

The Call of Faith

The Housing Action Team is coordinated by the Office for Social Justice of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Catholic Social Teaching calls us to work for the Kingdom of God on Earth. That Kingdom is one of social and economic justice. OSJ serves those who are passionate about responding to this call.

Besides housing, action teams have formed around the issues of health care and worker justice. For more information about these teams, or if you are interested in starting a new team, please contact OSJ at 651-291-4477. Visit www.osjspm.org to learn more about our work.

Office for Social Justice A Division of Catholic Charities

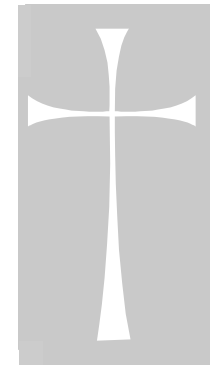
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
328 West Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

651-291-4477

651-291-4487 (Fax)

www.osjspm.org

Housing Action Team



*Catholic Parishioners
Advocating for
Supportive Housing*



BRIDGING the GAP: *Advocacy for Supportive Housing*

The Issue

A significant gap exists between living on the street and having a secure home. Helping people transition from homelessness requires more than providing four walls and a roof. Often, a new *life* must be built before a person can maintain stable and permanent housing.

Supportive housing is a bridge to this new life. For many, homelessness is the result of chronic illness, mental illness, chemical dependency, or underdeveloped job skills. Supportive housing is affordable housing connected to services that help people learn to successfully manage such situations. Supportive services include access to case management, counseling, and employment resources.

Supportive housing is a critical tool for helping people in situations of poverty achieve self-sufficiency. It is a key element of any effort to end homelessness.

The Work

Supportive housing is the moral and strategic focus of the Housing Action Team's faith-based advocacy work.

The Housing Action Team is a coalition of parishioners from congregations within the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The team has created a strategic plan to develop members' skills, expand overall team capacity, and increase effectiveness at achieving measurable advocacy results.

The plan includes outreach and education activities, both within parishes and toward the broader public. Members also participate in public policy campaigns to create more supportive housing resources in Minnesota.



Join Us!

Starting with parishioners from six parishes, the Housing Action Team underwent an extensive process of study, reflection, and dialogue to discern its focus issue. We are now actively seeking new members to help us achieve our goals.

Please join us! Working alongside community partners, we believe that significant steps toward ending homelessness can be achieved through our efforts. Success will require us to develop our identities as citizens and deepen our experience of the common good. The road we take will be prayerful, collaborative, fun, agitating, exhausting, and gratifying.

For more information, please contact the Office for Social Justice (651-291-4477).