MINNESOTA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

Minnesota Housing Partnership Legislative Showcase
January 30, 2015

Department of Corrections
Department of Education
Department of Employment and Economic Development
Department of Health
Department of Human Rights

Department of Human Services
Department of Public Safety
Department of Transportation
Department of Veterans Affairs
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
Office of Higher Education
The Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness

- Corrections
- Education
- Employment and Economic Development
- Health
- Higher Education
- Housing
- Human Rights
- Human Services
- Public Safety
- Transportation
- Veterans Affairs
- Governor’s Office
Our Vision:
Housing Stability for All Minnesotans

Stable housing results in:
• better educational outcomes for our children,
• a stronger workforce now and in the future,
• increased public safety,
• better health,
• reduced health care costs; and
• reduced disparities among communities.

Governor Dayton
Heading Home Plan at a Glance

- **Housing**
  - Increase investments in affordable and supportive housing

- **Employment and Income**
  - Evaluate, build-on and improve workforce training, employment and education programs
  - Improve key Mainstream Systems

- **Effective Use of Services**
  - Maximize health care funding
  - Increase access to stable housing for offenders
  - End Veteran homelessness

- **Education, Children and Youth**
  - Improve transitions for youth exiting foster care and juvenile corrections
  - Identify Homeless and Highly Mobile Students and connect them to services
  - Support students experiencing homelessness to succeed in higher education.

- **Targeting Resources**
  - Prioritize funding for communities disproportionately impacted by homelessness
  - Develop a state-wide coordinated assessment
  - Improve data quality and access
12 Priority Focus Areas
23 strategies
100 specific action items

Heading Home:
Minnesota’s Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

www.headinghomememinnesota.org
Heading Home Plan at a Glance

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Housing
Increase investments in affordable and supportive housing

Governor’s Budget

- **Invests in Supportive Housing for Adults with Serious Mental Illness:** Investment of $4.65 million to provide grants to serve an additional 840 adults with serious mental illnesses in permanent supportive housing.

- **Invests in Housing and Supportive Services for People with Disabilities who exit institutions, group residential housing (GRH) and emergency shelters:** $3.5 million increase in this biennium will prevent homelessness for 2,053 adults leaving institutions or residential facilities in the first year of implementation.

- **Provides $2.5M increase for Bridges Program:** investment in rental assistance for individuals with serious mental illness who are eligible for Section 8. This investment will serve 200 more households.
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Employment and Income
Evaluate, build-on and improve workforce training, employment and education programs

Governor’s Budget

Work Force Training
- Invests $2.5 million in the new “Pathways to Prosperity” program: This program would provide adults with barriers to employment integrated developmental education and skills-based training and credentials
  - will merge the current FastTRAC Adult Career Pathways initiative and the Adult Workforce Development Competitive Grant Program.
- Expands the Individual Placement and Supports projects: An investment of an additional $2 million to expand and continue projects that help people with mental illness find employment.

Transportation in Greater MN
- $2.92 billion for Metro and Greater Minnesota transit systems
- Meet 90 percent of all transit needs in Greater Minnesota, and increase transit service in Greater Minnesota by nearly 500,000 hours of service each year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transit Funding Over 10 years</th>
<th>Twin Cities Metro Area – $2.8 billion</th>
<th>Greater Minnesota Transit – $120 million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: ½ cent sales tax increase in 7-county Metro</td>
<td>Source: General Fund</td>
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Employment and Income
Improve key Mainstream Systems

Governor’s Budget

Child Care

- **Simplifies Child Care Assistance Requirements**: The goals of this proposal are to: (1) make the program easier for families to access quality child care; (2) support the developmental needs of children; and (3) reduce complexity in the program.

- **Reduces the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Waiting List**: Providing an increase of funding to the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Assistance program over the next 3 years to reduce wait-lists in the Counties with the most demand for child care services.

- **Expands the Child and Dependent Care Credit**: This proposal would expand eligibility for these tax credits to a total of 130,000 Minnesota families – currently 38,000 Minnesotan’s are eligible for the credit.

- **Sustains the Parent Aware Quality Rating and Improvement System**: This investment funds Parent Aware, Minnesota’s quality rating and improvement system for child care and early education programs. This funding will enable approximately 40 percent of children ages 0-5 and receiving child care assistance (about 8,000 children) to be enrolled in highly rated Parent Aware programs.
Employment and Income
Improve key Mainstream Systems

Governor’s Budget

Targeting At Risk Families and Children

• **Expands Home Visiting Services** – The Governor’s budget proposal would invest $2.6 million to expand access to home visiting services for high-risk mothers and infants.
  • This would benefit an additional 300 pregnant or parenting teens, at-risk pregnant women, and at risk families with children under age five.

• **Invests $2 million into the Help Me Grow initiative** - A one-stop shop that connects parents of at-risk children to a variety of early interventions, supports, and community resources for children.

