



ModelCities



Connected



At Model Cities, we connect people to opportunities, root communities in stability, and drive equity for all.

ANNUAL REPORT | SPRING 2020



OUR MISSION:

To promote social and economic prosperity by providing access to opportunities that stabilize and develop families and communities.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND BOARD CHAIR TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you so much for your continued support of Model Cities. In 2019, we made significant progress toward some of our key strategic activities. A major highlight was the opening of Safe Space, a low barrier emergency shelter in downtown Saint Paul serving those found outside in the cold, on the light rail, and in need of a safe place to sleep. Since opening in November 2019, Safe Space has served over 500 people per month.

Safe Space is an example of Model Cities' commitment to addressing the countless needs of our local communities. We thank each of you for your contributions and support to create a stronger and more equitable community for all to thrive.



Kizzy L. Downie
CEO



Brenda J. Bailey
Board Chair

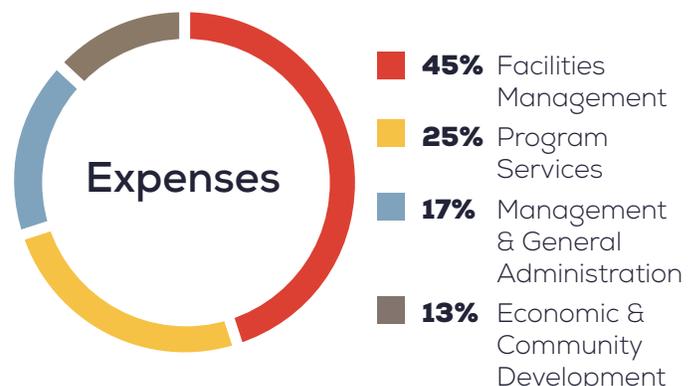
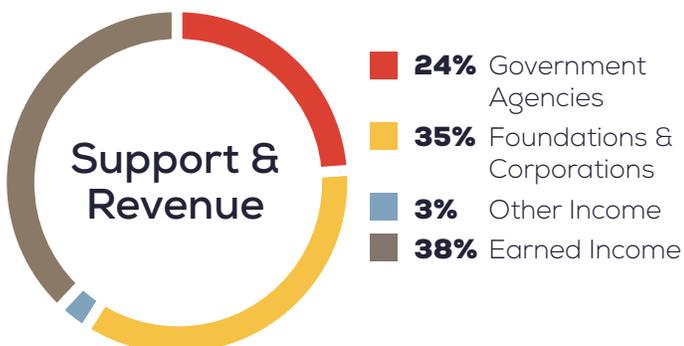
2019 BOARD MEMBERS

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Osborne Strickland
(Vice Chair)
Kizzy Downie
(Secretary/CEO)
Michael LaFave
(Treasurer)

Judith Aminmentse
Brenda Bolar-Ford
Pete May
Juliet Mitchell
Marilyn Porter

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Model Cities has delivered a set of financial results in 2019 that will propel the agency towards continued future growth.



Community Services: Supportive relationships, educational opportunities, and access to community-based resources.

FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES:

Real stories of how we are creating pathways towards self-determination and stabilization.



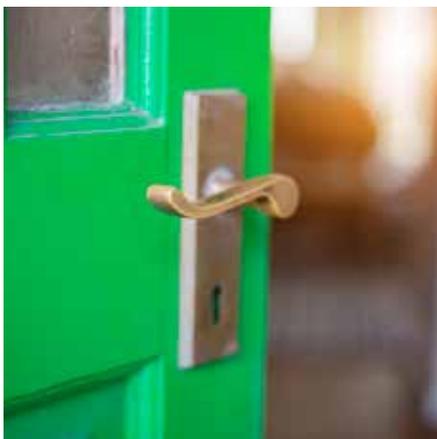
Long-Term Stability

In 2017, a homeless mother and her two-year-old son obtained housing at Model Cities' Sankofa Apartments. With a focus on ending the cycle of homelessness, the young mother was recently able to move on to more mainstream housing and build a better future for herself and her son.



Coaching Connection

A 16-year-old on probation was able to build a positive self-image and improve his employment readiness skills after working with a Community Coach. Even with some minor setbacks, he's now employed at Chipotle and focused on saving money to buy his first car.



ECONOMIC SERVICES:

Focusing on wealth and asset building among disparate individuals and communities.

Dreams of Homeownership

As Dequawn closed on his home, he thanked staff: "You worked with my odd work schedule and took the time to write letters to the credit bureaus, set me up with the workshop, credit monitoring, and checkup calls. Thank you and keep up the good work."



