



INTERFAITH
ACTION OF GREATER
SAINT PAUL



Sisters of St. Joseph
of Carondelet & Consociates
St. Paul Province



RAMSEY COUNTY

Housing Stability Community Engagement Virtual Town Hall

Potential Family Shelter at the Provincial House

January 5, 2021

Welcome and Introductions



Mee Cheng
Racial and Health Equity
Administrator



Ken Pelto
Program Specialist and
Racial Equity and Community
Engagement Member

Courtesy Notice

- This town hall is being recorded.
- We are recording for documentation and language / translation purposes.
- We cannot get into specifics about client cases or discuss private and confidential information about residents we serve on this town hall.

Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contribute their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope for a better life, and some have lived on this land since time immemorial. Truth and acknowledgement are critical to building mutual respect and connection across barriers of heritage and difference.

We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Dakota People. We want to acknowledge the Ojibwe, the Ho Chunk, and the other nations of people who also called this place home. We pay respects to their elders, past and present. Please take a moment to consider their treaties made by the tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. Please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.

This acknowledgement given in the USDAC Honor Native Land Guide – edited to reflect MN tribes. In review with St. Paul Indians in Action and endorsed by Shannon Geshick, MTAG Executive Director of the MN Indian Affairs Council.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Opening Remarks
3. Background on the Housing Crisis
4. Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul
5. Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
6. Community Conversation
7. Closing

Ground Rules and Group Agreements

- Be open-minded.
- Listen actively and respectfully when others are speaking.
- Speak from your own experience instead, use "I" instead of "they," "we," and "you".
- Respectfully ask challenging questions and refrain from personal attacks.
- Be engaged and provide feedback.
- The goal is not to always agree – it is to gain a deeper understanding.
- Be aware of your facial expressions – they can be perceived as disrespectful as words.
- Do not dominate the discussion, allow others to be heard.
- “Step up and step back”.

Opening Remarks



Chris Tolbert
City of Saint Paul
Councilmember
for Ward 3



Toni Carter
Ramsey County
Board Chair and
Commissioner for
District 4

Partners and Subject Matter Experts



Randi Ilyse Roth
Interfaith Action of
Greater St. Paul
Executive Director



**Sister Cathy
Steffens, CSJ**
Sisters of
St. Joseph of
Carondelet
Province
Leadership Team



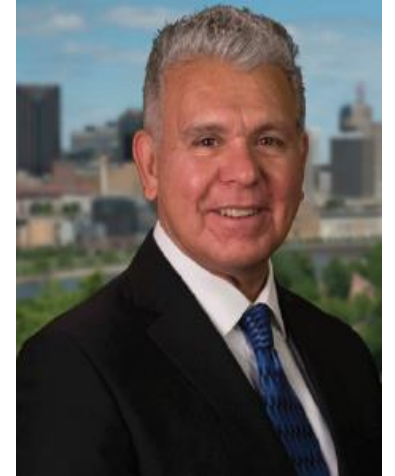
Tenecia Trice
Ramsey County
Supervisor of
Homeless Services



Sara Liegl
Interfaith Action of
Greater St. Paul
Project Home
Program Director



**John
Viktora-Croke**
Sisters of St.
Joseph of
Carondelet,
Director of
Facilities



**Ricardo
Cervantes**
City of Saint Paul
Department of
Safety and
Inspections
Director

Background on the Housing Crisis

Background and COVID-19 Impact on Families

- Lack of available units
 - Eviction Moratorium
- Decrease in household income
 - Lay offs
 - Reduction in unemployment benefits
- Distanced learning
 - Lack of childcare for school aged children
 - Providing academic support

No St. Paul apartments available for families earning \$30,000 or less, report finds

Pioneer Press - August 1, 2019

<https://www.twincities.com/2019/08/01/no-st-paul-apartments-available-for-families-earning-30000-or-less-report-finds/>

St. Paul is in a housing crisis, city council says.

