

April 20, 2015

Laura Kadwell  
Statewide Director, Heading Home Minnesota  
c/o Family Housing Fund  
801 Nicollet Mall STE 1825  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Ms. Kadwell,

On behalf of St. Stephen's Human Services, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, I am pleased to have this opportunity to request a \$25,000 one-year grant to support a Central Library Homeless Outreach Coordinator.

### **Executive Summary**

This request is aligned with the goal of Heading Home Hennepin to providing coordinated outreach and with the Downtown Council's *Downtown 2025* goal of ending street homelessness. The new in-reach position was created at the Hennepin County Central Library to respond to requests for assistance from patrons that are outside of traditional library services. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator will collaborate with library patrons who are in need of a social service response to issues ranging from behavioral health and systems navigation to preventing and ending homelessness.

### **Clients Served**

The Homeless Outreach Coordinator will serve library patrons experiencing homelessness and those who are precariously housed. We know from our Street Outreach team and Central Library staff that the people to be served will be a mix of people who are unsheltered, living in shelter, or tenuously housed in unsuitable conditions. Many are dependent on emergency services and are cycling through jail, detox, street homelessness, hospitals, and shelters. Many are likely to have experienced long-term homelessness, and have multiple barriers to housing including chemical dependency, mental illness, criminal histories, and more. The Coordinator will serve single adults and families.

### **Services Provided**

The Homeless Outreach Coordinator will help people find housing and services needed to stabilize and improve their lives. The Coordinator will use an adaptation of the Critical Time Intervention model. The people served will have their needs assessed and then will be connected to appropriate housing and services. The Coordinator will build a strong rapport with patrons experiencing homelessness, and help them to navigate the social service system to connect them to the best combination of public and nonprofit resources for their specific needs. The connection to housing assistance and support services will be more than just an informational referral. The

Coordinator will work closely with these systems to ensure that the client's transfer to housing and services is successful. The goal is to complete the transfer to housing assistance and support services in one month upon engagement with the Coordinator.

This position will coordinate very closely with St. Stephen's Human Services Programs, the Hennepin County Homeless Access Team, the Hennepin County Central Library, and the Office to End Homelessness. Because the great majority of people served will be single adults, the Coordinator will collaborate closely with the following single adult programs at St. Stephen's Human Services: Ending Long Term Homelessness, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, and Singles Rapid Rehousing. The Coordinator will work as part of the Coordinated Assessment System and enter service statistics into the Homeless Management Information System.

### Service Area Description

The Central Library Homeless Outreach Coordinator will be based at the Central Library and will work 40 hours a week during Library hours.

### Application and Executive Director Contact Information

Application Contact - David Jeffries, [REDACTED], [djeffries@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:djeffries@[REDACTED])  
Executive Director - Gail Dorfman, [REDACTED], [gdorfman@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:gdorfman@[REDACTED])

The Partners Fund has been a generous partner in our efforts to end homelessness. Thank you for the opportunity to request support for this vital community resource.

Sincerely,



Gail Dorfman  
Executive Director