Expanding Food Supports

• **Increases funding for the Minnesota Food Assistance Program**: Proposed increased funding will meet the projected need for MFAP. MFAP is state-funded food assistance for legal non-citizens age 50 year or older who do not qualify for federal food benefits because of their citizenship status.

Mental Health Continuum

• Numerous proposals are included in the budget to address mental health needs. These proposals range from services to children, youth, families and single adults, to improving the current mental health system, to expanding services provided in communities.
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Effective Use of Services
Maximize health care funding

Governor’s Budget

• **Implements Behavioral Health Homes:** The Governor’s proposal would take the first step in the development of a framework to provide a person-centered system of care. This framework facilitates access to and coordination of the full array of primary, acute and behavioral health care for MA recipients with serious mental illness.
  • This proposal leverages enhanced federal funding for a period of 2 years.

• **Enhances Behavioral Health Clinics:** The Governor’s proposal would enhance Minnesota’s community mental health centers, which are the foundation of the public mental health safety net.
  • Under this proposal, Minnesota would seek a 90 percent federal match for these services.

• **Expands Eligibility for Transitions to Community Initiative:** The Governor’s proposal would expand eligibility for the Transition to Community Initiative so that existing funding can be used to help more people being served in state-operated facilities transition back to the community, regardless of age or which facility they are being served in.
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**Effective Use of Services**
Increase access to stable housing for offenders

**Governor’s Budget**

- *Invests in Health Care for the offender population:* The Governor’s proposal invests in more comprehensive health care services and an electronic health records system for the offender population.
  - This proposal is intended to: 1) ensure e-health requirements apply across the entire continuum of care for offenders; 2) decrease risk; 3) provide for quality health care consistent with professional and correctional standards; 4) reduce the need for overtime in health services, 5) provide for optimal patient outcomes; and 6) ensure offenders with chemical dependency are better prepared for successful reentry into the community.
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Education, Children and Youth

5th Grade Math Proficiency Percentages

- New Math Test
- All students
- Free and reduced lunch students
- Homeless students

Education, Children and Youth

Governor’s Budget

Early Learning
- **Provides full-day Pre-K:** Invest $109 million to provide voluntary, full-day pre-Kindergarten early learning opportunities for every 4-year-old, statewide.
- **Eliminates the Current Head Start Waiting List:** Invest $19.4 million to work toward eliminating the wait for 2,484 children on the Head Start wait list.

Nutrition
- **Expands School Breakfasts:** Invest $28.1 million over the next biennium to ensure that every child, from PreK to grade 3, has access to a nutritious meal to start their day.

Mental Health
- **Pilots a School-Based Diversion model:** The Governor’s proposal would pilot a new model to help schools support students with mental health and substance use disorders. These efforts would help reduce arrests, expulsions, and suspensions, while increasing referrals for treatment and services.

Achievement Gap
- **Invests in Community Partnerships** – The Governor’s budget proposal would provide wrap-around services for children and families within the Northside Achievement Zone and St. Paul Promise Neighborhood. Both programs partner with families and the community to permanently close the achievement gap.
- **Invests in American Indian Students** – Governor Dayton is seeking to better support Minnesota’s American Indian students by investing in the Success for the Future program. This initiative helps eligible schools develop plans to support academic achievement, decrease the dropout rate, and improve the school climate for American Indian students. Last year, out of the 66 schools eligible, only 32 received funding. This proposal would invest $4.5 million over the next biennium to provide the grants necessary for supporting 34 remaining schools, and an additional 5,300 students.
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Targeting Resources
Prioritize funding for communities disproportionately impacted by homelessness

Governor’s Budget

- **Invests in Community Health Boards and Tribal Health Departments in Greater Minnesota:** The proposal provides a 10% increase in the Local Public Health Grant to CHBs that are located outside the eleven-county metro area, and increases funding by 10% to Minnesota’s tribal governments.
  - It aims to increase CHBs’ and tribal governments’ ability to address community health priorities, improve the performance of the local and tribal public health systems, and shore up fragile links in the state, local and tribal public health system.
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**Targeting Resources**

*Improve data quality and access*

**Governor’s Budget**

*Provides an Investment of $1.4 million for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)*

- This investment will allow us to target resources and interventions where it’s needed most to the populations who need it most.
- Right now we have an imperfect picture of homelessness in Minnesota.
- Improving HMIS and increasing its capacity will give us a much better picture of homelessness in Minnesota – giving us more accurate information to target services and resources to the areas and people that need it the most.
Targeting Resources
Improve Data Quality and Access

Percentage of 14 to 17 Year Olds in Foster Care in 2006 who Became Homeless by age 21

- Reunified with Family: 18%
- Aged out: 23%
- All: 20%
Conclusion

• **Ending homelessness in Minnesota is possible.**

• State government is leading the way by investing in proven solutions.

• We face challenges, but we have a state action plan that is bold, ambitious, and feasible.

• The proposals in the Governor’s budget will make a significant impact on bending the curve on homelessness in Minnesota, but we need your help!

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