



FALL 2019

ST. STEPHEN'S *news*

Ending Homelessness

Fatima's Second Chance

Fatima struggled with substance use related to trauma she experienced in Somalia and some of that violence continued after she moved to Minnesota. When she arrived at our shelter she had never had a place of her own. She spent most of her nights sleeping outdoors or staying in precarious situations. She often drank alcohol and smoked marijuana to numb the pain caused by past and current traumas.

One night, she returned to the shelter after curfew. She'd lost track of time after a night drinking with friends. One of her friends, a former client of St. Stephen's, accompanied her to the shelter to ensure she got there safely. He encouraged her to work with us because we had helped him find housing in the past. She engaged with the program as much as she could, but her substance use made it hard for her to focus on her goals.

Shortly after that evening, Fatima arrived back at the shelter in distress. She had just witnessed

a violent act against a female friend. Her level of intoxication and the late hour of her arrival would normally have resulted in her being turned away for the night, but something in her demeanor had changed. She wanted to get help so she could be strong for her friend. We arranged for her to get a chemical health assessment, which she did the following day. We worked with her until she was able to secure a bed in a residential treatment program.

While she was in treatment, Fatima was committed to the program. She called our shelter manager often to give her updates and thank St. Stephen's for saving her life. It's been several months since she graduated from treatment and secured permanent housing. At our last check-in, Fatima reported she is still in her apartment and doing great. She expressed her gratitude for being given a second chance when she was at the worst place in her life.



About St. Stephen's Human Services

The mission of St. Stephen's Human Services is ending homelessness. We progress toward this goal through Street Outreach, shelter, and housing programs for individuals and families. We envision a community in which housing instability is rare, brief and non-recurring, ending homelessness as we know it.

Street Outreach

St. Stephen's Street Outreach team works with people sleeping outside or in places unfit for human habitation. The team provides on-the-spot services to ensure safety and survival for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, while helping clients address their barriers to housing.

Shelter

St. Stephen's provides emergency shelter to up to 94 individuals experiencing homelessness each night. In addition to providing meals, access to showers, and a safe place to sleep, staff at our two shelter locations provide coordination of services to assist guests in meeting their long-term goals.

Housing

Our housing programs provide access to scattered-site, affordable housing for single adults and families experiencing and emerging from homelessness. Staff provide support in locating, accessing, and maintaining housing as our clients work toward personal goals and self-sufficiency.

Prevention

In 2019, St. Stephen's expanded its prevention programming with a specific initiative to prevent families with recent histories of shelter stays from returning. This data-driven initiative joins our existing Traditional and Targeted Prevention Programs in helping families remain stably housed.

Become a St. Stephen's Sustainer by setting up your monthly gift at ststephensmpls.org/donate

In fiscal year 2019, St. Stephen's Human Services served 6,573 total individuals through Street Outreach, shelter, and housing programs.



808 adults and **1,369** children were supported in our family housing programs.



1,256

individuals were provided shelter for at least one night.



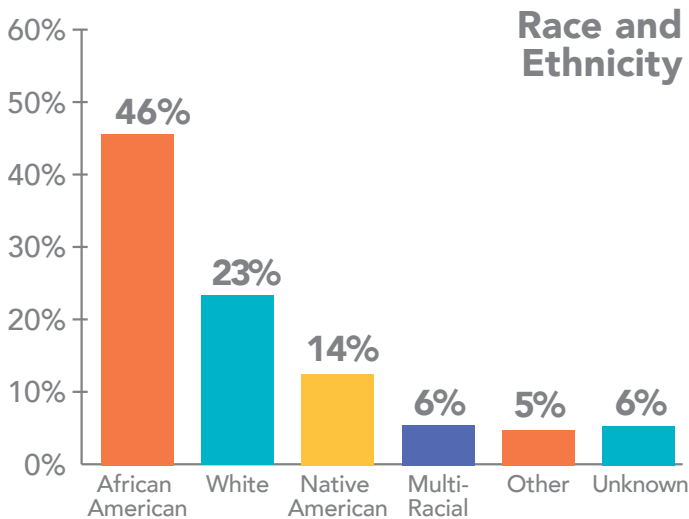
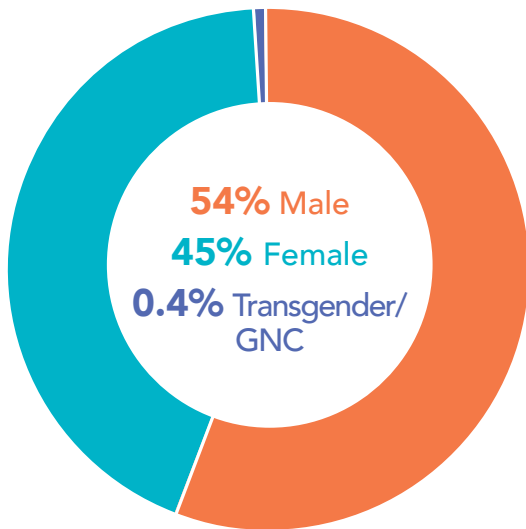
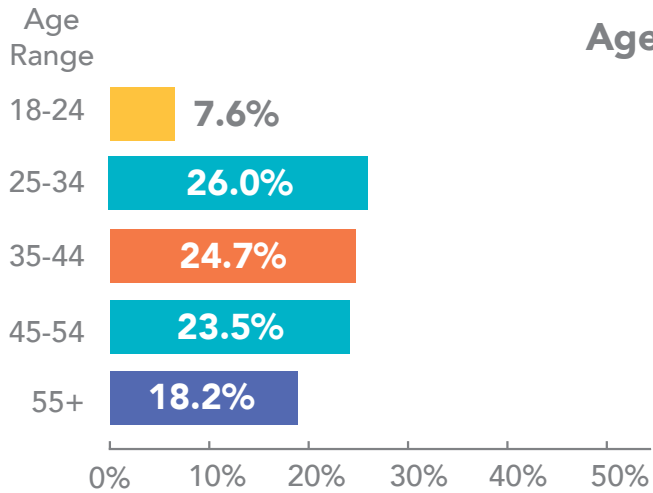
2,300+

individuals engaged with Street Outreach.



440

individuals were supported in housing programs for single adults.



Please remember
**St. Stephen's
 Human Services**
 in your will or
 estate plan.

Thank You

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ST. STEPHEN'S
Ending Homelessness

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Minnesota's annual day of giving is
Thursday, November 14th.

Thanks to the generosity of the Frey Foundation, your gifts designated for St. Stephen's will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$45,000! Give \$50 on Give to the Max Day, and St. Stephen's will receive another \$50. If you're worried about forgetting to give on November 14th, this year you can give online beginning November 1st at givemn.org/organization/St-Stephen-s-Human-Services