Pioneer Press - July 19, 2018

<https://www.twincities.com/2018/07/19/st-paul-city-council-affordable-housing-plan>

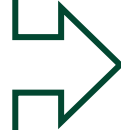
Existing Family Shelter Beds and Referral Process

Recent Trends	Requesting Shelter	Total Existing Beds
2019	660	185
2020	484	247

- Only able to serve a fraction of the families in need of shelter
- No immediate shelter for most families
- Families are served by the Ramsey County shelter team
- Referred to shelter as beds become available



CONTACT



SCREENING



Hotel Program



WAITLIST



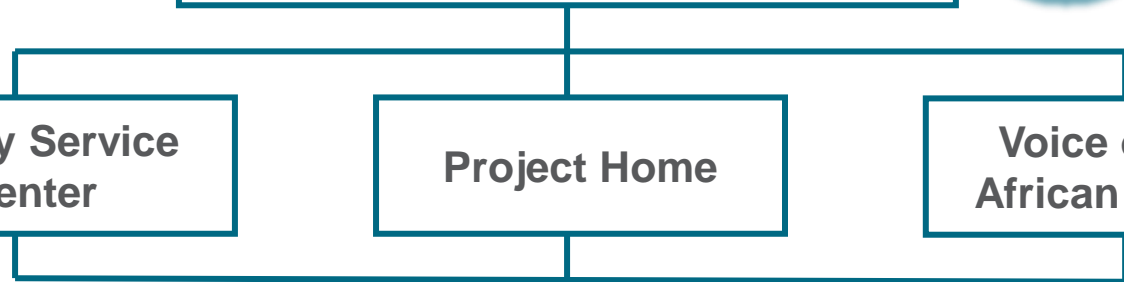
FAMILY SHELTER



**Family Service
Center**

Project Home

**Voice of East
African Women**



HOUSING SUPPORT



Family Shelter Referral Process

Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul

“Opportunity grows and poverty recedes when people of faith invest themselves in effective action to support our neighbors’ stability and economic mobility.”

Project Home Video



Project Home Families and Operations

- 71 families served this past year – 130 children and 88 adults
- 87% of children aged 12 and younger
- No drop-ins or walk-ups – families referred directly to Project Home from the Ramsey County shelter team
- Formal intake process with a background check
- Staffed 24/7/365 with a minimum two trained staff on-site at all times

