



COUNTY OF ANOKA

Governmental Services Division
Office of Community Development

GOVERNMENT CENTER, Suite 700
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(763) 323-5700

September 22, 2011

Kurt Ulrich
City Administrator, City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Dr NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dear Kurt Ulrich,

One night in January this year, 1,461 persons in Anoka County were homeless.

Of those, 576 were children in families, 132 were unaccompanied youth under age 21.

461 households were doubled-up; meaning shared housing situations in which the house or apartment is crowded with people. Being doubled-up is being homeless.

Persons who are homeless lack a safe, stable, permanent place to live. Without stable housing, persons often struggle in other areas of basic living, such as mental health, holding a steady job, or looking for a job. Homelessness is a growing trend in Anoka County. From 2009 to 2011, the number of homeless persons in Anoka County grew by 45%, with a startling increase of almost 100% homeless youth.

“Heading Home Anoka: Sharing the Solution”

Heading Home Anoka is a local group of community, non-profit, and government agencies working together to end homelessness. Community partnerships, increasing homelessness awareness, and the desire to provide warm, safe housing are important goals for ending homelessness in Anoka County. It is essential that all community members are aware of homelessness and the impact community participation can have on ensuring that everyone has a safe, permanent home.

At the end of October, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners will be proclaiming November as Homelessness Awareness Month. **Our goal is to have each city in Anoka County join the effort to promote public awareness of homelessness and have their city also proclaim November as Homelessness Awareness Month.**



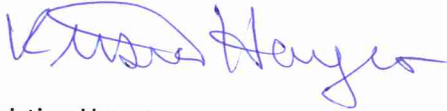
Enclosed is information regarding homelessness in Anoka County, how the community can become involved, and a flyer for the November Art Expo, "Homelessness...The Journey". Most importantly - there is a proclamation your city can use in partnering with this important community mission.

Visit our Web site for more information: www.AnokaCounty.us/CD

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at 763-323-5707 or by email at kristina.hayes@co.anoka.mn.us.

Thank you for your commitment to Share the Solution!

Sincerely,



Kristina Hayes
Heading Home Coordinator
Anoka County Community Development Assistant
763-323-5707



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

FAX: 763-323-5682

Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

TDD/TTY: 763-323-5289