



## Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing



**MICAHA lives out the prophetic vision that calls us  
"to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8).**

**MICAHA envisions a metropolitan area where everyone without exception  
has a safe, decent, accessible and affordable home.**

# MINNESOTA POLICY



## MICAH's 2023-24 Legislative Priorities Include:

1. Ensure the voice and power of people who have experienced homelessness and or housing crises are at every decision make table, design, implementation, evaluation of homeless programs and housing.
2. Work with families impacted by Lead Poisoning on Lead Safe Homes program implementation, to protect our children from lead paint poisoning.
3. Racial Equity and protection of Civil Rights in all Homeless and Housing Programs and support systems.
4. Preserve and create safe, decent accessible affordable housing (rental, shared, & homeownership) for people with incomes under 30% median income.
5. Support livable incomes for people who are employed, unemployed and on public assistance. Universal Basic Income, Child Tax Credits, Renter's Credit, Rental Assistance.
6. Ensure we are a welcoming community in creating housing opportunities that provide second chances and mercy for those who have struggled with addiction, mental and/or physical health, criminal, and/or rental issues.
7. MICAH will be actively involved with Homes For All process in developing and passing the 2024 Session priorities.





# Minnesota 2023 Legislative Successes

- [2023 MCH Legislative Outcomes](#)
- [Summary by the MN Interagency Council on Homelessness](#)
- [Summary by MN Housing](#)



## FEDERAL POLICY

### Bring America Home NOW! Campaign

The National Coalition for the Homeless is spearheading Bring America Home NOW: A Comprehensive Grassroots Campaign to End Homelessness in the U.S.

Led by people who have themselves experienced homelessness, we will focus on the passage of federal legislation aimed at addressing the interconnected solutions to the decades-long epidemic of homelessness in the United States.

#### The campaign focuses on 6 major policy areas:

1. **Housing** is a basic human right.
2. **Health** and homelessness are inextricably linked: a safe, stable home is the prerequisite of health and well-being.
3. **Livable incomes** are essential to prevent and homelessness to ensure stability in housing.
4. **Education and training** can play a critical role for - children, youth, and adults - in equipping people with the knowledge and skills needed for economic mobility.
5. **Civil Rights** - Homelessness is a civil rights issue. People experiencing homelessness should not be criminalized or victims of hate crimes.
6. **Racial Equity** - Homelessness is a racial justice issue in the United States and racial equity is a key housing justice.





## **FEDERAL POLICY**

### **IMMEDIATE REQUESTS**

Ensure the highest level of funding for housing in the FY24 spending bill.

### **IMMEDIATE THREATS**

Push back against anti-homelessness rhetoric and legislation at the federal, state, & local level.

### **LONG TERM SOLUTIONS**

#### **Unhoused Bill of Rights**

The legislation calls on the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to declare the unhoused crisis a public health emergency and calls for rigorous federal investments into homeless assistance programs, affordable housing initiatives, and wraparound services that keep people permanently housed.

#### **Ending Homelessness Act (H.R.4496)**

Establishes a universal voucher program to ensure every eligible household can receive rental assistance. Provides \$10.5 billion to build homes affordable to people with the greatest needs  
Bans source of income discrimination and provides funding for fair housing enforcement.



# Faith in Action

We can find no social or moral justification, no justification whatsoever, for lack of housing.

*- Pope Francis 9/24/15*



We must demand all our systems and organizations do what is needed to guarantee everyone, without exception, has a safe, decent, accessible, and affordable home.