



GROUNDBREAKING: SERVING YOUNG ADULTS



Architect's rendering of 66 West Apartments in Edina

Simpson Housing Services is a proud partner on an exciting new project for formerly homeless young residents of Hennepin County. In July, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative began construction on 66 West, a new, 39-unit property specifically for transition age young people, ages 16-24, experiencing homelessness. Simpson will partner with Beacon and provide support services, helping unaccompanied, young adults achieve their educational and employment goals.

66 West is the first supportive housing development for suburban youth in Hennepin County. In Minnesota, young people 16-24 are a growing population in the homeless community. The 2015 Wilder Research Survey indicates young people, age 24 or younger, are the most likely to be homeless.

Simpson will adapt current service models to better meet the needs of homeless youth. Simpson's Director of Programs, Wendy Wiegmann says as the organization has grown, this is a natural extension of services. "For many years we have been developing our capacity to serve young adults. We are excited at the possibilities of working with a group of young people that have so much potential not only for themselves, but for the community," Wendy says.

Because the future 66 West residents are transition age they will likely not need long-term support, instead would benefit from working with a Supportive Housing Advocate to stabilize their lives. Four staff will be on-site, each with a specialty area of focus including employment, life skills and leadership, health, and education. Advocates will also work

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OUR MISSION

To house, support and advocate for people experiencing homelessness.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends:

The struggles against injustice that flare up around us this summer only strengthen our resolve and focus on the important work of ending homelessness.

As we review another successful year we can report that our programs continue to grow, more of our community is providing direct financial support, and our results and financial position are stronger than ever at Simpson!

Many of you played a role in our strategic plan that was launched in 2014 – our families continue to experience the benefits of that plan – in particular with our growing education support programming. By adding more tutors and mentors to new curriculum areas, we are closing the gap for more of our students who have fallen behind academically due to housing instability.

These continue to be exciting times at Simpson and as we move ahead we hope that your support of our mission helps us to build stronger communities across the Twin Cities.

Thank you for being part of the solution by being part of the Simpson Community.

Sincerely,

Steve Horsfield
Executive Director

2015 impact

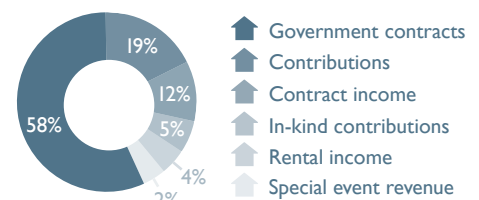


NUMBER OF DONORS: 1,571

private donations raised:

