

MICAH 2018 Community Hero Awards

MICAH South Chapter has doubled in size since 2013! It has conducted very successful legislative breakfasts, a Housing Summit, and bus tours. Members are actively involved in their community's Comprehensive plans. MICAH South members provide leadership roles in Heading Home Dakota, CATCH, and in the provision of shelter, food, and developing and maintaining affordable housing in Dakota County

River Heights Vineyard Church shared their vision of low cost housing being built on their Property at our MICAH South Chapter "Community Conversation" open meeting in 2015 in Inver Grove Heights. This vision is becoming a reality! Center City Housing Corp. will construct a 40 unit apartment family complex for families needing supportive services. Center City has been working closely with Dakota County CDA. The complex is named Cahill Place.

MICAH Northeast Chapter has tripled in size since 2013! It has conducted very successful legislative breakfasts, trainings and bus tours. Members are actively involved in their community's Comprehensive plans. MICAH NE Members are actively involved in providing a resource center and a shelter, creating a new shelter in Hugo, building Habitat homes, and developing and maintaining affordable housing opportunities in Ramsey and Washington Counties.

Vernita Kennen has served as MICAH NE Secretary and is actively involved in all of MICAH's work. She is also a member of Women of the ELCA and serves as their parliamentarian. She is a co-leader of the Women Read book group at her church.

Housing for All has doubled in size since 2013! It has conducted very successful legislative breakfasts, trainings, and bus tours. Members are actively involved in their community's Comprehensive plans. Housing for All Members are actively involved in providing shelter at their congregations, a resource/services center at CROSS, and developing and maintaining affording housing opportunities in the Northwest Suburbs.

Twin Cities Housing Development Corporation developed Hickory Ridge, a two and three bedroom family townhome development in Maple Grove. All units have a HUD Section 8 rent subsidy so residents only pay 30% of their income for rent and utilities. There is a new 20 year commitment in place for the rent subsidy ensuring long term affordability. A substantial renovation was completed in 2017.

Amanda Kappes- Peterson is MICAH's Policy Coordinator. Amanda's passion for her work comes from her incredible faith and her own personal experiences with health issues, utilizing public assistance and subsidized housing. Amanda has assisted in helping Homes for All to be more diverse and representative of the people impacted by the housing crisis. She has been a critical advocate in our work to prevent children from being poisoned by lead.

Lindalee Soderstrom organizes and advocates with people impacted by the upscaling of affordable rental housing and the housing crisis. She has lived at two properties, first Crossroads and now Normandale, which both became subject to poor renters' mass displacements. She helped develop "Sold Out" a housing documentary about how predatory developers impact us all - society wide. She is also forming up a tenant centered Speakers Bureau and continues organizing in communities.