

# Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative



# St. Barnabas Lutheran Church

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# We believe in home.

Our many faiths call us to act to create more equitable communities where all people have a home.

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Beacon is a collaborative of nearly 100 congregations of all faiths in Minnesota. As volunteers, we help advocate for new low-income housing and funding for buildings, services and rent support. Over 500,000 people in Minnesota are unable to afford their rent.



#### **August 2022 – August 2023**

This past year, as a church we have helped Beacon support low-income families in the following ways:

<u>Cranberry Ridge</u> – new 45-unit apartment building in Plymouth - celebrated at the grand opening and helped build a playground

<u>SD42 Candidate forum</u> on housing issues for new SD42 Senate and House candidates

Had <u>conversations</u> with <u>elected leaders</u> at the City Council, Hennepin County, State Senate and House levels to encourage support for housing.

<u>Joined the Rally at the State Capitol</u> with 10 members of our church!

Success: In 2023, our legislature approved a large housing package that provided \$50 million additional for rent subsidies for low-income families.

Fed 4 homeless families for one week.

Worked to influence the <u>Met Council</u> by sending keys and attending meetings – to encourage more new housing.

## There are many ways to Volunteer with Beacon:

## **EASY!** - The Rent is Due

Once per month Beacon hosts a zoom call to talk about housing issues and often take a small action.

Time commitment – max 30 minutes per month –easy to fit your schedule

Sign up on the Beacon Website <a href="https://www.beaconinterfaith.org/events/">https://www.beaconinterfaith.org/events/</a>

#### **REWARDING!**

Get more involved by joining the Beacon Leadership Team at our church.

#### **INSPIRING!**

Watch for requests from the Beacon Leadership team to further help. There may be <u>emergency</u> requests to place a phone call or send an email.

#### **FIELD TRIP FUN!**

Get further involved next time there is a Rally at the Capitol. These are exciting ways to make a difference with our presence. Rallies are FUN!

### **GENEROUS!**

Make a tax-deductible gift directly to Beacon to support their efforts

https://www.beaconinterfaith.org/donate/

For questions, please reach out to your team or contact the church office (brenda@stbarnabaslutheran.org):

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