



INTERFAITH
ACTION OF GREATER
SAINT PAUL
PROJECT HOME

Serving families who are experiencing homelessness.



TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH INTO EMERGENCY SHELTERS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED.

Project Home engages area faith communities to provide emergency shelter space and volunteer support for Ramsey County families facing homelessness. Each month, two different area faith communities host 20 emergency shelter beds. We encourage volunteers to live their faith by serving as Evening and Overnight Hosts, providing hospitality to families in need.

“Our volunteers receive as much as, if not more than, they give. The experience is an eye-opener to the realities of homelessness. At our congregation, we preach about compassion, but with Project Home we become the doers, realizing the rewards of practicing our faith.”

– GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PROJECT HOME

Project Home engages area faith communities in transforming their social halls and classrooms into space for emergency shelter beds. Host sites provide space and volunteers to ensure overnight hospitality to Ramsey County families in need. Partnering faith communities send additional volunteer support to host sites.

Volunteer trainings raise awareness of the problem of family homelessness and explain volunteer roles. Evening Hosts help program staff welcome families as they come from the day center, serve a healthy snack, provide homework support, play games and read with children, and engage parents in conversation. Overnight Hosts stay at the shelter overnight, provide basic hygiene items, and set out a light breakfast before families return to the day center.

In addition, Project Home provides the shelter host sites with items needed for the comfort of guest families, including rollaway beds, cribs, linens, as well as healthy evening snacks and a light breakfast.

WHY THE NEED

Families from all cultures can experience an unexpected crisis, such as a job loss or health emergency, that leads to the loss of their homes. The barriers that contribute most significantly to homelessness include lack of reliable, livable-wage income and a lack of affordable housing.

Family homelessness is on the rise. Today, nearly one in 30 children nationally experience homelessness (up from one in 50 in 2006), according to America's Youngest Outcasts, A Report Card on Childhood Homelessness (Nov 2014). It is estimated that nearly 4,000 children in Minnesota face homelessness on any given night, with more than half under age 5, according to Wilder Research (2012).



BY THE NUMBERS

57 FAMILIES

118 children & 73 adults

10,312

SHELTER BEDS UTILIZED

82% OF CHILDREN

SERVED ARE 0-12 YEARS OLD

3,770 VOLUNTEER SHIFTS

24,388 HOURS

24 HOST FAITH COMMUNITIES & 26 PARTNER FAITH COMMUNITIES

Fiscal Year July 2017-June 2018 Statistics



We operate emergency family shelters in 24 host faith communities each year.

GET INVOLVED

- Make a financial contribution to support Project Home.
- Become a host site for Project Home, providing shelter space for one month.
- Become a partner of Project Home, providing volunteers to serve at shelter host sites.
- Serve as an Evening Host: Welcome families, play games, help with homework, read to children, chat with parents, and prepare healthy snacks.
- Serve as an Overnight Host: Chat with shelter guests, read a bedtime story, sleep overnight, wake guests and provide a light breakfast.
- Help on Move Day: Pack, move and unpack items when shelters transfer from one hosting faith community to another at the beginning of each month.
- Gather needed essentials, such as pajamas, toiletries, games and books, snack foods, etc.
- Connect with our justice partners to raise awareness of homelessness.



INTERFAITH ACTION OF GREATER SAINT PAUL

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Project Home is a program of Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul, a nonprofit organization that harnesses the power of thousands of motivated volunteers from diverse faith communities to relieve the effects of poverty and address its root causes. Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul is a 501(c)(3) organization; gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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