

# Building Bridges: Homelessness to Housing

HF 4583 (Perez-Vega) / SF 4779 (Marty) [Heading Home Ramsey bill]  
HF 3971 / SF 4108 [Bridge to Shelter pilot bill]

## HOMELESSNESS IN RAMSEY COUNTY

Unsheltered homelessness continues to increase.

### Key indicators:

- Since 2018, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has nearly tripled.
- The 2024 Point-in-Time count is likely to again show well over 300 unsheltered individuals.
- Warming Spaces have regularly hosted more than 150 adults, youth and families each night during recent winter months.
- Ramsey County's family shelter waitlist has had 25+ families waiting for available space.

Emergency shelters in Ramsey County serve regional needs.

Ramsey County accounts for:

**9.5%** of the statewide population.

**24%** of all emergency shelter beds in the state of Minnesota.

Only **one-third** of all emergency shelter entries have a last known residence in Ramsey County.

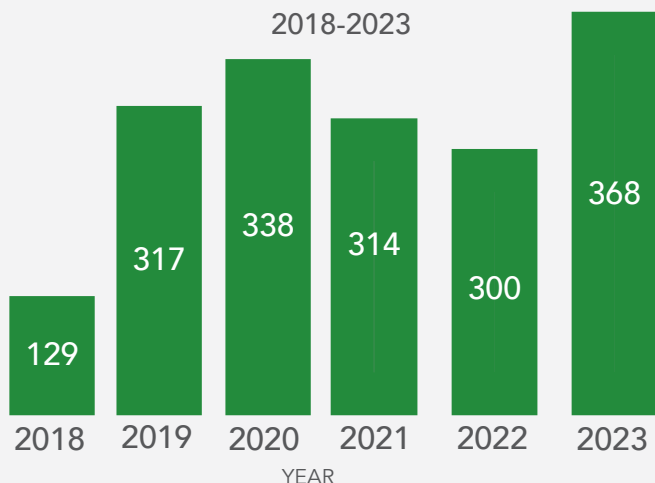
Heading Home Ramsey needs **\$75 million** in funding, or **\$15 million per year for five years.**

### Reliable funding will:

- Provide and sustain shelter support and services to families, single adults and youth.
- Bridge the gap from now to the completion of new affordable rental housing.
- Move more people onto a path to housing.

NUMBER OF UNSHELTERED INDIVIDUALS

Unsheltered Point-in-Time Count  
2018-2023



Additional information



## Ramsey County has significant racial disparities in homelessness.

American Indians are

**14.1** TIMES MORE LIKELY...

Black or African Americans are

**7.4** TIMES MORE LIKELY...

Latinos/as of any race are

**2.2** TIMES MORE LIKELY...

to be homeless than people who identify as white.

## Heading Home Ramsey funding and policy changes would support:



Continued shelter for single adults, including expanded women's shelter options.



Continued shelter and additional supports for families.



Continued operation of day shelters and services.



Outreach, diversion, system improvements and extreme weather support.



Access to resources for collaboration with community partners.

## Funding needed to bridge gap from homelessness to housing.

Ramsey County has a shortage of 18,000 affordable rental housing units. The county, in collaboration with the city of Saint Paul, have committed a total of \$74 million to construct and preserve local, affordable rental housing. While these projects develop, the number of people experiencing homelessness continues to rise.

### Outcomes of recent investments:



170 people transitioned from pandemic-funded shelters to housing in 2022.



Continued operation of day service shelters and overnight Winter Warming Spaces.



Expanded emergency shelter capacity for families and single adults.



Implemented a Shelter Entry & Diversion Team to provide person-centered access to shelter for single adults.

### ABOUT HEADING HOME RAMSEY

Heading Home Ramsey is the HUD-mandated Continuum of Care for Ramsey County and includes more than 100 partners who work together to end homelessness, including:

1 Day at a Time | Ain Dah Yung Center | Catholic Charities | Emma Norton Services | Faith City Church | Guild, Inc. | Interfaith Action | Legal Aid | The Listening House | Lutheran Social Services | M Health Fairview | City of Maplewood | Metropolitan HRA | Metro Transit Police | MN Assistance Council for Veterans | MN One Stop for Communities | MN Recovery Connection | Model Cities | Neighborhood House | People, Inc. | RADIAS Health | Solid Ground | St. Paul & Minnesota Foundation | St. Paul Promise Neighborhood | City of St. Paul | St. Paul Public Housing Authority | St. Paul Public Schools | Ubuntu Care Services | Union Gospel Mission | Wilder | Women's Advocates and more.

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