Helping families rebuild their lives

Restoration, reinforcement and sustenance of lives is at the heart of Model Cities’ mission. Vulnerable individuals and families are empowered through Programs and Services that integrate community-based values and traditions with intervention strategies. Whether it’s a single mother experiencing homelessness or connecting families with mental health services, Model Cities provides support and services needed to overcome life’s most difficult challenges.

In 2008, through the Family Support Services (FSS) and Housing Services Programs, Model Cities provided 732 men, women and children with intensive home based crisis counseling, supportive housing and targeted case management. Our strategy is focusing on unique strengths of individuals and not weaknesses. Rigorous case management and therapeutic crisis counseling services encourage independence and resilience individuals and families need to move towards stable housing and self-sufficiency.

Children, individuals and families receive a comprehensive array of home-based services with the goal of achieving family reunification and individual stabilization.

Family Supportive Services

In 2008, FSS home-based program served 316 adults and children. Support staff successfully work with individuals and families through five supportive services: Families First Crisis Intervention, Adult Crisis Intervention, Families of Strength, Family Assessment Response and Family Community Partnership. Therapist focus on analyzing cases, establishing action plans and implementing those plans as well as connecting individuals to appropriate community resources. Help also means providing basic needs, teaching parenting classes and household management.

Also through it’s Family Support Services department, Model Cities’ Children’s Mental Health Case Management program served 124 children and their families. These children, diagnosed with Severe Emotional Disorder (SED), received individualized, community-based coordination of care that includes identifying community supports and advocacy for service needs and resources.

Housing Services

Model Cities’ supportive housing program is designed to decrease poverty and recurring homelessness among single parents with dependent children. In 2008, 62 families (181 individuals) received safe, affordable housing with supportive services. Beginning with the initial intake and throughout the program, families receive intensive case management and services that provide linkages to resources necessary for rebuilding and stabilizing their lives. Other vital services offered through housing services include independent life skills development, job development training and placement, early and continuous primary health care and chemical health aftercare.

Families residing at one of Model Cities’ five supportive housing sites have experienced multiple episodes of homelessness, often due to issues with mental health, chemical dependency and domestic violence. Our Supportive housing programs include:
Inspiring young lives

In 2008, Model Cities’ Youth Enrichment Services (Y.E.S.) provided 111 youth, ages of 13 and 18, with year-around academic enrichment, leadership development, career and college exploration, socialization and cultural activities. Working in partnership with Camphor United Methodist church and the Leap Forward Collaborative, Y.E.S. teens participated in a variety of cultural, social and educational programs and activities designed to develop leadership abilities, build character, and increase civic responsibility. This included the Underground Railroad at Camp Ihduhapi, tours of Minnesota’s colleges and universities, community service projects and other recreational and socialization activities.

Y.E.S. continued to partner with Boys Totem Town (BTT) to provide its 12-week aftercare group for boys being discharged from juvenile detention. These weekly groups give young men an opportunity to discuss the many challenges that affect them in today’s society such as finding work, gang violence, drug abuse and health concerns. Y.E.S., in partnership with Eagles Wings, also conducted two outreach initiatives at the Minnesota Internship Center (MNIC) and Highland Middle School.

Opening windows of opportunity

In November, Model Cities rehabilitated two apartment buildings, converting them into Sankofa Apartments. The Sankofa program provides chemically-free housing for young parents who are pregnant or parenting a young child. This program allows young parents to move into a stable environment with supportive services. This in turn increases their likelihood in becoming gainfully employed, managing their household, improving their parenting skills and maintaining mental health and sobriety. The rehabilitation of these two apartment buildings included new plumbing, electrical, and mechanical implements throughout each building, as well as new windows and roofs. Each unit comes equipped with completely renovated kitchens with new appliances and new bathrooms. There are 16 units in the two buildings.

The MCASA Homes program moved into Phase III in 2008. Five vacant and foreclosed homes were acquired in St. Paul’s Summit-University and Thomas-Dale neighborhoods. These once empty houses are located in the Invest St Paul area. All of the homes received substantial rehabilitation that include remodeled kitchen with new appliances, energy efficient water heater and boiler/furnace, new carpet and/or wood floors, 2-car garage, facade improvement, and new roof. These homes are available to first time home buyers that meet the programs’ eligibility criteria. MCASA mirrors the city’s plan for revitalizing communities into livable and sustainable communities. MCASA Homes is funded with foundation and public funds. These funds provide gap financing so that families earning 80% of area media income can purchase these homes at an affordable price.
Model Cities’ Staff

From left to right:

Not photographed:
Lobsang Lhamo, Samantha Evans, Rosie Thomas and Nicole Campbell

Model Cities’ Board of Directors

Front row from left to right
Shawntera Hardy, Beverley Oliver Hawkins, Ph. D. (Secretary) and CEO, and
Rena Moran-Stewart

Back row from left to right
Francis Green (Vice chairperson),
Dianne Haulcy (Treasurer),
George Stone (Chairperson),
Karen Bivens, Sarah Kinney and
Rickey Hall

Not photographed
Judith Oliver, Karen Snedeker and Jamie Waterhouse
Financial Statements
For the period ending December 31, 2008

Financial Position

Assets
- Cash and Cash Equivalents: $505,650
- Investment Securities: 99,947
- Receivables: 341,972
- Property and Equipment (net): 6,078,162
- Other Assets: 850,849
Total Assets: $7,876,580

