating assistance, and service funding) but that the state cannot finance this effort alone. A significant portion of the state funding is one-time funding only. Federal and other sources must be forthcoming if the business plan is to be successfully implemented over the long-term. The Minnesota congressional delegation has provided significant bipartisan support for the effort. At the State level, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency established an Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative Fund providing an initial \$10 million in capital and operating funding. Consistent with the business plan, Governor Pawlenty proposes \$20 million in General Obligation Bonds and other related initiatives for legislative consideration in 2006. Private sector support includes a service "Initiative Fund," to be administered by the Family Housing Fund, which has received initial grants from the McKnight Foundation and St. Paul Travelers Foundation.

The Implementation Plan: Establish accountability and be proactive

The business plan requires sound execution. The following are key elements of the implementation plan:

- *Continued Interagency Cooperation.* The Departments of Human Services, Corrections, the Housing Finance Agency, and other departments should enhance and institutionalize their joint efforts to proactively solicit and fund supportive housing for persons experiencing long-term homelessness.
- *Develop the System for Supportive Housing.* Creative funding strategies that increase the use of "mainstream" resources and allow for a more natural "system" to develop and fund supportive housing is necessary. The federal government, counties and other local governments, and nonprofit organizations should be involved as partners.
- *Evaluation.* Rigorous evaluation, tracking of data on homelessness, and search for best practices should be integrated into the implementation process.
- *Stakeholder Participation and Capacity Building.* A broadly representative advisory body similar to the Working Group will be established in early 2005 to assist in implementing the business plan and tracking progress. Persons who have experienced or are experiencing homelessness will be involved. In addition, local governments, developers, and service providers should be involved to develop and maintain the capacity to implement the plan and assist in addressing siting and similar issues.
- *A Long-Term Homelessness Director Without New Bureaucracy.* A director for ending long-term homelessness has been engaged, using existing resources, to coordinate implementation of the business plan. The director reports to the commissioners of Human Services, Housing Finance and Corrections.

Further information on the Working Group and the business plan can be found at www.mhfa.state.mn.us/multifamily/LTH.htm.





HousingMinnesota

Homes For All By 2012

MHFA Budget Cuts Will Reduce Significantly Affordable Housing Resources

The overall cut to MHFA is 19.5 percent for a total of \$15 million in cuts. The two-year reduction is expected to impact thousands of Minnesota families. \$10 million of the cut is redirected from the Challenge program to Department of Human Services to help fund supportive housing services as part of the administration's plan to end long-term homelessness. Additionally, \$4 million is redirected from the cuts listed below to the Housing Trust Fund and is earmarked for the efforts to end long-term homelessness. Cuts to MHFA housing programs include:

- **Economic Development and Housing Challenge Fund—cut by \$13 million (60 percent)** The Challenge program bore the brunt of MHFA cuts in 2003 when the program was cut by more than \$4 million (18 percent) for the 2004-05 biennium. The program has maximized resources statewide because it requires leveraging outside funding and has been an important housing resource in Greater Minnesota. Between 2000 and 2004, 40 percent of the \$74.8 million expended through Challenge Fund programs on both single-family and multi-housing development went to build or rehab housing in Greater Minnesota. Statewide, the annual median household income of a family benefiting from the program is just under \$30,000, less than 50 percent of median statewide income.
- **Affordable Rental Assistance Program for Preservation (PARIF)—cut by \$1.5 million (8 percent)** This program is critical component of efforts to preserve existing affordable rental housing that is at risk of being lost to the thousands of very low-income and elderly households that live in the units. The annual median household income of people served by the PARIF program is \$8,320. As many as 150 affordable units could be lost if this cut is passed. On average, every \$1 of PARIF funds leverages future federal expenditures of \$5.
- **Rehabilitation Loan Program—cut by \$2.6 million (33 percent)** The Rehab Loan program provides deferred loans for low-income households to make needed repairs on their homes. The annual median household income of people served by this program is \$11,592. The agency estimates that 132 fewer households will access these important loans that help keep people in their homes and assists with the preservation of existing housing stock.
- **Housing Assistance Fund—cut by \$1.7 million (program to be eliminated in 06-07 biennium which continues a zeroing out of this program that occurred for the 04-05 biennium)** The HAF program helps first time homebuyers with downpayment assistance and entry costs. This program is a primary resource for the agency's efforts to increase homeownership in underserved communities. The annual median household income for the HAF program is \$30,996. The agency estimates that with this cut 327 fewer families will be helped into homeownership.
- **Nonprofit Capacity Building Program—cut by \$110,000 (18 percent)** This program provides important support and training resources to nonprofit developers of affordable housing. These organizations facilitate a majority of the affordable housing development and rehab across the state. This significant cut will undermine the ability of these organizations to make progress toward Minnesota's affordable housing goals.
- **Renters' Credit—cut by \$30.8 million in 07 and beyond.** The Governor's budget does include a significant cut to the credit totaling \$30.8 million in the second year of the biennium. The cut is accomplished by changing the percentage on which the credit is based, currently 19 percent, to 16 percent in 2007 and to 15 percent in 2008. This reduction will result in significant hardships for working families, seniors and persons with disabilities.

Rachel Callanan, Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless policy advocate, drafted this synopsis of the Governor's proposed housing budget. For more information contact HousingMinnesota at (651) 649-1710 or info@mhponline.org or go to www.HousingMinnesota.org.



HousingMinnesota

Homes For All By 2012

Legislative Priorities for the 2005 Session

Context

The Administration proposed a 19.5 percent reduction in state appropriations – a total of \$15 million in cuts – for the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. There is \$10 million in cuts redirected from the Challenge program to Department of Human Services to help fund supportive housing services as part of the administration's plan to end long-term homelessness. Additionally, \$4 million is redirected to the Housing Trust Fund and is earmarked for the efforts to end long-term homelessness.

