

Supportive housing strategy

Housing our most vulnerable residents

In 2019, Hennepin County initiated a new funding strategy designed to encourage development of deeply affordable long-term supportive housing. Targeted housing will serve county-identified priority populations for whom housing instability leads to the worst health and safety concerns.

Serving our priority population

Hennepin County identified approximately 3,100 households in 2018 who have both extremely low incomes (less than 30% of area median income), and/or:

- Need for significant assistance to live independently
- A disabling condition increasing health safety risks if unhoused
- No other access to existing supportive services

These households are most at risk of experiencing homelessness and are more likely to require ongoing support or services to live independently. There is a significant shortage of housing to serve this priority population and the market is unlikely to meet this need without public involvement.

1,000 new units by 2030

As a major public agency with critical capacity in both affordable housing development and finance, and health and human client services, Hennepin County is uniquely positioned to accelerate development in a targeted manner.

By strategically investing capital, operating, and service funding (estimated at over \$90 million during the next ten years), Hennepin County hopes to support development of 1,000 new supportive housing units.

To guide this investment, we will:

- Identify housing needs and preferences of the priority population
- Partner with supportive housing developers and providers
- Increase focus and flexibility in how we invest
- Provide higher amounts of early-in funding for supportive housing projects

This new investment will expand Hennepin County's housing impact by helping leverage maximum outside investment for supportive housing development.



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