

AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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To: House Human Services Finance Committee Committee Chair Representative Mohamud Noor

The American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC) has been addressing homelessness in the Urban American Indian community since 1996. In December of 2020, AICDC opened Homeward Bound, a 24-hour emergency shelter to serve our homeless community. In 2021, our first year of service, we served a total of 488 clients. In 2022, Homeward Bound served a total of 438 clients, many of whom are Chronically Homeless persons with a long history of homelessness. AICDC staff and case managers provide access to supportive housing, mental health services, outpatient and inpatient chemical health treatment services and referrals to more permanent housing options.

The Urban American Indian Community has benefitted from the services provided at Homeward Bound. It is safe to say that Homeward Bound has saved lives! The Urban American Indian Community needs Homeward Bound to continue to work as it represents an essential first step to ending one's cycle of homelessness!

AICDC supports the efforts of Hennepin County in providing the needed resources for our work to continue. We ask that the House Human Services Finance Committee make needed resources available so that AICDC, and others, can continue this important work.

Sincerely,

Michael A Goze

Michael A Goze CEO-AICDC