There remains a significant need for additional affordable housing for our state's working families, seniors and people with disabilities, even if public and private contributions remain constant. There will be a shortfall of 33,000 units of affordable housing by 2010 and proposed cuts at the state and federal level will exacerbate the problem. There are also an additional 16,000 people experiencing homelessness, beyond the 4,000 long-term homeless that Governor Pawlenty has targeted with resources, according to the Wilder report Homeless in Minnesota 2003. The vast majority of whom are homeless due to a lack of affordable housing. Increased public investment is vital to house all Minnesotans safely and affordably. Housing advocates estimate 1,000 fewer units of housing will be produced annually.

HousingMinnesota 2005 Legislative Priorities:

1. **Support fair valuation for rent-restricted properties.** The elimination of the special class rate (4d) for affordable housing developments and rising property values have had a negative impact for owners and developers of affordable housing across Minnesota. These are properties that have received tens of millions of state and federal investment dollars in order to achieve affordability for lower-income Minnesotans. In return for these investments rents are restricted by deed covenant or contract with public bodies in order to maintain affordability. The current approach to valuing these properties is interfering with the public intent to maintain affordable housing.
2. **Promote a supportive housing legislative package that includes the governor's \$20 million bonding proposal as well as service and operating dollars.** In the 2004 session, Governor Pawlenty proposed a plan to end long-term homelessness by 2010 that is expected to require \$540 million in new and retargeted resources. He kicked off this initiative with a bonding proposal of \$20 million for permanent supportive housing. HousingMinnesota supports the governor's bonding proposal as an important first step toward ending all homelessness in Minnesota, and will work to ensure that supportive services and operating costs are funded for existing and new supportive housing.
3. **Leverage additional housing resources by creating a state affordable housing tax credit.** HousingMinnesota supports the creation of affordable housing tax credits to provide a 50 percent income tax credit for certain contributions to affordable housing projects. Land, materials, supplies or financial donations would qualify for the credit. The credit would be capped at \$10 million for the biennium. Contributions must help finance affordable housing production or rehabilitation for households at or below 80 percent of median income, which are supported by MHFA.
4. **Promote the creation of workforce housing districts.** Workforce housing districts would provide tax rebates to housing developers that would lower the production costs on affordable housing projects by approximately 20 percent. Individual communities would apply annually to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and the Department of Employment and Economic Development to receive housing zone designation. The designation would facilitate state and community partnerships to create more workforce housing in areas of job growth or along transportation corridors.
5. **Maintain full funding for the Challenge Fund.** There is a proposed \$13 million (60 percent) cut to the Challenge Fund program that provides funding for construction and rehab of workforce housing. The program has maximized resources statewide because it requires leveraging outside funding and provides a preference for projects that use cost-reduction strategies such as regulatory changes or waivers. While used statewide, the program has been an important housing resource in Greater Minnesota.

Final Report

November 17, 2003

**The Next Decade of Housing
in Minnesota**

Prepared for

Family Housing Fund
Midwest Plaza, Suite 1650
Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

and

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
400 Sibley Street, Suite 300
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1998

and

Greater Minnesota Housing Fund
332 Minnesota Street, Suite 1310 East
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Prepared by

BBC Research & Consulting
3773 Cherry Creek N. Drive, Suite 850
Denver, Colorado 80209-3827
303.321.2547 fax 303.399.0448
www.bbcresearch.com
bbc@bbcresearch.com

BBC
RESEARCH &
CONSULTING

SECTION III.

Summary of Findings

The purpose of the Next Decade of Housing in Minnesota study is to quantify the need for affordable housing in Minnesota from 2000 to 2010. The study was completed by BBC Research & Consulting (BBC), an independent firm based in Denver that specializes in housing market analysis. The study was funded by a collaborative of public and philanthropic organizations that provide resources for affordable housing development.¹

Key Conclusions

During the past several years, the issue of affordable housing has become increasingly prominent in Minnesota. The study indicates that many households will continue to have difficulty finding affordable housing during the next decade.

- Almost 300,000 low-income households are living in unaffordable housing in Minnesota.² For the one-third of these households that earn less than 30% of median income, this housing cost burden often forces difficult choices between housing and other necessities.
- There will be a shortfall of 33,000 affordable housing units for low-income households by 2010 in Minnesota. This shortfall will occur despite increased private market provision of housing and significant public and philanthropic contributions for affordable housing.

Study Findings

This section provides summary data on housing needs at the statewide, 80-county Greater Minnesota, and seven-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area levels. Map 1 on the following page presents all counties in Minnesota, split into Greater Minnesota and the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Additional information on county-level housing needs is provided in Section IV of the report.

¹ Funders of the study include the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Family Housing Fund and Greater Minnesota Housing Fund. Additional support was provided by the Metropolitan Council.

² The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines housing as affordable if the household spends no more than 30% of gross income to occupy it.

Statewide Housing Needs.

Almost 300,000 low-income Minnesota households are paying more than they can afford for housing. In 2000, Minnesota had more than 791,000 low-income households.³ This represented 42% of all households in the state. Of these households, approximately 300,000 (or 38%) spent more than 30% of their income on housing.⁴ Nearly seventy percent of these households earn less than 50% of median income and 34% earn less than 30% of median income. Assistance for these households could take many forms, including but not limited to new unit construction, rent subsidies, vouchers, and other forms of subsidy.

* Demographic trends will result in 116,000 new low-income households seeking affordable housing by 2010. From 2000 to 2010, Minnesota is expected to grow by almost 207,000 households, or about 11 percent. More than one-half of these new households, approximately 116,000, are projected to be low-income households.

* The private sector is projected to be able to satisfy 49% of the increased demand for affordable housing by 2010, resulting in a shortfall of 59,300 affordable units. The private housing market effectively meets the needs of many Minnesota households. However, rising construction and operating costs make it increasingly difficult to provide affordably-priced housing for low-income households. Of the 116,000 new low-income households by 2010, it is expected that approximately half (approximately 59,300 households) will not find affordable housing units in the private market.

