

Care and Share of Crookston is encouraging you to support legislation to fund long overdue building maintenance and an elevator.

We have 2 buildings that we use. The Hope Center, which houses families that are experiencing homelessness, will cost \$ 62,000.00 to repair/replace the flat roof and to replace windows there would be \$ 47, 669.86. The last time work was done on this roof was 24 years ago. Last work on some of the windows was done 26 years ago.

The cost to repair/replace the flat roof on the school, which houses single males and females, staff, the soup kitchen, food shelf and donation room is \$ 162,000.00 and to replace windows there would be \$306,398.70. There was a roof layover 15 years ago at the school. We have no records of replacement of windows here.

We are experiencing water damage at each location and windows would significantly reduce heating costs and improve function.

To add an elevator at the old school would cost \$ 366,000.00.

The total cost being \$ 944,068.56.

The Care and Share provides essential services to individuals and families who are without housing and have numerous other unmet basic needs. They provide them a warm bed, two hot meals a day, clothing and case management to become eligible for services to stabilize their lives and obtain housing. They literally have no other place to go.

Department of Human services request reporting of shelter nights. That would be how many heads were in beds each night; which is an average of 33 per night or about 12,024 a year.

48% have Mental Illness, 28% alcohol and drug disorders, 14% acute health conditions, 19% developmental disabilities and 34% physical disabilities or often a combination of the above.

A large number of their residents are people leaving penal institutions, who are required to return to the county where they committed their crime and often don't have housing. In addition, agencies who are approached by people who are homeless check first with Care and Share before expending funds for emergency housing.

In addition to the homeless, Care and Share also provides needy individuals of the community with food via the food shelf and Soup Kitchen. Care and Share also collects donations from the community and gives them to those who need them to establish or maintain a residence and meet basic needs.

Care and Share provides a valuable service in the region and your support would be extremely helpful for them to continue helping individuals and families who are experiencing homeless to meet their basic needs and become self-sufficient.

Thanks -Tom Anderson

Care and Share of Crookston Board Chair

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