

Solid Ground



Foundations for a Stronger Future

A Capital Campaign to Preserve, Expand, and Sustain Deeply Affordable Housing for Families



Our local housing crisis

The Problem

Family homelessness grew 27% in Minnesota in 2023. Lack of safe and stable housing has an outsized ripple effect. That's a problem for all of us.

Why?

Safe, stable housing is foundational. With housing, you:

- reduce poverty
- decrease inequality
- improve health
- increase academic success

In fact, housing is so fundamental it's linked to 13 out of 17 United Nations' sustainable development goals.

Out of Reach

The supply of affordable houses and apartments is shrinking.

- The Twin Cities are losing more units than we are building.
- The average 2BR apartment is too expensive, even for some with post-secondary degrees, like nursing assistants.
- Barriers for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) are even higher. Minnesota has the second worst housing gap in the country.

Demand

The need for Solid Ground's services is increasing as the housing supply shrinks. It takes more resources today to successfully house families, costing us almost three times more than in the past.

2ND WORST

Housing gap in the country between people of color and white people¹

87

Work hours per week at minimum wage to afford a 2-bedroom rental home (at FMR)²

2X

Homeless children are sick at twice the rate and are twice as likely to repeat a grade as children with a home³

Sources: ¹Habitat for Humanity, ²Minnesota Housing Partnership, ³The National Child Traumatic Stress Network

A lasting solution

We know the keys to a new home aren't the end of the story. This systemic problem needs a holistic, multi-pronged approach.

“

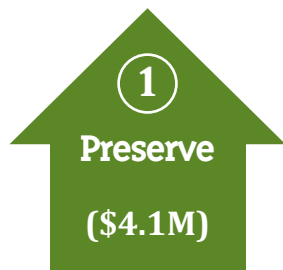
I was so grateful to have a home where I could care for my children and keep them safe.”

Irina



Imagine what our community would be like if everyone had a safe place to call home.

Solid Ground has housed and provided individualized support for nearly 1300 families — that's more than 4600 adults and children — in the past 30 years. What we do works! Based on our years of experience and collaborative partnerships, AND WITH YOUR HELP, we will improve the effectiveness of the housing we already own, add more housing, and build resilience for the future.

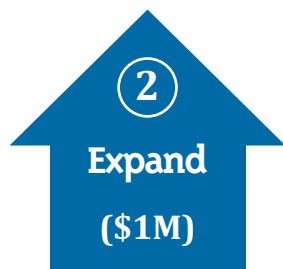


Renovate to provide a healing, safe, and welcoming environment for all Solid Ground family members and staff to thrive.

The heart of Solid Ground is a 31-year-old building called East Metro Place; home to staff, services, and 34 families.

Purpose and Goals

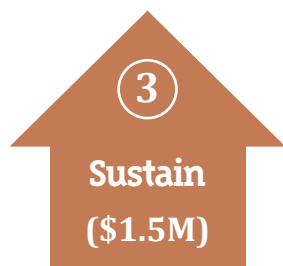
- **Growth:** Expanded community room and kitchen, donation storage, dedicated tutoring space, Kids' Club, intake room, quiet room, and staff offices
- **Safety:** Single, secure staffed front entry, aligning with best practices
- **Culture:** Welcoming spaces for residents and staff, creating space for connection and community
- **Healing Environment:** Co-creating a nurturing environment for families, children, and staff
- **Community & Volunteers:** Increased opportunities for community engagement



Expand Access to Affordable Housing

Washington County has one of the highest average gross rents in Minnesota (\$1,370 for a 2BR). That high cost, combined with the barriers to successful housing for the chronically unhoused, means Solid Ground needs more affordable housing of our own, where we can provide wrap-around services to meet the individual needs of our families and prepare them for a successful future.

With an additional \$1 million dollars, Solid Ground will increase and retain access to more affordable housing in Washington and Ramsey counties.



Sustainable Success = Strong Reserves

Just like a family can't live from paycheck to paycheck, an organization can't live from campaign to campaign. Based on a capital needs assessment, we need at least \$1.5 million dollars over the next 15 years for updates and capital improvements to the properties we own. By investing in the sustainability of our properties, we can focus on our families and their long-term success.



We need you!

You are part of the solution. We believe, as you do, that having a safe place to live with enough income left over to pay for food, transportation, education, and healthcare is vital to a stable, functioning society.

Please join us.

We can stop the cycle of homelessness — together. Please reach out for a tour and come see our work in person.

Director of Advancement
donate@solidgroundmn.org
651-846-9027

Imagine what our community would be like if everyone had a safe place to call home.

“ I feel like I belong somewhere and we belong somewhere and now that we have a home, we can be together. And without Solid Ground, I don't know how I would have done it.”

Bre



Who is Solid Ground

Solid Ground believes housing stability is fundamental to the healthy development of children and to a family's ability to participate in the community. We help families reach that stability first through housing, and then through wrap-around, holistic, supportive programming. Solid Ground currently runs multiple programs in Ramsey and Washington Counties housing more than 800 individuals annually.

Over the years, our approach has won several local and national awards for innovation and excellence, including: a *Live Your Best Life Award* from Oprah Winfrey's Angel Network; a grant award from the Day 1 Families Fund for our work to "move the dial" in ending homelessness; and a statewide Award for Excellence from the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits.

What we do works. We need your help to do more.

www.solidgroundmn.org

Mission

To prevent and end homelessness for families with children in the communities we serve through housing, resources, and opportunity.

Vision

Every family has a safe and affordable place to call home, where parents and children thrive in schools, at work, and in their community, and can achieve their goals and dreams.