* Public and philanthropic funding may create 26,400 new affordable units, but 32,800 households will still lack affordable housing in 2010. Among the 59,300 new low-income households not served by the private market, about 26,400 (45%) are expected to find housing in newly-developed subsidized units financed by public and philanthropic organizations during the decade.⁵ This leaves 32,800 new low-income households (55%) that will not be affordably housed by any provider in 2010. Of these households, 70% are expected to have incomes less than 50% of median, and 33% will have incomes less than 30% of median. Approximately 22,200 of these households will live in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, while 10,600 will reside in Greater Minnesota.

³ For the purposes of the Next Decade of Minnesota project, low-income households are defined as households with income below 60 percent of the family median for the seven Twin Cities metropolitan counties and incomes below 80 percent of the family median for the remaining 80 Greater Minnesota counties.

⁴ The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines housing as affordable if the individual spends no more than 30% of gross income to occupy it. The figure counting those households paying above 30% of their incomes for housing also includes households who were homeless according to the statewide Quarterly Shelter Survey.

⁵ Public funding sources include the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Employment and Economic Development, and other government sources. Philanthropic sources include the Family Housing Fund, Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, and other private funders.

Displaced Homemaker Program



MINNESOTA DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PRE-EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



Minnesota Displaced Homemaker Pre-employment Program

Purpose

This program provides pre-employment services that empower participants to enter or re-enter the labor market after having been homemakers.

Customers

Customers are male and female homemakers who have been widowed, abandoned, divorced, separated, or have a disabled spouse and must support themselves and their family. Eligibility is based on income guidelines.

Services and Providers

Minnesota now has six Displaced Homemaker Pre-employment Programs that provide services to 48 counties. (Previously, 12 programs served all 87 counties.) Services include workshops, support groups and networking, one-to-one personal or vocational counseling, job-seeking and keeping methods, leadership development, decision-making skills and assistance with developing and implementing a concrete action plan for self sufficiency. These resources help participants build confidence, identify skills, and secure training and employment. Other services may include referral for remedial education, child care, legal assistance, and other support services. Providers assist participants in obtaining funds for transportation, child care, and work and/or school related expenses.

Measures (July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004)

Number of DHP participants who received services	1,025
Received personal counseling and / or life skills development	81 %
Achieved positive termination	82 %
Received career/educational counseling	51 %
Pre-employment preparation	33 %
Employed at completion of the program at an average wage of \$11.06	30 %

Funding Source and Allocation (Fiscal Year 2005—July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005)

Annual funding for the Displaced Homemaker Pre-employment Program is \$240,000 in fees and \$750,000 in state Work Force Development funds. Of the \$990,000 total, the Department of Employment and Economic Development utilizes \$90,000 for administrative costs.

Statutory Authority

Minnesota Statutes 268.96 and 116L.96 - 2004.



MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility



PROGRAM RETURN ON INVESTMENT



In FY 02/03, MN invested \$1,827,000 (\$913,500 State and \$913,500 Federal TANF dollars) for 12 programs statewide annually.



In FY 04/05, MN invested \$990,000, (\$750,000 State WFD and \$240,000 marriage license fees) for 6 programs serving two-thirds of the state annually.

- In FY 04, 1,025 low income program participants were served by six programs located in 2/3's of the state.
- 85% of participants who were entitled to child support were not receiving their court ordered child support.
- 76 % of clients were not served by MFIP.
- 94 % of clients were not receiving WIA.
- 81 % of clients received intensive individual and family stabilization services.
- 82 % of clients exited the program with positive terminations of completing their pre-employment program of counseling, life/work skills development, career assessment and planning, remedial and post secondary education and/or training, and employment.
- On average, participants completed the program in 43 weeks.
 - The average length of participation in other programs was 54 weeks for WIA women, 58 weeks for Rehabilitation, and 97 weeks for MFIP.

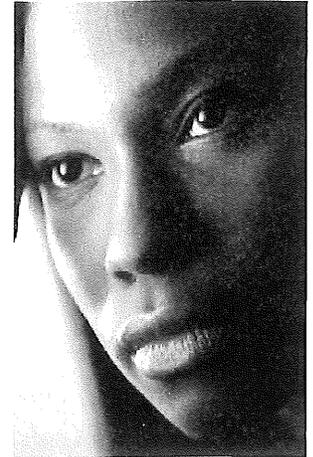
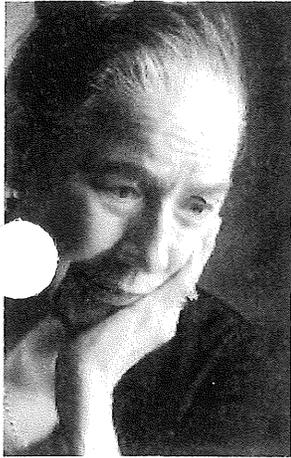


- The average cost per participant is \$880.
- Those participants employed upon exiting the program earned an average wage of \$11.06 per hour.
- Participants who became employed in FY04 are contributing \$3,695,900 in local sales, sales taxes, and income taxes to the state economy annually.
- Each low income participant diverted from welfare saves the state \$13,572 annually per person resulting in \$10,274,275.00 in savings to the State of MN.
- **The state realizes a 9 to 1 return on its investment in this program.**

MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

Pre-employment Opportunities for Women through Empowerment and Responsibility

Barriers and Services to Target Population

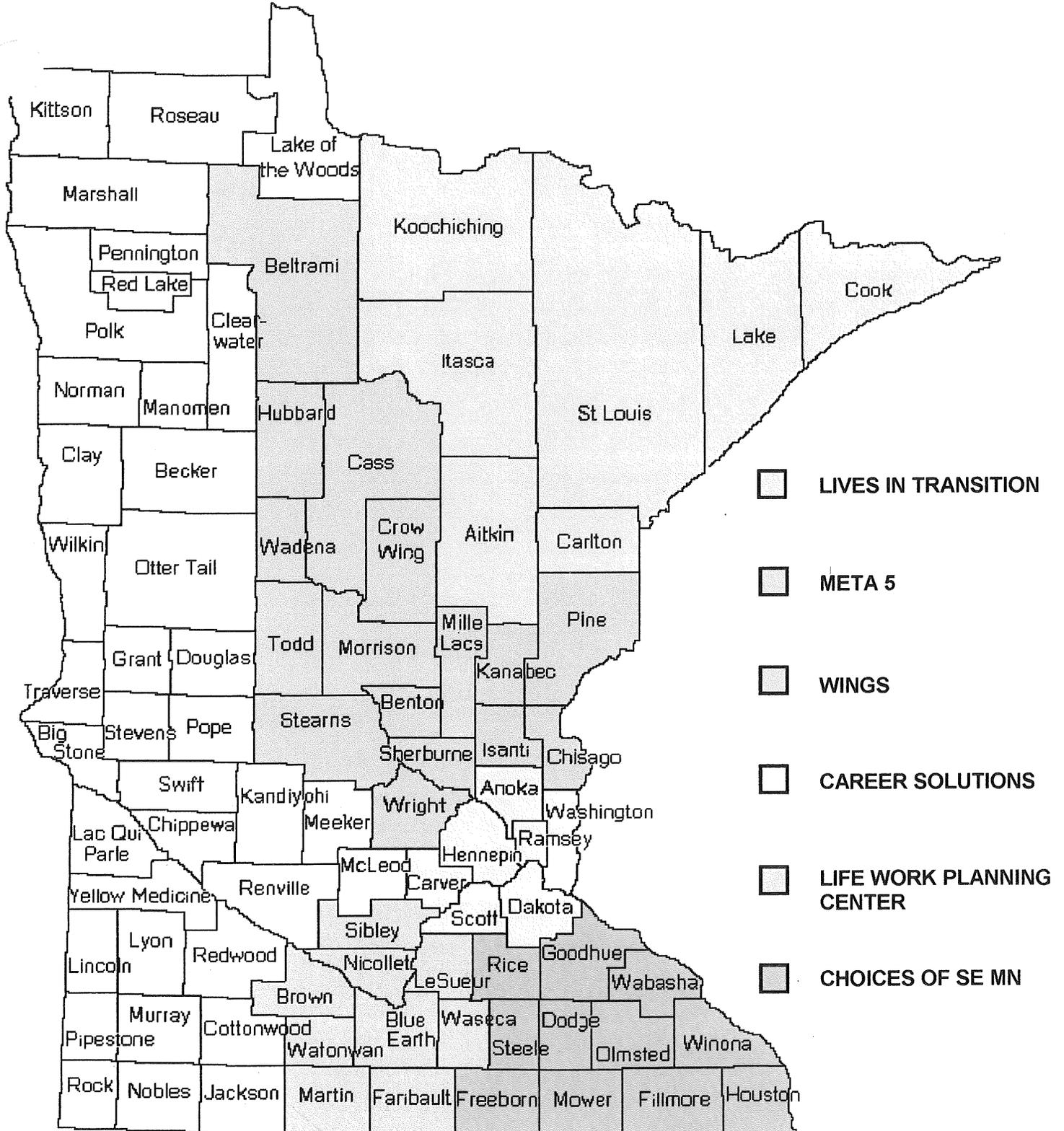


ISSUES	BARRIERS	SERVICES
Life Changing Event Loss of Role in Family Loss of Income	Abandoned, Widowed, Separated, Divorced, Disabled Spouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive Individual Support • Crisis Intervention and Problem Solving • Individual and Family Stabilization • Informal Counseling/Support Group
Mental Health	Overwhelmed, Grieving, Anxious, Depressed, Abandoned Due to Having a Mental Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Review • Mental Health Referral Based on Insurance and Local Services and Follow Up
Victimization	History or Recent Victim of Physical, Sexual, Verbal, Emotional, Financial Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship Based Approach (non-virtual) • Assist with Safety Plans / Orders of Protection • Transport to Shelter • Assist with Identity / Social Security # change
Housing Insurance	Loss of Primary Residence, Loss of Health Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of Local Resources, Options and How to Access Services • Assist with Completing Forms / Applications for Housing and Medical Assistance/MN Care • Assist with Moving out of Women's Shelter
Financial	Unable to Access Own Finances, Not Receiving Court Ordered Child Support No Money Management Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education on Pursuing Temporary Child Support or Temporary Maintenance • Budget Review and Budgeting Training • Education on Banking, Credit, Debt and Bankruptcy
Legal	Rights in Civil Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of Rights and Legal Process • Assist in Applying for Legal Assistance
Transportation	Isolated Rural / Suburban No Vehicle No Public Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet others in their own community • Face to Face Contact • Mobile, Itinerant, Satellite Offices • Home Visits
Virtual /Technology	No Home Computer—Low Income No Computer Skills Limited Access to Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Training • Education on available technology in rural communities
Marketability Employability	Lack of Education / Outdated Degree Lack of Marketable Skills Lack of Employment History Lack of Business References Lack of Confidence Age / Competing for Entry Level Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of Transferable Skills • Strategic Resume Creation • Assist Starting Volunteering to Create References • Assertiveness, Communication, Decision Making, Cognitive Skills / Cognitive Reframing Training • Assist in Obtaining Further Education
Financial Future	No Pension, 401 K, IRA Little Paid into Social Security Lack of Work Credits for Soc. Sec. Multiple Part Time Jobs w/no Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Career, Education, Employment and Self Employment Planning • Education on Social Security • Social Security Review and Long Range Planning

MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

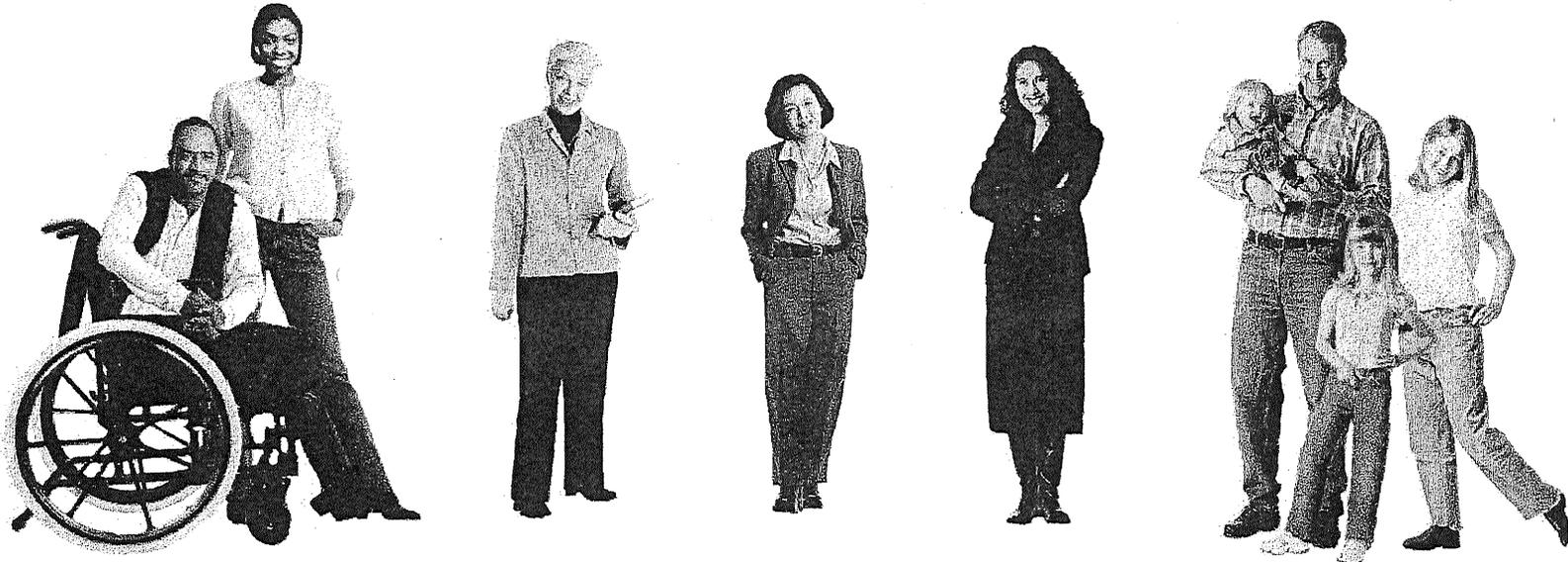
Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility

July 1, 2003 to Present
(No DHP Services Available in White Counties)



MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility



**Providing a network of services
for reaching self sufficiency
through work, education
and life planning.**

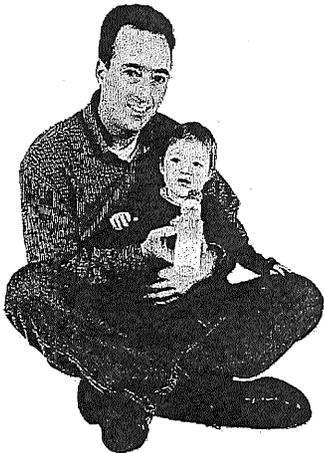
**For individuals who are
abandoned, separated, divorced,
widowed or have a disabled spouse
and need to re-enter the workforce.**

MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

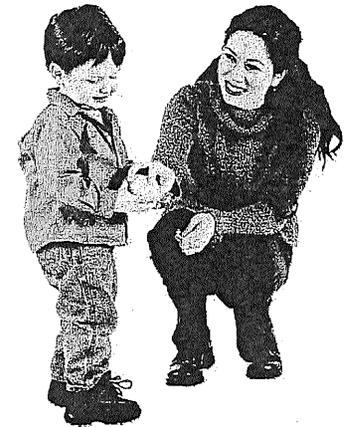
Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Male or female.
- Primary occupation of homemaker for at least 24 months.
- Taking care of your own home and/or family while dependent on someone else for financial support.
- At risk of losing financial support due to abandonment, anticipated separation, separation, divorce, death or disability of a spouse or partner.
- Must now support self and/or family.
- Meet income guidelines.



Services are free for individuals meeting the eligibility requirements. At the request of the legislature, services will be provided for a fee for individuals who wish to enroll but do not meet the income eligibility requirement.



MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility

WORK READINESS AND OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

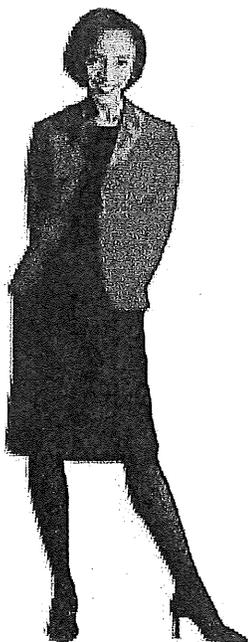
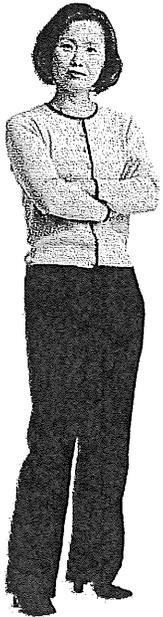
- Informal Counseling and Case Management for Any Underlying Life Issues
 - Crisis Management
 - Personal Loss, Grief and Anger Management
 - Self Care, Self Confidence, and Personal Change
 - Parenting
- Information and Referral
 - Separation, Divorce and Legal Assistance
 - Domestic Violence, Marital Rape and Prostitution
 - Sexism, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination
 - Housing, Child Care, Transportation and Family Services
 - Insurance Needs
 - Medical and Mental Health Referral
 - Current and Future Financial Needs including MFIP and Social Security Disability and Retirement
- Workshops and Support Groups
- Referral and Coordination with other Agencies and Organizations

