

BRIEF · 01

The Minnesota Model for Ending Veteran Homelessness

A statewide, coordinated approach designed and proven by Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) in partnership with public, private, and community organizations across Minnesota.

Why this model exists

Minnesota has driven the number of actively homeless veterans to its lowest level on record. The progress is not accidental — it is the result of a coordinated system that combines prevention, rapid response, housing supply, supportive services, and shared data, organized statewide. This brief summarizes the model so other states and communities can adapt it.

The five components

Coordinated Entry

A single, statewide front door for any veteran experiencing or at risk of homelessness — no wrong door, no waiting list to find the waiting list.

Enablement Services

Case management, legal aid, employment support, benefits navigation, and health care connection that move a veteran from crisis to stability.

Housing Supply

A purpose-built portfolio of prevention assistance, rapid re-housing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing — sized to actual demand.

Ecosystem Coordination

Active partnership with the VA, county and state government, CoCs, landlords, employers, and community organizations — governed by shared goals, not org charts.

Data & Accountability

A by-name list and shared performance data make the system accountable to outcomes, not activity.

Outcomes at a glance

60%

reduction in actively
homeless Minnesota veterans

88%

stable housing exits
(Permanent Supportive Housing)

\$26.8M

annual social value
generated (Wilder, 2025)

What makes it portable

The model is not a single program — it is an operating system for a community's response. The five components are universal; the specific partners, funding mix, and housing inventory are local. See the Replication Framework brief for a step-by-step adaptation guide.

Source: MACV strategy work in partnership with the University of Minnesota Carlson School Graduate Volunteer Consultants program, and Wilder Research SROI analysis (December 2025).