



Program Goals

During their stay in our program, staff and case managers work to coordinate supportive services and referrals for homeless families to help them address and resolve physical, emotional and financial challenges. The program includes six major service components: case management, behavioral/mental health counseling, services for children, access to domestic violence counseling, employment assistance, educational resources and after-care services.

Our goal is to help families achieve gainful employment and permanent housing while helping them to mitigate and resolve some of the social, financial, educational and vocational deficiencies that played a role or caused them to become homeless.

We provide families with access to parenting training, behavioral health services, medical services, well-being services for children, education and employment resources and legal services. Our staff maintains professional relationships with community partners who help connect our families with the above mentioned services and resources.

We recognize the importance of maintaining flexibility in a program design to best meet the needs of this diverse and changing population. We are always working to improve our program design to ensure families are provided with the best options and services during their stay in our transitional housing. Changes to our current program design primarily focus on enhancing the case management process to better align our program requirements with the changing needs of families. Our improvements to the exit planning process have ensured better outcomes for services and referrals provided to families.

This is the Day



HomeLight Family Living provides the path for families in crisis to reunify, rebuild and restore their lives. We provide education, career preparedness, counseling, and life skills to break the cycle of abuse and poverty and ensure independent, successful living.



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This is the Day

to help stabilize families in crisis



HomeLight Family Living

When The Midnight Mission (TMM) saw the face of homelessness changing, we knew we had to be proactive. To that end, The Midnight Mission established its Family Living program in 1994 to combat the substantial increase in homelessness among families. Thanks to our generous supporters, HomeLight provides more than just a safe residence for families shattered by abuse, addiction, poverty and hopelessness. It offers a comprehensive path to becoming healthy, happy and self-sufficient. Victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and those dealing with issues of sobriety and other unthinkable circumstances can find solace in knowing that HomeLight is a safe place where families in crisis can recuperate and be restored to self-sufficient lives.

HomeLight Family Living is a transitional housing and supportive services program helping families that are experiencing homelessness to regain stability and permanent housing. Under the guidance of The Midnight Mission, our program offers families the opportunity to regain self-sufficiency and lead productive lives. Families are referred to our transitional housing program by community-based organizations, social service providers and local government agencies.

HomeLight consists of single-family apartments where families can live for the duration of their individualized program. We provide fully furnished apartments, community and computer rooms, recreational areas, a library, on-site parking spaces, laundry room and a large outdoor playground and basketball court.

Our facility is equipped with electronic monitoring systems and 24-hour on-site security to help support a safe and secure residential environment for families. We are located in a welcoming residential community with convenient access to shopping, parks, schools and community resources.



40.3%
of women on the streets have experienced domestic violence.



Education/Job Preparedness

At TMM we strongly believe that an investment in education pays lifelong dividends for each of our participants and is a critical component to our programs. We believe that education not only improves one's future and increases their earning potential. It also improves self-esteem, which can help break the cycle of domestic abuse.

Each family in the HomeLight program has access to a suite of educational resources, which include Microsoft IT Academy, PLATO Learning Environment, computer literacy and life skills coursework. HomeLight staff assists participants in setting goals for self-sufficiency through education and ultimately, career preparation. Additionally, as part of their plan, family members can connect their educational progress to vocational training or employment/career opportunities to achieve financial stability. With connections to local community colleges, universities and other academic institutions, HomeLight staff helps families continue their academic progress before, during and after the transition. Because ongoing education is essential to advancement, we provide excellent resources and a great learning environment for each of our families.

Approximately **1/2** of all homeless youth have not graduated high school.

Low income students who participate in summer camp for at least **20 days** are more likely than those who don't participate to improve in math and language arts.



Serving Homeless Children

Children suffering from homelessness experience conditions that can be severe and long-lasting. These conditions can seriously impact their mental, emotional, physical and social development which often results in dramatically higher levels of acute and chronic illness. Homeless children are at risk and often in fear of being separated from their families and placed in the foster care system. While research on homeless children paints an overwhelmingly bleak picture, HomeLight's intervention strategies provide hope for children in overcoming many of the effects of their poverty and homeless experiences.

EDUCATION

Thanks to generous supporters, HomeLight was able to duplicate the adult learning center currently at the facility and tailor it to children. Many children suffer from education deficiencies as a result of being homeless and/or living in extreme poverty. Our center was created to help fill those gaps. Skilled volunteers offer one-on-one tutoring, basic literacy, computer classes and a book club for our school-aged children. Academic tracking is a key component of our children's success. As a result, staff has regular discussions with parents regarding their child's educational progress and we encourage them to become actively involved in their children's education.

SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp is an onsite program developed to address the lack of child care resources available to our families. Without adequate childcare, our families found difficulties in continuing to seek employment or in some cases maintain employment. Activities that promote educational, physical and social development are key to the program. The children participate in weekly excursions to the beach, museums, theme parks and a career day to a Superior Courthouse. These trips are not only fun and educational but they also give children the memorable summers we all remember from our childhood. Mothers can remain focused on self-sufficiency while their children participate in the summer camp program.

Ultimately, homeless students transfer schools more often, are more likely to miss school, have lower standardized test scores, and are

87%

more likely to leave school than their peers.



By **2020**
an estimated **2/3**
of job openings will require postsecondary education or training