PRE-EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

- Individual Consultation
- Career Exploration
- Problem Solving, Goal Setting and Concrete Action Plans
- Vocational Assessment and Personality Typology Testing
- Occupational Trends and Research
- Job Search Planning
- Resume and Cover Letter Development
- Interview Preparation
- Workshops
- Library and Computer Access
- Free Professional Wear Clothing Closet

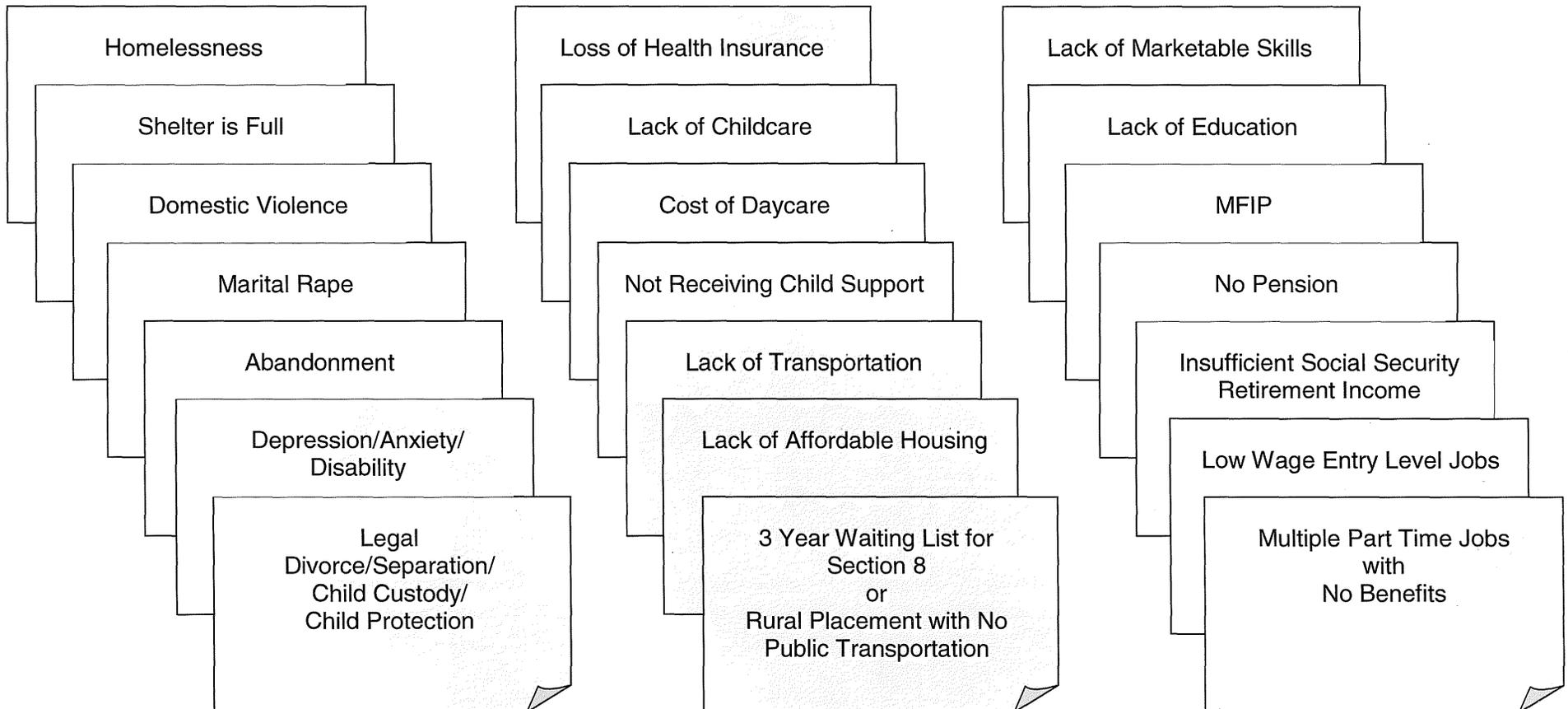
SKILL BUILDING, RE-TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- Information and Planning for Obtaining
 - GED
 - Community Education Classes
 - Computer Training
 - Certificate Programs
 - One Year Programs
 - Two Year Programs
 - Four Year Degree Programs
 - Financial Aid
 - Scholarships
- Enrollment Assistance
- Local College Tour Arrangements
- Information and Referral
 - Special Needs and Disability Services
 - College Counseling
 - Minority Services
 - Non-Traditional Student
 - Non-Traditional Careers
 - Women in the Trades



MN DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

Pre-employment Opportunities for WoMen
through Empowerment and Responsibility



1 A bill for an act

2 relating to economic development; adjusting marriage
3 and marriage dissolution fees to fund employment
4 opportunities; appropriating money; amending Minnesota
5 Statutes 2004, sections 357.021, subdivisions 1a, 2;
6 517.08, subdivisions 1b, 1c.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 357.021,
9 subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

10 Subd. 1a. [TRANSMITTAL OF FEES TO COMMISSIONER OF
11 FINANCE.] (a) Every person, including the state of Minnesota and
12 all bodies politic and corporate, who shall transact any
13 business in the district court, shall pay to the court
14 administrator of said court the sundry fees prescribed in
15 subdivision 2. Except as provided in paragraph (d), the court
16 administrator shall transmit the fees monthly to the
17 commissioner of finance for deposit in the state treasury and
18 credit to the general fund. \$30 of each fee collected in a
19 dissolution action under subdivision 2, clause (1), must be
20 deposited by the commissioner of finance in the special revenue
21 fund to be appropriated to the commissioner of employment and
22 economic development for the displaced homemaker program under
23 section 116L.96.

