



Tackling housing instability across Minnesota



Creating Connections

Heading Home Corps connects individuals and families to safe, stable housing options. AmeriCorps members are creative problem solvers who listen to individuals' needs and help create a personalized plan with direct housing support and wrap-around resources, such as employment, health, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment.

The State of Homelessness in Minnesota

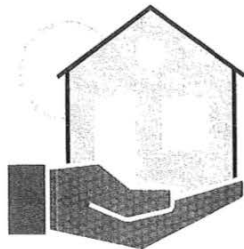
With rent and home prices rising faster than wages, there is a shortage of affordable housing options across the state. Minnesota has experienced significant growth in demand for housing, which has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 8,000 people experience homelessness nightly. 1,650 people sleep outside.
- In Greater Minnesota, the number of unsheltered people increased by nearly one-third (32%) between 2019 and 2020.
- 64% of adults experiencing homelessness have a serious mental illness and 24% have a substance use disorder.

ServeMinnesota, the state's Commission on National and Community Service, is partnering with the Minnesota Department of Health to place 100 Heading Home Corps members in shelters, substance use recovery programs, county agencies and school districts. This appropriation will allow ServeMinnesota to provide this program at no charge to site partners. These AmeriCorps members are working alongside case managers and other program staff to provide direct support to individuals and families experiencing housing instability.

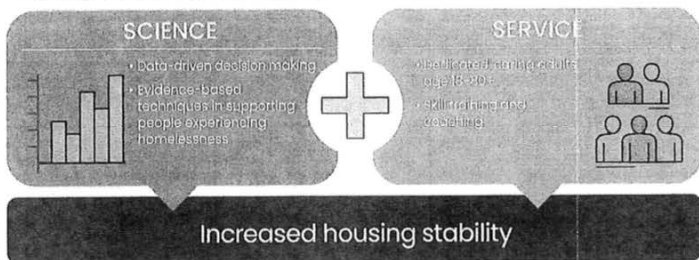
The Launch of Heading Home Corps

In 2020, ServeMinnesota responded to the urgent need caused by the pandemic for additional support at food shelves, shelters, and schools with the launch of the summer Emergency Response Initiative. Many AmeriCorps members served in temporary shelters where they delivered meals, cleaned, and provided empathetic support to help people feel heard and valued. The ongoing need was evident and it became clear that AmeriCorps members could expand capacity to provide individual support to folks experiencing homelessness. Heading Home Corps launched as a year-round program in fall 2021.



How Heading Home Corps Works

Blending Science with the People Power of AmeriCorps



What Housing Resource Navigators Do

- Create and implement a housing stabilization plan that includes obtaining documentation and budgeting
- Coordinate with and support landlords in accepting rental assistance
- Connect people to resources for employment, food, mental health, substance use recovery, and finances

Heading Home Corps Outcomes: 2021-22

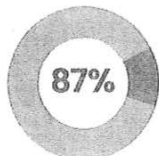
Housing provides more than a physical foundation. Its stability improves outcomes for families, youth, and older adults.

Housed people experience:

- Decreased involvement in child welfare
- Improvement in mental health
- Decreased use of emergency room and hospital resources
- Decreased likelihood of returning to homelessness

Researchers have found the total cost of public services for two years on the streets was \$187,288 compared to \$107,032 for two years in permanent housing with support services. That's a total cost savings of \$80,256 per person.

(United Way of Greater Los Angeles)



87% of participants have accessed at least one supportive resource

1,003 individuals supported by Heading Home Corps

Visit ampact.us/heading-home for more information

The Power of AmeriCorps.
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ServeMinnesota.org