



**Minneapolis / Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness**  
 Research, Planning and Development Department  
 A-2308 Government Center  
 300 S. 6th Street  
 Minneapolis, MN 55487-0238

## Frequent User Service Enhancement (FUSE) Program

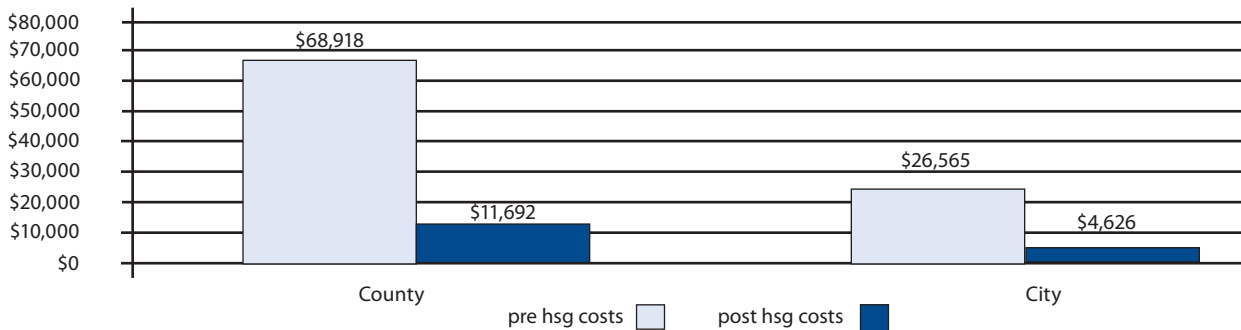
### FUSE

In 2007, Hennepin County conducted a study which found that 266 individuals used approximately 70,000 nights of stay in shelter, jail, and detox over five years, costing \$4.2 million. As a result, local nonprofit agency St. Stephen's Human Services created the Frequent User Service Enhancement program, which began in April 2008 and has housed 41 people to date. FUSE targets people who are high users of both the single adult shelter system and the criminal justice system. It uses a "housing first" model that places individuals in affordable housing with case management first, in order to provide stability before addressing their other barriers. The program focuses on reducing the involvement of the criminal justice and other government systems that provide emergency services to people experiencing homelessness.

As a preliminary examination of the model, six FUSE participants who had been placed in housing more than one year ago were studied to determine their system use in the year prior to housing as compared to their year post-housing placement. Use and costs for the Adult Detention Center, Adult Correctional Facility, county-paid shelter, county-paid detox and HCMC Emergency Department were also examined.

The six participants used \$95,000 in services in the year prior to housing. In the year post-housing, they used \$16,000 in services, for a savings of \$13,000 per person.

### Gov't Costs for Six FUSE Participants 1 Year Pre- and Post-Housing (includes jail, workhouse, detox, HCMC-ED, and shelter)



#### Combined Days of Service Use Pre-Housing

ACF	jail book	jail days	detox	shelter	ED	Total
464	19	185	46	397	28	1139

#### Combined Days of Service Use Post-Housing

ACF	jail book	jail days	detox	shelter	ED	Total
0	7	24	1	0	23	55