

Simpson Community

**SHELTER &
APARTMENTS**

— Est. 2026 —

Building Community. Building Futures.



An Evolution from Church Basement to Community Cornerstone:

The Journey to Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments

From operating a shelter in a church basement since 1982 to opening a groundbreaking shelter and housing building in 2026, Simpson Housing Services has continually evolved to meet the needs of the community.

In 2019, Simpson Housing Services was gifted the Simpson United Methodist Church and became the official owner of the site at 2740 1st Avenue South, where the shelter had operated for four decades. The 145-year-old structure was never designed to accommodate shelter guests.

Our vision has been to create a modern, dignified shelter for people experiencing homelessness. Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments represents a bold next chapter – purpose-built, trauma-informed, and intentionally designed to support healing and stability with better housing outcomes.

Located in the Whittier neighborhood on the original Simpson Shelter site, the new building will bring together 72 shelter beds, 42 affordable supportive housing apartments, a healthcare clinic, and comprehensive on-site services under one roof.



HOUSE • SUPPORT • EMPOWER • DIGNITY

**A building created *with* community,
for community.**

This project is over seven years in the making, shaped with input from:

- Shelter guests and community members
- Simpson Housing Services
- Project for Pride in Living
- Whittier Alliance
- Architects, designers, and service providers
- Health Care for the Homeless
- Housing participants

Shelter guests and residents will have access to:

- Healthcare
- Case management
- Mental, physical, and chemical health support
- Housing navigation
- Community connection

Trauma-Informed, Purpose-Built Design

Every decision in this building supports safety, healing, dignity, and community.

In 2019 Simpson Housing Services selected Project for Pride in Living to be the development partner for Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments.

ABOUT PROJECT FOR PRIDE IN LIVING

Project for Pride in Living (PPL) builds the hope, assets, and self-reliance of individuals and families who have lower incomes by providing transformative affordable housing and career readiness services. PPL provides high-quality affordable housing, on-site resident services, and life-changing career readiness programs to over 8,000 people annually throughout the seven-county metro area.



To learn more, make a gift, or volunteer, visit: ppl-inc.org.

ABOUT SIMPSON HOUSING SERVICES

Founded in 1982 as an emergency overnight shelter at Simpson United Methodist Church, Simpson Housing Services is a leading nonprofit supporting people experiencing and transitioning out of homelessness. SHS provides extended-stay shelter, supportive housing for youth, single adults, and families, and developmental and educational services for children. Each year, Simpson Housing Services supports more than 2,000 individuals, including 600 households for 300 individuals, 300 families and 650 children, across Hennepin, Ramsey, Anoka, and Carver counties.



To learn more, make a gift, or volunteer, visit: simpsonhousing.org.

Stability Starts with Dignity

A low-barrier shelter this is accessible, adaptable, and designed to accelerate shelter guests' moves into housing

SHELTER:

Owned and Operated by Simpson Housing Services

- 72 shelter beds
- Each sleeping area has six shelter beds
- 24-hour staffing & secure front desk
- Commercial kitchen & dining room serving three meals daily
- Health Care for the Homeless on-site
- Quiet rooms, community spaces, and case management areas
- Ground-level private patio & balcony off the shelter lounge area

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING:

Owned and Operated by Project for Pride in Living

- 42 efficiency apartments, each furnished and designed for privacy, independence, and comfort
- All residents referred through Hennepin County's Coordinated Entry System
- Each apartment is furnished with kitchen appliances, dining table, bed, and nightstand
- 30 apartments are dedicated to people experiencing chronic homelessness in Hennepin County
- All apartments utilize Housing Support for rental subsidies and supportive services
- Community room and balcony
- Simpson Housing Services provides on-site comprehensive, supportive services

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Safety & visibility in hallways and circulation paths
- Secure personal spaces
- Gender-inclusive flexibility
- Intentionally designed with full accessibility
- Abundant natural light and outdoor views
- Nature-inspired materials and colors
- Calming acoustics and lighting
- Artwork featuring natural themes
- Welcoming community areas
- Therapeutic access to outdoors with enclosed patio and deck

SUSTAINABILITY

- 600+ ft. deep geothermal heating and cooling wells
- Rooftop solar panels for on-site energy generation
- Stormwater management system and water conservation features
- Energy-efficient systems reduce long-term operating costs

BUILDING SQUARE FOOTAGE OVERVIEW

- Basement: 10,580 sq. ft.
- 1st Floor: 14,372 sq. ft.
- 2nd Floor: 14,070 sq. ft.
- 3rd Floor: 13,840 sq. ft.
- 4th Floor: 13,939 sq. ft.

HOUSING + SERVICES + COMMUNITY =



Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments Artwork

Curated by Tricia Huring, a Minneapolis-based curator and art consultant specializing in community-engaged projects and collection development, this collection features original artwork by 18 artists commissioned for Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments.

Each piece reflects themes of dignity, belonging, healing, and resilience rooted in the belief that art in spaces of community, home, and comfort carries profound energy and meaning. The collection celebrates local artists while enhancing the lived experience of residents and guests.

Artists

Alexandra Beaumont
Amir Khadar
Andres Guzman
Atelier Mamako
Barrett Lee
Christina Vang
Francesco Favazza
Gina Garding
Juliette Myers
Kat Corrigan
Kim Gordon
Ky McDonald
Meenal Patel
nafyar
Patricio De Lara
Philipo Dyauli
Thomasina Topbear
Tom Baker

Art by Meenal Patel



LONG-TERM SUCCESS



COOK & CONNECT

Cook & Connect is a hands-on volunteer experience at Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments where community members join staff in the kitchen to help prepare and serve nutritious, chef-led meals to people impacted by homelessness. Volunteers work alongside Simpson's chef and engage with guests to create a welcoming space where everyone feels seen and valued. Every meal is more than food—it's connection, dignity, and community in action.

All ages and groups are welcome:

- Friends, families, and neighbors
- Workplace or faith groups
- Clubs, teams, or community organizations
- Individuals looking to give back
- No prior cooking experience needed!



[Join us](#)



OWNERS AND DEVELOPERS



PROJECT FOR
PRIDE IN
LIVING

ARCHITECT



GENERAL CONTRACTORS



WATSON - FORSBERG
General Contractors



TRI-CONSTRUCTION
Community. Construction. Development.

Simpson Community Shelter & Apartments is made possible through these partnerships and supporters





Art by Thomasina Topbear

