

# Tackling Homelessness Together

HF 1914 (Curran) / SF 2124 (Mohamed)



## 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 found **410 people were unsheltered**.
- During the first two months the Winter Warming Spaces were open during the 2024-25 winter season, the spaces had **nearly 2,500 walk through the four sites**.
- Ramsey County's family shelter **waitlist is now comprised of 90 families**.

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

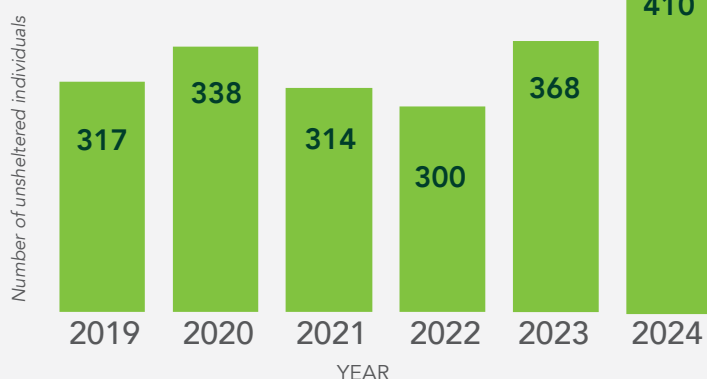
Only **one-third** of all emergency shelter entries have a last known residence in Ramsey County.

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.

Unsheltered Point-in-Time Count  
2018-2023



Additional information

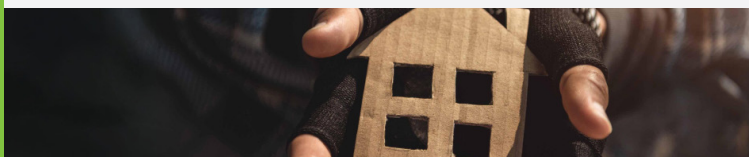


## Ramsey County has significant racial disparities in homelessness.

Black or African American make up 13.7% of the population but **40.4%** of the homeless.

Native Americans account for 1.1% of the population but **4.3%** of the homeless.

Those identifying as multiracial make up 3.9% of the population but **14.1%** of the homeless.



## 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.

## Statewide County Priorities

The bill reflects a true comprehensive response by allowing all 87 counties and statewide providers to access aid in three critical areas of funding needs:



**Provider Need:** Addresses critical funding gaps to provider community through increase in the emergency services program (ESP).



**County Innovation:** Acknowledges counties' fiscal cliffs caused by the end of the federal pandemic relief funding by providing a dedicated funding stream, Homeless Response Innovation Fund, for counties to provide homelessness response services with corresponding requirements and accountability for measurable results.



**County-to-County Capacity Building:** Incentivizes collaboration between Metro and Greater Minnesota counties and their providers to increase access to sustainable funding streams while envisioning the adoption of best practices and distribution of tool kits.

## Outcomes of recent investments:



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



Winter Warming spaces tripled the number of walk through individuals from about 10,000 in 2022-23 to more than 33,000 in 2023-2024.



Expansion of emergency shelter capacity for families and single adults.



The Shelter Entry & Diversion Team handled more than 25,000 phone calls in 2024.

## 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 | Advocates | Ain Dah Yung Center | Catholic Charities | City of Maplewood | City of St. Paul | City of Vadnais Heights | Community Medical Services | Department of Veteran Affairs Homeless Programs | Emma Norton Services | Evergreen Recovery | Face to Face Health & Counseling | Faith City Church | Guild | Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul | Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota | M Health Fairview | Metro HRA | Metro Transit Police | Metropolitan Housing and Redevelopment Authority | Minnesota One Stop for Communities | Model Cities | Neighborhood House | Radian Health | Roseville Police Dept. | Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation | Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood | SMRLS | St. Paul Public Housing Agency | St. Paul Public Housing Agency | St. Paul Public Schools | The Listening House | Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities | Wilder | and more