24 (b) In a county which has a screener-collector position,
25 fees paid by a county pursuant to this subdivision shall be
26 transmitted monthly to the county treasurer, who shall apply the

1 fees first to reimburse the county for the amount of the salary
2 paid for the screener-collector position. The balance of the
3 fees collected shall then be forwarded to the commissioner of
4 finance for deposit in the state treasury and credited to the
5 general fund. In a county in a judicial district under section
6 480.181, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), which has a
7 screener-collector position, the fees paid by a county shall be
8 transmitted monthly to the commissioner of finance for deposit
9 in the state treasury and credited to the general fund. A
10 screener-collector position for purposes of this paragraph is an
11 employee whose function is to increase the collection of fines
12 and to review the incomes of potential clients of the public
13 defender, in order to verify eligibility for that service.

14 (c) No fee is required under this section from the public
15 authority or the party the public authority represents in an
16 action for:

17 (1) child support enforcement or modification, medical
18 assistance enforcement, or establishment of parentage in the
19 district court, or in a proceeding under section 484.702;

20 (2) civil commitment under chapter 253B;

21 (3) the appointment of a public conservator or public
22 guardian or any other action under chapters 252A and 525;

23 (4) wrongfully obtaining public assistance under section
24 256.98 or 256D.07, or recovery of overpayments of public
25 assistance;

26 (5) court relief under chapter 260;

27 (6) forfeiture of property under sections 169A.63 and
28 609.531 to 609.5317;

29 (7) recovery of amounts issued by political subdivisions or
30 public institutions under sections 246.52, 252.27, 256.045,
31 256.25, 256.87, 256B.042, 256B.14, 256B.15, 256B.37, 260B.331,
32 and 260C.331, or other sections referring to other forms of
33 public assistance;

34 (8) restitution under section 611A.04; or

35 (9) actions seeking monetary relief in favor of the state
36 pursuant to section 16D.14, subdivision 5.

1 (d) The fees collected for child support modifications
2 under subdivision 2, clause (13), must be transmitted to the
3 county treasurer for deposit in the county general fund. The
4 fees must be used by the county to pay for child support
5 enforcement efforts by county attorneys.

6 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 357.021,
7 subdivision 2, is amended to read:

8 Subd. 2. [FEE AMOUNTS.] The fees to be charged and
9 collected by the court administrator shall be as follows:

10 (1) In every civil action or proceeding in said court,
11 including any case arising under the tax laws of the state that
12 could be transferred or appealed to the Tax Court, the
13 plaintiff, petitioner, or other moving party shall pay, when the
14 first paper is filed for that party in said action, a fee of
15 \$235, except in marriage dissolution actions the fee is \$265.

16 The defendant or other adverse or intervening party, or any
17 one or more of several defendants or other adverse or
18 intervening parties appearing separately from the others, shall
19 pay, when the first paper is filed for that party in said
20 action, a fee of \$235, except in marriage dissolution actions
21 the fee is \$265.

22 The party requesting a trial by jury shall pay \$75.

23 The fees above stated shall be the full trial fee
24 chargeable to said parties irrespective of whether trial be to
25 the court alone, to the court and jury, or disposed of without
26 trial, and shall include the entry of judgment in the action,
27 but does not include copies or certified copies of any papers so
28 filed or proceedings under chapter 103E, except the provisions
29 therein as to appeals.

30 (2) Certified copy of any instrument from a civil or
31 criminal proceeding, \$10, and \$5 for an uncertified copy.

32 (3) Issuing a subpoena, \$12 for each name.

33 (4) Filing a motion or response to a motion in civil,
34 family, excluding child support, and guardianship cases, \$55.

35 (5) Issuing an execution and filing the return thereof;
36 issuing a writ of attachment, injunction, habeas corpus,

1 mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, or other writs not
2 specifically mentioned, \$40.

3 (6) Issuing a transcript of judgment, or for filing and
4 docketing a transcript of judgment from another court, \$30.

5 (7) Filing and entering a satisfaction of judgment, partial
6 satisfaction, or assignment of judgment, \$5.

7 (8) Certificate as to existence or nonexistence of
8 judgments docketed, \$5 for each name certified to.

9 (9) Filing and indexing trade name; or recording basic
10 science certificate; or recording certificate of physicians,
11 osteopaths, chiropractors, veterinarians, or optometrists, \$5.

12 (10) For the filing of each partial, final, or annual
13 account in all trusteeships, \$40.

14 (11) For the deposit of a will, \$20.

15 (12) For recording notary commission, \$100, of which,
16 notwithstanding subdivision 1a, paragraph (b), \$80 must be
17 forwarded to the commissioner of finance to be deposited in the
18 state treasury and credited to the general fund.

19 (13) Filing a motion or response to a motion for
20 modification of child support, a fee fixed by rule or order of
21 the Supreme Court.

22 (14) All other services required by law for which no fee is
23 provided, such fee as compares favorably with those herein
24 provided, or such as may be fixed by rule or order of the court.

25 (15) In addition to any other filing fees under this
26 chapter, a surcharge in the amount of \$75 must be assessed in
27 accordance with section 259.52, subdivision 14, for each
28 adoption petition filed in district court to fund the fathers'
29 adoption registry under section 259.52.

30 The fees in clauses (3) and (5) need not be paid by a
31 public authority or the party the public authority represents.

