

MICAH Saint Paul Chapter 2023 Legislative Breakfast



Please “sign in” in the chat with your email, faith or organizational affiliation, or neighborhood.

<https://www.micah.org/donate>



Welcome to the MICAH St. Paul Chapter 2023 Legislative Breakfast

Greeting – Elaine Tarone, member
St. Matthew's Episcopal

*Please mute your mike during the regular
sessions of the meeting.*



Faith Reflection

Deena Strohman, member,
Centennial United Methodist

Introduction to MICAHA

Kate O'Connell, Consociate,
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet



THANK YOU – Legislators and officials who have said they would be with us today

Minnesota State Senators: Liz Boldon, John Marty, Clare Oumou Verbeten (aide: Tristan Voegeli), Susan Pha, Lindsey Port

Minnesota State Representatives: Esther Agbaje, Leigh Finke, Hodan Hassan, Athena Hollins, Samkab Hussein, Brian Johnson

Ramsey County Commissioners: Nicole Frethem, Rena Moran, Rafael Ortega (aide: Ken Iosso), Victoria Reinhardt, Mai Chong Xiong

Saint Paul School Board: Halla Henderson

Metropolitan Council: Susan Vento

Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness: Cathy ten Broeke



Personal Testimony: Need more 30% Housing 30% AMI & 30% of Income

Junail Freeman Anderson

Founder, Freedom From The Streets/No More Streets
MICAHA board member



Personal Testimony: Housing for Those who Need it the Most

Lindalee Soderstrom

Plaintiff, Crossroads at Penn Fair Housing Lawsuit

MICAHA Board Member



A new dawn of abundance at the Capitol Where are we going?

State Representative
Majority Whip
Athena Hollins (66B DFL)



2023 MICAHA Policy Agenda

Sue Watlov Phillips
MICAHA Executive Director



MICAH's 2023 Policy Priorities:

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 Bill, to protect our children from lead 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 & homeownership) for people with incomes under 30% median income.
5. Support livable incomes for people who are employed, unemployed, and on public 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 implementing the 2023 Session priorities.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

\$17.6 Billion in abundance and \$1.2 Billion in American Rescue Funds (ARP)



Homes for All's 2023 Policy Agenda

1. Acquisition and rehab of Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing
2. Funding to build more
3. Bring It Home
4. Changes to 4d tax class rate
5. FHPAP for ERA
6. Down Payment Assistance
7. Housing Constitutional Amendment
8. Housing Support Income Modifications
9. Pre-Eviction Notice & Eviction Expungement
10. Source of Income Protection

Support Agenda items include:

Lead Safe Homes Bill and income disregard for lived experience expertise payments.



A new dawn of abundance at the Capitol How will we get there?

Former State Representative
Housing Committee Chair
Alice Hausman (DFL)



State Legislators: WWYD?

What will YOU do to increase affordable housing and homeless resources this year?
(1.5 minutes)



Ramsey County – 2021 – Three simple facts

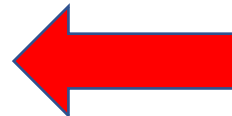


RENTER HOUSEHOLDS

84,789 | 41% of all households

Median rent, 2000:	\$897	↑ rent up 12%
Median rent, 2019:	\$1,007	
Renter income, 2000:	\$40,477	↓ income down -4%
Renter income, 2019:	\$38,891	

1: Rents went up, wages went down



2: Huge racial inequality in homeownership



3: Need 18,000+ AH units



Number of extremely low income households	28,070
Units affordable to extremely low income households	9,775
Gap between ELI households and units in Ramsey county	18,295

Homeownership in Ramsey County

BIPOC Homeowners 19,214



White Homeowners 105,040

Source: Minnesota Housing Partnership County Profile



A new dawn of abundance at the Capitol What will Ramsey County Do?

Ramsey County Commissioner
Ramsey HRA Chair
Mai Chong Xiong



"Please support and hold a hearing on the
Lead Safe Homes Bill."

Senator Lindsey Port

Chair, Housing and Homelessness Prevention Comm.

651-296-5975

E-mail: sen.lindsey.port@senate.mn

Rep. Michael Howard

Chair Housing Finance and Policy Comm.

651-296-7158

Email: rep.michael.howard@house.mn.gov

"Please use the Minnesota budget abundance (surplus) and
American Rescue Plan dollars to increase affordable housing and
homeless resource opportunities."

Senator Kari Dziedzic

Majority Leader

651-296-7809

E-mail: sen.kari.dziedzic@senate.mn

Rep. Melissa Hortman

Speaker of the House

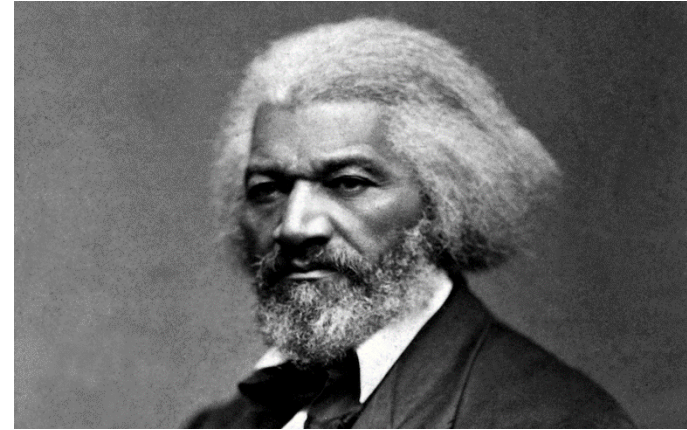
651-296-4280

E-mail: rep.melissa.hortman@house.mn.gov



Faith in Action

The great orator, Frederick Douglass, told us this – **“Power concedes nothing without a demand.”**



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

Closing - John Slade, MICAH East Metro Organizer



Opportunities for Change:

St. Paul Chapter Meetings – 3rd Thursdays, 5:00pm (February 16)

MICAH Policy Breakfasts & Luncheon

Friday, February 17, 8-9:30a - NorthEast Chapter (Ramsey & Washington Counties)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqd-mgrDgiG9Mnonito407PqXxVpMwVjZ3>

Friday, February 24, 8-9:30a - South Chapter (Dakota County)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcO-vrjliH9c7vzt8hIrlr06JALTJhizHZh>

Friday, March 3, 8-9:30a - Anoka County Chapter

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlodu6upzorGdKcnfg8B6fGNnOKTyRUQtFP>

Monday, March 6, 1:30p - Minneapolis Chapter/Freedom From the Streets Policy Lunch

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsdeuvqT0tHNAUW54zsBN9J1FpDjyLUwdx>

Friday, March 10, 8-9:30a - Housing for All (Hennepin County)





<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkf-6qqD4tEtVGQvoGFL1tXwhdKuD6r41w>

MN Coalition for the Homeless Day on the Hill - Wednesday, March 8, 8:00a – 3:00p

Registration details & preparatory workshops at <https://secure.everyaction.com/ug1Hz4sWak2r-9IOUiB-jQ2>



Thank you to Individuals, congregations,
organizational members and:

-  Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
-  Christian Sharing Fund
-  St. Paul Foundation
-  Opportunity Starts at Home MN
-  MN Dept of Health - Trusted Messengers Program
-  MN Dept of Health - Excellence Program
-  The Alliance – Blue Line Coalition

