



St. Stephen's Human Services

St. Stephen's provides emergency assistance, housing, employment and human rights advocacy to people experiencing homelessness. It operates scattered-site permanent supportive housing for long-term homeless adults in private-market rental units throughout Hennepin County.

Owner/Sponsor: St. Stephen's Human Services

Service Provider: St. Stephen's Human Services

Tenant Profile: Long-term homeless single adults without children that have a disability. About 90% have a chemical dependency; two-thirds have mental illness.

Service Approach: Housing first and harm-reduction approach, in which treatment acceptance or compliance and sobriety are not conditions of housing.

Key Features and Innovations:

- The Frequent User Service Enhancement (FUSE) program works with frequent users of Hennepin County services on probation, focusing on reducing criminal justice involvement and emergency service utilization.
- The Alliance of the Streets affiliate program produces resources for individuals experiencing homelessness or living in extreme poverty. It also creates the *Handbook of the Streets*, a homeless resource guide published annually.
- The Kateri Residence provides safe, sober housing to American Indian women recovering from chemical dependency.
- The zAmya theater project brings together homeless and housed individuals to create theatrical productions on homelessness.

Financing Information

The scattered-site programs have a budget of \$4.5 million. Most clients receive General Assistance (GA) and the housing is funded through Group Residential Housing (GRH). The GA program helps people without children pay for basic needs like rent and clothing. The Minnesota Department of Human Services runs the GA program through county human services agencies.

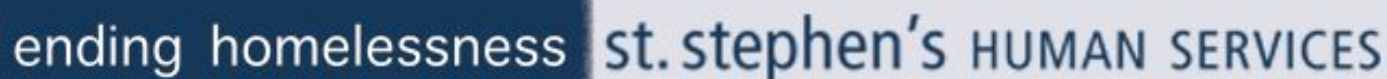
GRH is a state-funded income supplement program that pays for room and board costs for disabled, low-income adults in a qualified setting with which a county human service agency has a GRH Agreement and has negotiated a monthly rate.

Funding has provided for Chemical Health Housing Projects, which has allowed St. Stephen's to start having daily group sessions at its office. The groups focus on chemical health (harm reduction, not abstinence), mental health, physical health, recreational activities, and tenant rights and responsibilities. The groups have given people a place to come together to avoid isolation in their apartments as well as to get support from staff and peers. Attendance has grown from the program's beginnings, and there is now regularly 12 to 20 people arriving each morning.

About St. Stephen's Human Services

St. Stephen's Human Service programs began in the early 1970s by members of St. Stephen's Catholic Church. The neighborhood, once one of Minneapolis' wealthiest, had become run-down, and parishioners noted that many of their neighbors were suffering from the effects of extreme poverty. They began to offer services, initially Kateri Residence and the Free Store, which parish members staffed on a volunteer basis. In 1981, parishioners opened the basement of the priest's residence to provide emergency shelter.

As the services grew to meet needs, additional staff was hired to run and become administrators of the programs. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, St. Stephen's continued to respond to community needs by developing more innovative outreach and support for people experiencing homelessness. In 1991, St. Stephen's spun off its partner nonprofit, Alliance Housing, Inc., an affordable housing developer. In 2002, St. Stephen's Human Services became its own 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

The logo for St. Stephen's Human Services features the text "ending homelessness" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background. To the right of this, the text "st. stephen's HUMAN SERVICES" is displayed in a dark blue, sans-serif font on a light blue background.

About CSH

CSH transforms how communities use housing solutions to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people. We offer capital, expertise, information and innovation that allow our partners to use supportive housing to achieve stability, strength and success for the people in most need. CSH blends over 20 years of experience and dedication with a practical and entrepreneurial spirit, making us the source for housing solutions. CSH is an industry leader with national influence and deep connections in a growing number of local communities. We are headquartered in New York City with staff stationed in more than 20 locations around the country. Visit csh.org to learn how CSH has and can make a difference where you live.



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