32 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 517.08,
33 subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

34 Subd. 1b. [TERM OF LICENSE; FEE; PREMARITAL EDUCATION.]

35 (a) The local registrar shall examine upon oath the party
36 applying for a license relative to the legality of the

1 contemplated marriage. If at the expiration of a five-day
2 period, on being satisfied that there is no legal impediment to
3 it, including the restriction contained in section 259.13, the
4 local registrar shall issue the license, containing the full
5 names of the parties before and after marriage, and county and
6 state of residence, with the county seal attached, and make a
7 record of the date of issuance. The license shall be valid for
8 a period of six months. In case of emergency or extraordinary
9 circumstances, a judge of the district court of the county in
10 which the application is made, may authorize the license to be
11 issued at any time before the expiration of the five days.
12 Except as provided in paragraph (b), the local registrar shall
13 collect from the applicant a fee of ~~\$85~~ \$95 for administering
14 the oath, issuing, recording, and filing all papers required,
15 and preparing and transmitting to the state registrar of vital
16 statistics the reports of marriage required by this section. If
17 the license should not be used within the period of six months
18 due to illness or other extenuating circumstances, it may be
19 surrendered to the local registrar for cancellation, and in that
20 case a new license shall issue upon request of the parties of
21 the original license without fee. A local registrar who
22 knowingly issues or signs a marriage license in any manner other
23 than as provided in this section shall pay to the parties
24 aggrieved an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

25 (b) The marriage license fee for parties who have completed
26 at least 12 hours of premarital education is ~~\$20~~ \$40. In order
27 to qualify for the reduced fee, the parties must submit a signed
28 and dated statement from the person who provided the premarital
29 education confirming that it was received. The premarital
30 education must be provided by a licensed or ordained minister or
31 the minister's designee, a person authorized to solemnize
32 marriages under section 517.18, or a person authorized to
33 practice marriage and family therapy under section 148B.33. The
34 education must include the use of a premarital inventory and the
35 teaching of communication and conflict management skills.

36 (c) The statement from the person who provided the

1 premarital education under paragraph (b) must be in the
2 following form:

3 "I, (name of educator), confirm that (names of both
4 parties) received at least 12 hours of premarital education that
5 included the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of
6 communication and conflict management skills. I am a licensed
7 or ordained minister, a person authorized to solemnize marriages
8 under Minnesota Statutes, section 517.18, or a person licensed
9 to practice marriage and family therapy under Minnesota
10 Statutes, section 148B.33."

11 The names of the parties in the educator's statement must
12 be identical to the legal names of the parties as they appear in
13 the marriage license application. Notwithstanding section
14 138.17, the educator's statement must be retained for seven
15 years, after which time it may be destroyed.

16 (d) If section 259.13 applies to the request for a marriage
17 license, the local registrar shall grant the marriage license
18 without the requested name change. Alternatively, the local
19 registrar may delay the granting of the marriage license until
20 the party with the conviction:

21 (1) certifies under oath that 30 days have passed since
22 service of the notice for a name change upon the prosecuting
23 authority and, if applicable, the attorney general and no
24 objection has been filed under section 259.13; or

25 (2) provides a certified copy of the court order granting
26 it. The parties seeking the marriage license shall have the
27 right to choose to have the license granted without the name
28 change or to delay its granting pending further action on the
29 name change request.

30 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 517.08,
31 subdivision 1c, is amended to read:

32 Subd. 1c. [DISPOSITION OF LICENSE FEE.] (a) Of the
33 marriage license fee collected pursuant to subdivision 1b,
34 paragraph (a), \$15 must be retained by the county. The local
35 registrar must pay \$70 to the commissioner of finance to be
36 deposited as follows:

1 (1) \$50 in the general fund;

2 (2) \$3 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to
3 the commissioner of education for parenting time centers under
4 section 119A.37;

5 (3) \$2 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to
6 the commissioner of health for developing and implementing the
7 MN ENABL program under section 145.9255;

8 (4) ~~\$10~~ \$20 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated
9 to the commissioner of employment and economic development for
10 the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96; and

11 (5) \$5 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to
12 the commissioner of human services for the Minnesota Healthy
13 Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative under section
14 256.742.

15 (b) Of the ~~\$20~~ \$40 fee under subdivision 1b, paragraph (b),
16 \$15 must be retained by the county. The local registrar must
17 pay ~~\$5~~ \$25 to the commissioner of finance to be distributed
18 deposited as follows:

19 (1) \$5 as provided in paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3);
20 and

21 (2) \$20 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to
22 the commissioner of employment and economic development for the
23 displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96.

24 (c) The increase in the marriage license fee under
25 paragraph (a) provided for in Laws 2004, chapter 273, and
26 disbursement of the increase in that fee to the special fund for
27 the Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood
28 Initiative under paragraph (a), clause (5), is contingent upon
29 the receipt of federal funding under United States Code, title
30 42, section 1315, for purposes of the initiative.

Sen. Dule

Use of the Minnesota Marriage License Fee

July 1, 2004

With the twelve hour pre-marriage education requirement:

County retains	\$15.00
MN ENABL program	2.00
Parenting Time Centers	3.00
TOTAL	<u>\$20.00</u>

Without the twelve hour pre-marriage education requirement:

County retains	\$15.00
MN ENABL program	2.00
Parenting Time Centers	3.00
Displaced Homemaker Program	10.00
MN Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative	5.00
State general fund	50.00
TOTAL	<u>\$85.00</u>

Senators Sams, Dille, Frederickson and Johnson, D.E. introduced--
S.F. No. 1213: Referred to the Committee on Finance.

1 A bill for an act
2 relating to appropriations; appropriating money for
3 reimbursement grants to persons who install E85 pumps.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
5 Section 1. [APPROPRIATION; E85 PUMP REIMBURSEMENT.]
6 \$500,000 in fiscal year 2006 is appropriated from the
7 general fund to the commissioner of agriculture for grants to
8 gasoline service station owners who, after the effective date of
9 this section, install pumps in this state for dispensing E85
10 gasoline. The commissioner may reimburse owners of gasoline
11 service stations for up to 50 percent of the total cost of
12 installing an E85 pump, including the tank and any related
13 components, up to a maximum of \$15,000 per E85 pump. The
14 commissioner shall grant priority for E85 pumps installed in
15 areas of the state where gasoline service stations with E85
16 pumps are not reasonably available to the general public. This
17 appropriation is available until spent.