



Create 100-150 new homes with family supportive services

Many of us know from our work with Families Moving Forward that the need for homes for families in our communities is tremendous. The length of stay in shelter has gone up dramatically because it's so hard for families to find a place they can afford – especially for large families or families with multiple barriers to stability.

Family supportive housing includes on-site services designed to meet the needs of families who live there. (Think 66 West for families.) On-site services often include employment assistance, budgeting and financial literacy, child development, parenting support and life-skills training. The Beacon collaborative already has 19 supportive homes for families at Audubon Crossing, Third Avenue Townhomes and Cedar View, with 10 more in development at Cranberry Ridge. Our outcomes demonstrate that supportive housing helps families transition from long-term homelessness to long-term stability.

BEACON BOLD PROPOSAL: Create three housing developments – 100 to 150 new homes – for families transitioning out of homelessness.

- In **locations across the Twin Cities:** Scott County, North Minneapolis, Suburban Hennepin County
- With **on-site services** to help families maintain stability
- **May focus on a particular population;** for example a parent may have a serious and persistent mental illness, or be in recovery from addiction. Services could focus on those specific needs.

What will change as a result? Who benefits?

- **Families** benefit from the stability of homes. They are safer, experience increases in income, and see improvements in health and wellness.
- **Children** with stable homes do better in school and are healthier. They are much less likely to experience homelessness as adults.
- The **community** benefits. For every \$100,000 invested in supportive housing services, the public realizes \$141,000 in combined net savings from lower program use and additional public revenue from taxes paid by participants.

What will it take to win?

- A leadership and congregational commitment to **build awareness and support** for addressing family homelessness and creating homes for families
- **Building relationships with community leaders and public officials;** showing up for small and large meetings with public officials
- **Contributing financial support** as congregations and individuals are able

*Is your congregation willing to join other Beacon congregations in **acting boldly?***

*Will your congregation commit to doing what it takes to create 100 to 150 new homes for families – **starting by creating a Beacon Leadership Team?** Contact your congregational organizer to begin.*