Liabilities & Net Assets
- Mortgage & Note Payables: $5,866,829
- Accounts Payable: 118,729
- Security Deposits & Other Accrued: 155,949
Total Liabilities: 6,141,507
- Noncontrolling Interest: 112,040
- Unrestricted Net Assets: 1,292,960
- Temporarily Restricted: 244,709
- Permanently Restricted: 85,364
Total Net Assets: 1,623,033
Total Liabilities and Net Assets: $7,876,580

Statement of Activities

Support & Revenue
- Government Agencies: $503,615
- Foundations & Corporations: 464,476
- United Way: 444,388
- Earned Income: 737,623
- Loss on Assets: (27,796)
- Interest and Other Income: 12,213
Total Support and Revenue: $2,134,519

Expenses
- Program & Client Services: $1,193,435
- Property and Facility Management: 187,239
- Economic & Project Development: 213,142
- Management and General: 471,697
- Fundraising: 70,624
Total Expenses: $2,136,137

Minority Interest: (85,577)

Increase In Net Assets: (87,195)

Net Assets, Beginning of Year: $1,710,228
Net Assets, End of Year: $1,623,033
Contributors

Corporations and Foundations

Ameriprise Financial
City of St. Paul PED
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Drum Major Bldg, Inc.
Eugene U. and Mary F. Frey Family Foundation
Family Housing Fund
Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines
F.R. Bigelow Foundation
Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Home Depot
Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren Foundation
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Metropolitan Council
McDonald's Franchise Food Systems
Minnesota Housing
Otto Bremer Foundation
Ramsey County Community Human Services
Sam's Club Foundation
Steinel America, Inc
The Emil J. and Emily D. Slowinski Fund
of The Saint Paul Foundation
The Home Depot Foundation
The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation
The Saint Paul Foundation
The Scoular Foundation
Travelers
Ucare Minnesota
Wal-Mart Foundation
Western Bank
Wilderc Foundation-ROOF Project
Wuollet Bakery, Inc.

Individuals

Mr. Aaron Shaw
Ms. Alicia Davis-Neal
Ms. Annie Ohneswere
Dr. Arthur and Mrs. Martha Kaemmer
Ms. Barb Jeanetta
Ms. Bella Hanson
Dr. Beverley Oliver Hawkins
Ms. Beverly P. Propes
Ms. Brenda Bailey
Ms. Brenda Bolar-Ford
Ms. Brenda Dean
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Mr. Craig and Mrs. Katharine Richter
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Ms. Cytherea Burton
Mr. Dale and Mrs. Mari Thompson
Mr. Dale Volkert
Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Shari Durdin
Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Marie Vinge
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Ms. Florence McNerney
Mr. Floyd and Mrs. Elsie Nelson
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Mr. Francis Green
Mr. Frank McQuillan
Mr. Gerald Wolf
Mr. Gerard Flannery and Ms. Jean Henjum
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Mr. Greg and Mrs. Kristine Mohwinkel
Ms. Helen Bjorlin
Mr. Houa Xiong
Dr. James Hart
Mr. James Stevens
Ms. Janet Howard
Ms. Jennifer Polzin
Mr. Joel Weisberg and Ms. Janet Watchman
Mr. John and Mrs. Karyn Diehl
Mr. John and Mrs. Hilde Flynn
Mr. Joseph Backer
Ms. Judith Aminmentse
Ms. Judith Lindahl
Ms. Judith Oliver
Ms. Karen Snedeker
Ms. Karen Ess
Ms. Karen-Carey Bonner
Mr. Keith and Mrs. Constance Smey
Ms. Kimberly Loew
Ms. Kizzy Downie
Mr. Landon and Mrs. Lynn Fuller
Mr. Larry and Mrs. Susan Atneosen
Ms. Lobsang Lhamo
Mr. Leroy and Rev. Gloria Roach Thomas
Mr. Louis and Mrs. Brenda Henry
M.L. Owens and K. K. Owens
Ms. Margarita Franklin
Ms. Marvaleen Atlas
Ms. Melinda Kovach
Ms. Melodie Bridgeman
Mr. Michael Tierney
Ms. Mao Moua
Ms. Nancy Fugina
Dr. Nancy Walters
Mr. Negussie Haile-Selassie
Mr. Nicholas Benham
Mr. Nick Nadeau
Mr. Paul Scobie and Ms. Theresa Thews
Mr. Paul Gates and Ms. Marie Franchett
Ms. Pearlene Willis
Ms. Renae Storbakken
Ms. Peris Outa
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Mr. Richard and Mrs. Alison Rasch
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Mr. Robert Martin and Ms. Ann Bedford
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Mr. Robert Kramer
Mr. Robert Straughn
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Ms. Roxanne Robinson
Ms. Samantha Evans
Ms. Sarah Kinney
Ms. Shawntera Hardy
Ms. Sherrellia Moore
Mr. Steve Landberg
Ms. Sylvia Dyrhaug
Mr. Theodore Raukar and Mrs. Nora Urusa
Mr. Thomas Krebs
Mr. Thomas West
Mr. Velma Schuck
Ms. Victoria Stoudemire
Mr. Walter Ta
Ms. Wesley Griffin
Mr. William Flannigan and Ms. Nancy Zingale
Ms. Yumi Kayama

Organizations

Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church
Camphor United Methodist Women
Grace Lutheran Church
House of Hope Presbyterian Church
Medica
New Hope Baptist Church
Progressive Baptist Church
Saint Luke Presbyterian Church