\$1,233,155







SUPPORT AND REVENUE

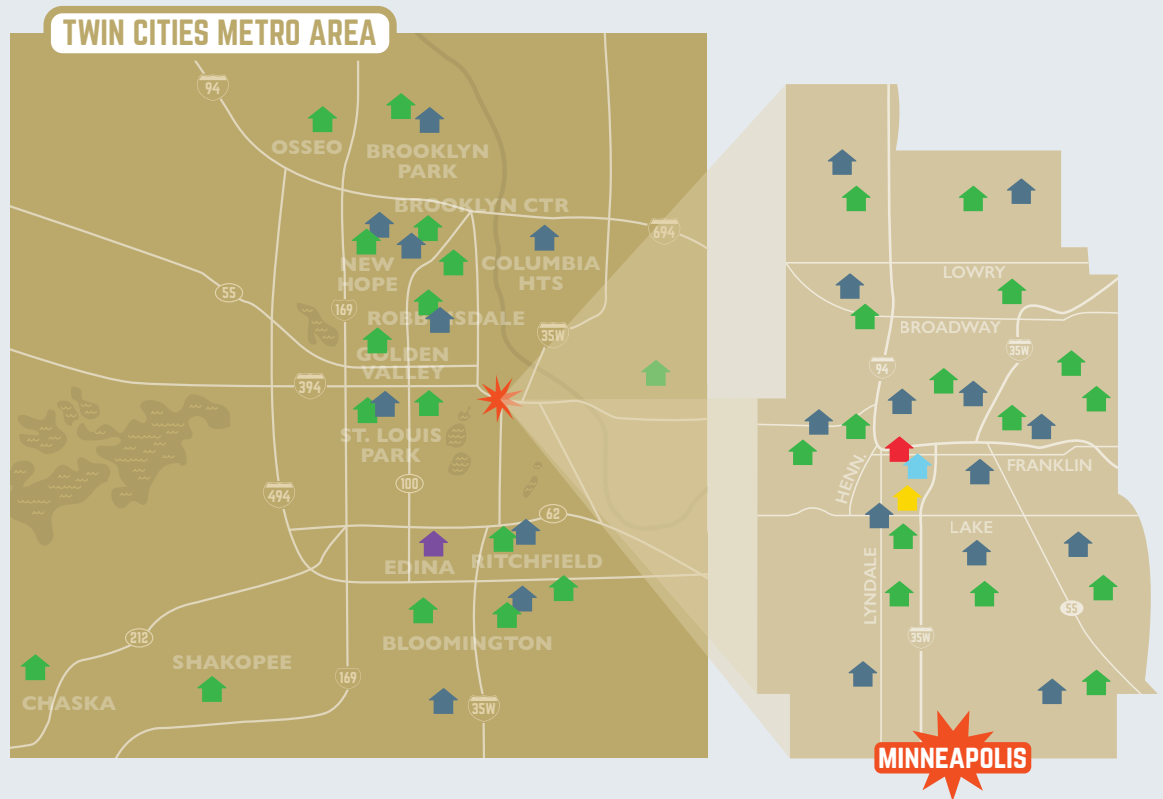


Simpson is more than one building.

At Simpson, we work across the metro area partnering with landlords and developers to find affordable housing for families and individuals. At any given time, we provide housing and supportive services to 100 individuals and 200 families with 400 children.

LEGEND

-  INDIVIDUALS
-  FAMILIES
-  SIMPSON ADMIN OFFICE
-  SIMPSON SHELTER
-  PASSAGE
-  66 WEST



(continued from cover)

with businesses in the surrounding area to build connections for employment.

WHAT IS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING?

Supportive housing combines safe, affordable housing with case management designed to help individuals and families live more stable lives. Supportive housing services range in intensity and duration, but can include employment services, connections to physical and mental health care providers, educational support for children, and referrals to other community-based resources.

At Simpson, Supportive Housing Advocates partner with program participants, providing on-going support. The overall goal of supportive housing is to break the cycle of homelessness by ensuring housing stability and integration into the community. The average caseload for an Advocate is 14 individuals or families; in order to provide the depth of service needed at 66 West, the average caseload will be 10 individuals.

Simpson's Executive Director, Steve Horsfield advocates for its impact, saying, "Supportive housing is an investment from



Friends, staff and supporters of Simpson and Beacon made the ceremonial first dig at the construction site.

the community in solving homelessness." And it's a wise investment. A 2014 study by the Corporation for Supportive Housing reports for every \$1 spent on supportive housing, \$1.44 is returned to the community and supportive housing saves communities from spending on emergency shelter and hospital visits.

"Simpson is honored to work with Beacon on this project. We value our partnership and shared commitment to ending homelessness through dignified housing solutions," Steve says.

2015 IMPACT

SHELTER

1,418 UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS
CAME TO A LOTTERY

2,619 MEN & WOMEN
RECEIVED SERVICES AT THE SHELTER

104 INDIVIDUALS MOVED DIRECTLY
INTO HOUSING

720 MEN and
351 WOMEN

*were turned away
due to lack of space*

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS

115 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Individuals spent an average of
9 YEARS HOMELESS
before entering the housing program

79% of all participants served
maintained their housing
in 2015



FAMILY HOUSING



254 families with **508** children

27% of those served were
UNDER THE AGE OF 18

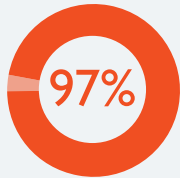
almost
half of families are
long term homeless

