

Hope House

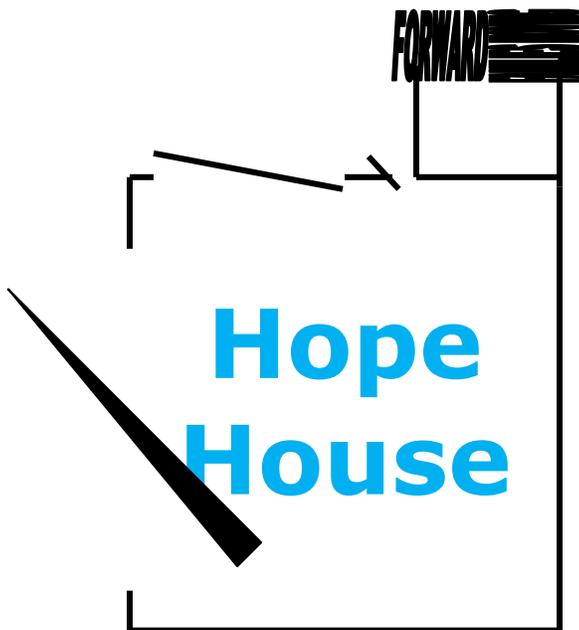
Families Moving Forward Southwest

The HOPE HOUSE mission is to work with Families Moving Forward Southwest (FMF SW) and Mayo Health Systems of New Prague to provide temporary shelter to homeless families with children from Scott and Carver Counties. Families Moving Forward, a program of Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, will give access to transitional resources and teach life skills to help families find permanent housing and stay there long-term. Beacon and Families Moving Forward does this by partnering with local faith communities and volunteers.

- Hope House is an evening and Saturday shelter for up to 4 homeless families during our designated times during the year. It is located at 305 Columbus Ave. N., New Prague.
- Hope House is a **community** project. Currently St. Wenceslaus, the western Catholic communities of St. John and St. Scholastica, Holy Trinity, New Day, Faithpoint, and St. Patrick and St. Catherine congregations are actively involved, along with other congregations in Scott and Carver County. The facility we use is owned and maintained by Mayo Health Systems of New Prague.
- Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church in Chaska hosts the FMF SW Program Center and is open Sunday-Friday 7:30-5:30, closed on Saturdays.
- Hope House is entirely staffed by volunteers. To secure the safety of these volunteers, FMF screens prospective guests for physical and mental health issues and criminal records.

The Wilder Survey, which is done every three years, in 2013 estimated that there are 14,000 homeless in Minnesota, including 3,600 children. In a Point in Time Survey on a night in January of 2014, there were 35 households experiencing homelessness in Scott and Carver counties with children under 17, 75 children in all. (*US Department of HUD*)

Since our first hosting week in June of 2014, we have served 46 families with 106 children at Hope House in New Prague. We have provided a warm welcome, meals, activities for children and overnight accommodations for our guests.



Everyone deserves a home.