A Path to Kujichagulia— "Self-determination"

Lauren, a participant in Model Cities' Fiscally Fit workshop series stated, "I had thirteen outstanding debts, ...I have paid seven. My goal within the next six months is to have credit card debt completely paid...and homeownership by summer 2020."

Community Development: Serving the Frogtown neighborhood for over 35 years by partnering in commercial and residential development.



Enriching the Community

The BROWNstone's latest commercial storefront is Bougies, a women's fashion boutique offering a genuinely personalized shopping experience to "dress expensive without breaking the bank." Bougies is committed to connecting to the community with giveaways, fundraisers, and their unique "bougiefied" makeover for one deserving customer.

HOUSING & COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

Providing commercial space for small business owners and affordable housing for families with low incomes.



Increased Subsidy

Model Cities took significant steps in improving the financial stability of its 16-unit Sankofa development. This included the approval of the Housing Support rent subsidy through Ramsey County. Not only will this program ensure that Sankofa is on solid financial ground, it also brings much needed resources to the Sankofa residents.



A Dream Come True

As an immigrant with a physical disability, affordable housing seemed unattainable. "It was like a dream come true for me to live here," said Melkua Guanje, who has lived in BROWNstone since it opened. Now Melkua feels like she's part of a community.

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SAFE SPACE SHELTER:

A Safe Place

In 2019, Model Cities in partnership with Ramsey County, began operating the Safe Space shelter to address homelessness. Safe Space serves approximately 500 individuals each month by providing a safe place for unsheltered community members to sleep, connect with services, and create plans for a better tomorrow.

BY THE NUMBERS:

The impact Model Cities has achieved is adding up and the outcomes are reaching far across our community.

150

Youth served through our supportive housing, Family Coaching, and Children's Mental Health programs received 150 backpacks through United Way's Action Giving Day.

51

Model Cities' BROWNstone Lofts is now home to 51 residents.

51%

Families living in supportive housing maintained and increased their employability by 51%.

163

53 households received one-on-one pre-purchase counseling services to overcome homeownership barriers and 110 households participated in HomeStretch, an 8-hour course in the homebuying process.

112

Our Sankofa and Families First Supportive Housing programs served 112 adults and children.

79

Fiscally Fit workshops on topics covering credit scores, budgeting, building wealth, and money management were attended by 79 participants.

100%

100% of children who received Targeted Case Management Services were able to avoid Children's Mental Health initiated residential placements as a result of Model Cities' services to stabilize families.

359

Since opening in November 2019, Safe Space provided 359 individuals with a warm bed and a safe place to sleep during the winter. Safe Space Shelter averaged 54 individuals per night.

2,138

We provided 2,138 hours of services to youth and families, including youth on probation in Dakota and Ramsey Counties and families in the St. Paul Promise Neighborhood.

25

Commercial space at BROWNstone has created 25 living wage jobs since opening in 2017 and is expecting more with the opening of Bougies and a restaurant space in 2020.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS:

This work would not be possible without the ongoing support of our donors. We truly appreciate your generosity and look forward to continuing our work together to build a more vibrant community.

CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Allianz Life Insurance Co.
of North America
COUNTRY Financial
F.R. Bigelow Foundation
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Northwest Area Foundation
Pohlad Family Foundation
Saint Paul & Minnesota
Foundation
Scoular Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

GOVERNMENT

City of St. Paul—Office of
Financial Services
Dakota County Community
Corrections
Minnesota Department
of Employment and
Economic Development
Minnesota Housing
Ramsey County Community
Corrections
Ramsey County Community
Human Services
Saint Paul Public Housing Agency
U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

INDIVIDUALS

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Judith Aminmentse
Daniel Atunah-Jay
Kasaye Ayenew
Brenda J. Bailey
Latrice Barker
Ann W. Bedford
Brenda Bolar-Ford
Stephanie Botz
Anne Boyer
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Amy Buchholz
Dean Carlson
Claire Cook
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Chloe Stricklin
Alyson Sweeney
Margarita Sweeney
Gloria Roach Thomas
Trevor Warfel
Linda White
Charles Williams III
Kia Yang
Nancy Zingale

ORGANIZATIONS

Build Wealth Minnesota
Camphor Memorial UMC
Liberty Diversified International
Neighborhood Development
Center
Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood

PRIVATE BUSINESS

American Express Fair Fund
Chipotle
Country Inn & Suites by Radisson
KLH IT
Tin Whiskers Brewery
Palisade Asset Management, LLC
West Saint Paul Commercial Club



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