

# 2026 Legislative Agenda



CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES  
Twin Cities

## This year, our priorities focus on stabilizing supportive housing and changing systems to better serve Minnesotans in need.

As an independent nonprofit organization, Catholic Charities Twin Cities prevents poverty before it starts, responds to immediate crises, and creates pathways to greater stability. Our programs for children, families and adults help nearly 25,000 people every year — regardless of faith, background, or circumstance. We are uniquely focused on housing justice and addressing systemic inequities that impact our most vulnerable neighbors.

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## Protect Access to Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing, which pairs a safe place to live with supportive services, is a proven approach to creating housing stability for our neighbors with the highest needs. Yet funding for these essential programs is not stable. We need to help ensure access to these lifesaving housing programs.

- Catholic Charities Twin Cities provides supportive housing to more than 1,000 people, offering deeply affordable housing and person-centered services to individuals, veterans and youth with extremely low or no incomes.
- Ninety-four percent of Catholic Charities residents sustained their housing or exited to a permanent destination in 2024.

**Catholic Charities supports a one-time, \$40 million investment in Permanent Supportive Housing to stabilize the system and help ensure a path to stability for those most in need.**



## Help People Stay Housed

Individuals with disabilities and veterans living in supportive housing should be able to keep more of their benefit checks to cover essentials like medication and clothing.

- Board & Lodge residents pay up to 90% of their monthly income for supportive housing, leaving many with only \$125 a month to cover clothing, medication, and all other necessities.
- Roughly 30% of Housing Support referrals are declined by the client.

**Catholic Charities supports (1) extending 30% of income protections passed in the 2023 session to include individuals with disabilities and veterans who reside in Board & Lodge settings and (2) adjusting the personal needs allowance for Housing Support residents who receive General Assistance.**

## Our program areas:

### Support for Children and Families

Providing high-quality childcare, a specialized mental health program to help kids get back on track at school, and an emergency shelter where families can stay together.

### Emergency Shelter Services

Providing daytime and overnight shelter for youth and single adults experiencing homelessness.

### Affordable Housing Solutions

Providing nearly 1,000 deeply affordable apartments across the Twin Cities.

### Aging and Disability Support

Providing case management for elders to help them attain and keep stable housing.