74% increased income

91% of families maintained
safe, stable housing for
one year

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

81% OF CHILDREN RECEIVED
EARLY INTERVENTION



97% of parents demonstrated positive parenting techniques

102 CHILDREN
were served from birth to 5 yrs. old



EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

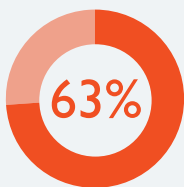
26 children were served in tutoring and educational support programs



100% increased participation in reading activities and **96% improved reading and literacy skills**

MENTOR PROGRAM

18 middle school **students & mentor** volunteers
PARTICIPATED IN THE PILOT YEAR



63% of students showed improvements in their grades and school attendance

one hundred
% of mentees participated in at least 3 activities they have never experienced before





MEET BETSY

Betsy came to Simpson Housing Services last year after leaving her apartment in North Minneapolis. Her neighbors were violent and she didn't feel safe there, but had nowhere else to go. She heard about the Simpson Shelter lottery for women and participated, keeping a positive attitude. Betsy's positive thinking paid off; she won a bed for 28 days.

"I love the people here. They've given me so many chances. They've given me tough love," Betsy says of the Simpson Housing Shelter staff.

Those chances have led Betsy to where she is today, applying for her own apartment. She's been on the cusp of living on her own before and been denied, but she's working with Simpson's Rapid Re-Housing Advocate and Betsy isn't letting a denial get the best of her.

She is involved in all of the services Simpson has to offer, saving her money, staying at the shelter, and comforting other women. "If you need any help, you can come to me," she says to other women.

Betsy's looking forward to her own apartment and she wants to volunteer with Simpson in the future. "We have a bond," she says of all the guests, volunteers and staff at Simpson. "I just like the people."

Advocates often go above and beyond for shelter guests, providing support, connections to other community resources, even taking guests to doctor's appointments, like when Betsy needed help getting to and from chemotherapy.

A three-time cancer survivor, Betsy knows what it's like to fight and she's not about to give up on having a place to call home.

For three decades, Simpson's goal has been to meet the immediate need for emergency shelter and create a welcoming community based around dignity, respect, and fairness. Each shelter guest is paired with an advocate who can provide support and help connect guests to housing and other community resources.

"The whole shelter knows Betsy and is rooting for her – the guests, the staff, the volunteers – anyone who's come through here knows who she is after their first five minutes in the building," adds Robert Hofmann, Simpson's Shelter Manager. "We'll miss her energy when she moves out but I know all of us want to see her get back to what she deserves – a safe, dignified place of her own."

Interested in volunteering at the shelter?

We're always looking for caring volunteers at the shelter to greet guests, provide dinner or breakfast, and/or make sandwiches for lunch.

To find out how you can get involved, visit simpsonhousing.org or contact Christina Giese: cgiese@simpsonhousing.org



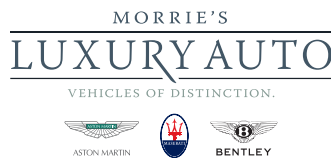
2016 committee members and volunteers

May 11, 2016 marked the 6th year for Simpson's fundraising event, Art 4 Shelter at the Le Meriden Chambers Hotel. Over 1,000 local, national, and aspiring artists donated art to the First Look Luncheon and evening sale. This year's Art 4 Shelter raised \$96,000 for Simpson's shelter which will provide over 3,000 nights of safe shelter for men and women who are experiencing homelessness.

Thank you to the Art 4 Shelter committee, artists, sponsors, and supporters for their commitment to Art 4 Shelter and sharing vital resources, talent, and amazing art to this extraordinary event.

For updates on Art 4 Shelter 2017 please visit www.art4shelter.org or like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/art4shelter.

Thank you to the 2016 Art 4 Shelter Sponsors



Bill & Barbara Scrimgeour | Reiling Family Foundation | Rovick Family Foundation
Paula & Roger Roe Family Fund at the Minneapolis Foundation

A special thank you to all contributing artists!



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