Project Home at the Provincial House

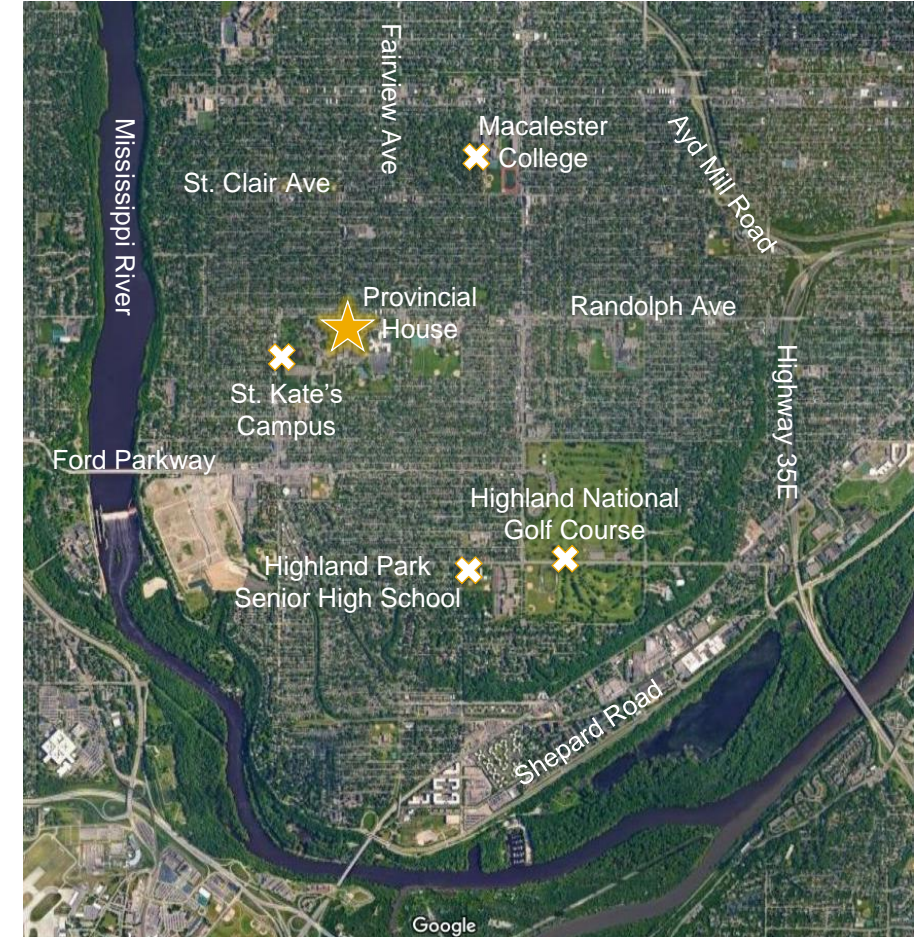
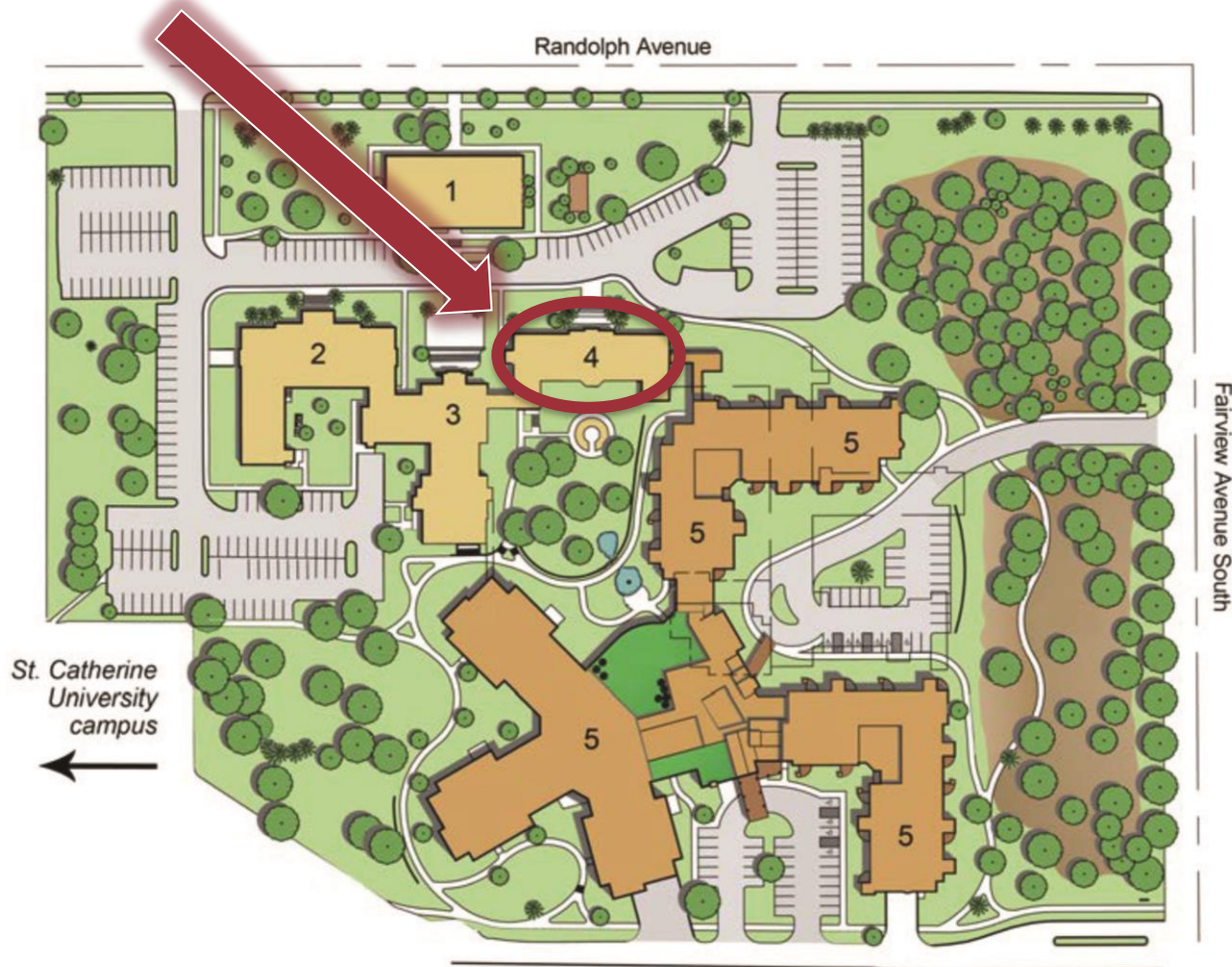
- Approximately 20 families for an average 43-day stay
- No drugs, alcohol or smoking allowed
- Curfew / quiet hours from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Designated outdoor play space for children
- Parking needs accommodated in on-site lot
- Volunteer opportunities for neighbors post-COVID



The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ)

Mission: Moving always toward the profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction.

