Every Minnesotan deserves a safe, warm place to sleep at night, but on any given winter night, more than 1,600 people sleep outside. The Walz-Flanagan Administration issued a call-to-action to bring more people inside, launching the Minnesota Winter Homeless Initiative.

In response, the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation set up the Minnesota Homeless Fund to assemble resources from philanthropy, corporate donors, and public entities. The fund will provide nimble funding for crisis response, shelter, and low-barrier affordable housing across the state.

Nearly 8,000 Minnesotans are experiencing homelessness, more than 1,600 people sleep outside on any given night – a number that has doubled since 2015.

WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER
To help end this crisis occurring in our state, we need your help. Your financial commitments will increase shelter space, expand the network of low-barrier affordable housing, and extend hours and enhance staffing to support our neighbors who are sleeping outside.

We also need our communities on the front lines to help us identify opportunities to support efforts and increase capacity through this fund. Examples of work we are supporting across the state include:

- Crisis response needs
- Operational and staffing costs to expand shelters
- Capital projects to create new shelter and increase capacity of existing shelters and other housing

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Donations will be pooled and managed by the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation and the fund’s transparent advisory committee that includes representatives from the public and private sectors, including individuals who have experienced homelessness themselves. The advisory committee will work with members of the community to best determine how funds are distributed in collaboration with donors.

Advisory committee members include:

- Robert Lilligren, Advisory committee chair, Metropolitan Council member and Chair of Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors
- Eliza Chlebeck, Andersen Corporation
- Jennifer DeCubellis, Hennepin County Health and Human Services
- Paul Fleissner, Olmsted County
- Michael Goze, American Indian Community Development Corporation
- Abby Guilford, Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care
- Sue Haigh, Consultant, Minnesota Homeless Fund
- Tim Marx, Catholic Charities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
- Ann Mulholland, Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
- Brian Paulson, Pohlad Family Foundation
- Sophie Rich, U.S. Bank
- Alaina Song Brave, Lived Experience Consultant and Outreach Worker, Ain Dah Yung
- Rhonda Otteson, Executive Director, Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

CONTACT US
Do you have a project that can bring Minnesotans inside?
Do you have resources to donate to the initiative?
Are you looking to get involved with the Minnesota Winter Homeless Initiative?

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mnhomelessfund.org