Appendix A – letter to the Ramsey County Commissioners

To: Ramsey County Commissioners
From: Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAH), St. Paul Chapter
Date: September 19, 2019
Recommendations on Ramsey County's Development of Services for Homeless Families

We appreciate Ramsey County's attention to the plight of homeless children, more than 2000 of whom attend St Paul Public Schools each year, and particularly the County's funding of shelters where these children can live while their caregivers seek more permanent housing. We regret the closure of the Family Place day shelter on August 31. However, we applaud Ramsey County's decision to take a few months to develop a long-term strategy for day services for homeless families, and in the interim, to fund a day center for those homeless families presently being sheltered overnight by Project Home. With regard to the group doing strategy development for homeless family services over the next few months, MICAH recommends:

- Include in the planning process the voice of at least one family member of color currently being sheltered in the day center program and the evening program.
- Plan to provide enough funding to pay all staff of both the day and the evening family shelter programs at a rate of at least $15/hour.
- Plan to provide funding and support to secure permits for efficient laundry facilities to be used by family members in the day center space.

Signed –

(Organizations for identification)

- Rev. Glen Breg Moberg – St Anthony Park Lutheran
- Victoria Caprioni – Greater East Side Community Council
- Rome Darring – Freedom from the Streets
- Junail Anderson – Freedom from the Streets
- Jen Giebenhain – St Timothy's
- Mary Myers -St Timothy's
- Steve Ficker – MICAH
- Sue Watlov Phillips – MICAH Executive Director
- Elaine Tarone – St. Matthew's Episcopal
- Patti Whitney Wise – MICAH
- John Slade – MICAH