The Provincial House



Additional Updates

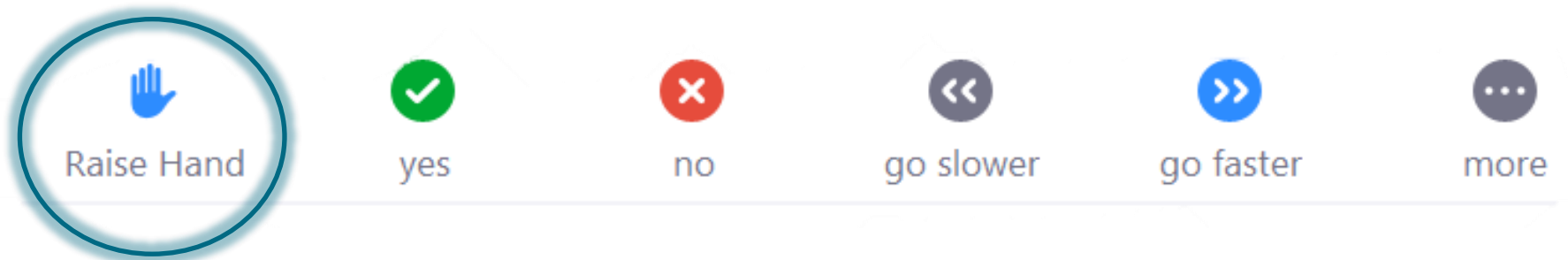
- Virtual town halls (December 21, 2020 and January 5, 2021)
- Lease negotiations and scope of work (building and technology)
- Conditional Use Permit from the City of Saint Paul:
 - Zoning Committee (public hearing; submit comments via email to PED-ZoningCommitteeSecretary@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
 - Planning Commission
- MN Department of Health license
- Building permit from the City of Saint Paul
- Improvements and technology installation
- Occupancy (tentatively March)

Community Conversation

Project Home at the Provincial House

Conversation Structure and Ground Rules

- Structure
 - Head nods or thumbs up when you agree
 - Utilize chat box for questions
 - “Raise” your hand to share
 - One (1) minute per speaker for comments or questions
- Ground Rules
 - Be respectful
 - Be open-minded
 - Listen actively and respectfully when others are speaking
 - “Step up and step back”



Focus Questions

1. What excites or concerns you about this housing opportunity with Project Home at the Provincial House?
2. In what other ways can the County and City do to continue to support families experiencing homelessness?
3. What other questions do you have?

Stay Updated and Engaged

Housing Stability Webpage

[Residents](#)
[Businesses](#)
[Your Government](#)
[COVID-19 Info](#)
[How do I...?](#)
[Home](#) / [COVID-19 Info](#) / [County Services & Initiatives](#) / [Investment & Support Efforts \(CARES Funding\)](#) / [Help for Those Experiencing Homelessness](#)

COVID-19 Info

County Services & Initiatives

[Coronavirus Impacts on County Services](#)
[Form Drop-off Sites](#)
[Investment & Support Efforts \(CARES Funding\)](#)
[Emergency Assistance](#)
[Home Meal Delivery](#)
[Help for Those Experiencing](#)

Housing Stability in Ramsey County

Since 2019, a county and city staff workgroup has met regularly to develop and act on solutions that address a serious challenge many communities across the country are facing, including Ramsey County: unsheltered homelessness. The current COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent economic downturn have only further exacerbated the present housing crisis.

The pandemic has posed unique challenges for our shelter spaces, removing some existing capacity to apply safe social distancing guidelines and increasing the number of people experiencing homelessness in our community. There are currently more than 300 people sleeping outdoors across Ramsey County on any given night. Because of this, Ramsey County, the City of Saint Paul and other partners have been working quickly since this

Contact Us

Housing Stability

[651-266-8390](#)
[Contact form](#)

Contact Information

City of Saint Paul

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(651) 266-8630

Ramsey County

[Housing Stability Webpage](#)

[Online Contact Form](#)

(651) 266-8390

Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul

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Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

John Viktora-Croke

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of Carondelet & Consociates
St. Paul Province



RAMSEY COUNTY

A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.

Thank You!