

# A Year Like No Other

## A MESSAGE FROM DON & PHOEBE

### Dear Friends,

For residents, 2020 was the year of the triple pandemic. Together, they weathered life with HIV, the coronavirus, and also a brutal reminder of racial injustice in the police murder of George Floyd. Through it all they endured.

For the fifth year in a row, residents housed with us for a year or more saw their rate of viral suppression go up to around 90%, increasing from the average level at intake of 75%. Ninety-two percent of residents maintained their housing for at least a year, and our average length of stay grew to 4.7 years.

All of this was achieved against the backdrop of a global pandemic. The resilience of our residents was supported by our incredible staff. In March, staff quickly created new ways to do our work: instituting new policies and practices, using PPE and setting up physical barriers to protect residents. This pivot was made possible by the \$40,000 you donated in the Spring to help us respond to this crisis.



With the murder of George Floyd in May, we were baldly confronted with the injustice still alive in our country. This same injustice has created a disproportionate rate of HIV among people of color. Only 21% of Minnesotans are BIPOC. However, they account for 61% of new HIV diagnoses. These demographic trends are reflected in the over 350 people who remain on our waiting list.

With your help, we will continue to address the triple pandemic. We're also expanding. In 2021, we are adding 20 new units of housing. Next year, we will open 42 more with the completion of Bloom Lake Flats. Your support makes all of this possible. Thank you.

**Don Mayo-Moschkau**  
President, Board of Directors

**Phoebe Trepp**  
Executive Director

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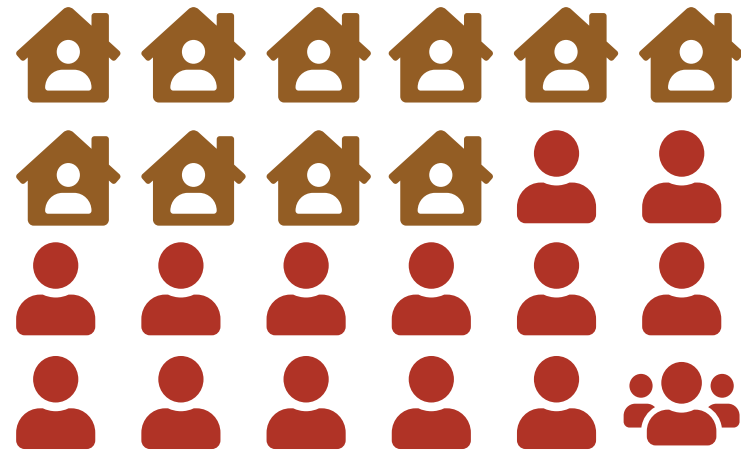
Nick Vogenthaler, Hennepin  
County Medical Center

Amelious Whyte, College  
of Liberal Arts, UMN

2020 TIMELINE

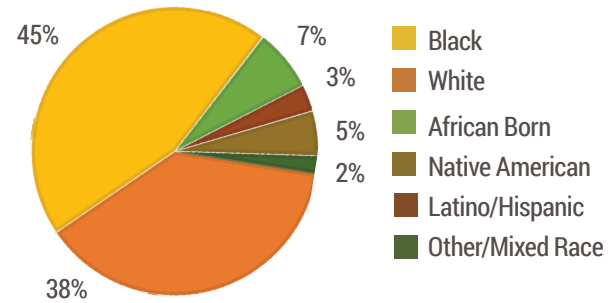
- JAN** Cheryl Jensen joins as Interim Executive Director. First case of COVID-19 in the USA.
- FEB** Leadership team first meets about the pandemic.
- MAR** Staff transforms daily work and procedures to prevent spread of coronavirus. First case of COVID-19 in Minnesota.
- APR** Residents asked to stop having guests. Gov Walz issues the first stay-at-home order.
- MAY** Donors contribute supplies and \$40K for our emergency response. An HIV outbreak is declared at homeless tent camps in Hennepin County.
- JUN** In a stunning act of police brutality, George Floyd is killed. Mayor issues curfew in response to uprising.
- JUL** After fires spread, staff evacuates all 45 households from Clare Midtown to a hotel in Edina for three days. Seeking safety and community, tent camps grow larger.
- AUG** Phoebe Trepp begins work as new Executive Director. HIV outbreak in tent camp continues as community and local government search for solutions.
- SEP** Donors at our first ever drive-in movie Annual Fundraiser give \$271,000.
- OCT** Clare Housing explores ways to increase housing to help respond to the HIV outbreak.
- NOV** Staff and residents work to combat internal coronavirus outbreak. An estimated 140 people living with HIV remain unhoused in homeless encampments.
- DEC** Volunteer cooks deliver holiday meals to residents. First resident vaccinations scheduled.

WHO DO WE SERVE?



How Many Households Awaiting HIV Housing?

Each icon represents around 25 people. The homes represent the 245 people we house on average each day. The silhouettes represent the 356 individuals, including parents with children, who are on our waiting list right now.



**Inequities Affect HIV**  
In 2020, 61% of those newly diagnosed with HIV were BIPOC, even though they make up 20% of Minnesotans.

BARRIERS TO HEALTH

79%

of residents experienced homelessness prior to finding housing with us.



Criminal History & Housing

Forty-four percent of Clare Housing residents have a prior conviction. Housing discrimination for people with a criminal history is rampant, creating yet another barrier to housing and health.

\$607

is the average monthly income of our residents. Most meet the Federal definition of extremely low-income, having only \$90 a month to spend on food and other basic needs.



55% have a mental health diagnosis.



48% have active substance use issues.

HOUSING BRIDGES BARRIERS



"Year after year, around 75% of the folks admitted are undetectable. Once they are stably housed with us for a year or more, that rate goes up to around 90%. This has been a consistent trend over the past 5 years! Being undetectable means you cannot pass HIV to a sexual partner."

— Michele Boyer, Director of Supportive Housing

Resident Stories

Our residents are a diverse group of people with different interests, backgrounds, and hopes. Here are a few of their stories.



"Everybody here treats me with respect and that's how I like it." - Nicole

Nicole inspired us all to vote when she cast her first ballot at age 62 in October. Staff helped her figure out the paperwork to send in her mail-in ballot. "You got to start somewhere. My one vote might be the one that's needed."



"I drove her to her naturalization ceremony. She worked so hard to become a citizen." - Staff Member

At Marshall Flats, staff members supported a resident in achieving her goal to become a U.S. citizen. Each night, whoever was at the front desk would quiz Adamma from a safe social distance on the questions she would need to pass her citizenship test. And pass she did!



East View of Bloom Lake Flats

Opening 2022: Bloom Lake Flats

A co-development with Project for Pride in Living, Bloom Lake Flats will open 42 new units, including 15 dedicated to families in the Phillips-Powderhorn area.

REGISTER NOW AT [CLAREHOUSING.ORG/HOMERUN](https://clarehousing.org/homerun)

## A PLACE TO CALL HOME AT THE BALLPARK!

Sat., Sept. 18, 2021

GATES OPEN 5 PM | PROGRAM: 6-7 PM | MOVIE TO FOLLOW  
*CHS Field | 360 N Broadway St, St Paul*



Be inspired by the firsthand stories of residents who have found home, health, and hope. Then stay for entertainment and a movie!

Would you like to be a "Team Captain" and invite friends to this great event? Contact Debbie Wyman, community outreach manager, at [debbie.wyman@clarehousing.org](mailto:debbie.wyman@clarehousing.org) or 612.236.9528.