



## **Kateri Program Announcement**

St. Stephen's Human Services has made the difficult decision to close the Kateri Program by the end of this fiscal year, June 2018. This decision was made after extensive program and financial evaluations in consultation with our Board of Directors. We're now taking steps toward developing a transition plan that will best support the current residents and staff as well as honor and respect the decades of service Kateri has provided to the community.

Funding the ongoing operations of Kateri is a challenge that we have just not been able to overcome and the transitional housing model has become less favored as the community focuses on permanent housing with supportive services. This is not a failure of our highly-capable Kateri staff or resilient Kateri residents. We've had to face the fact that we can no longer provide the housing and services that meet the standards of our organization and the needs of residents at Kateri. To remain a community leader in ending homelessness, programs at St. Stephen's need to be adaptable to reflect best practice, maintain revenue stability, and create new housing opportunities for the people we serve.

While there's never a good time to undertake something like this, we're beginning transition planning now, so we have the time to transition carefully and respectfully in a manner that protects as best we can the dignity, integrity and self-determination of Kateri residents and staff. We will engage with staff, the Kateri community, funders, and other stakeholders as we move forward with transition planning. Because this is a small program with fewer than 10 current residents, we are confident we will be able to smoothly transition each resident to permanent housing. We are deeply saddened to see Kateri close, but we celebrate and honor the legacy of Kateri and the many staff and residents who have worked and lived there.

Effective December 1, 2017, Kateri will not be taking on new residents. Single adults in need of emergency shelter should begin at Adult Shelter Connect at St. Olaf Church in downtown Minneapolis for an assessment and placement at one of the five Minneapolis shelters. The Adult Shelter Connect Line is (612) 248-2350. Families in need of shelter should call the Hennepin County Family Shelter Team at (612) 348-9410.

St. Stephen's street outreach, emergency shelter, and housing programs can be accessed at [www.ststephensmpls.org/need-help](http://www.ststephensmpls.org/need-help).