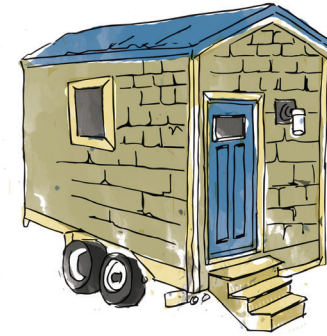




Settled.

A collective relentlessly pursuing home
with the homeless through sustainable
housing, purposeful work, and
supportive community.



What are we trying to create?

The standard approach to homelessness is called Housing First: “providing four walls and a roof” and offering professional services. This approach falls short because the problem of homelessness is not a lack of housing and professional help alone, but just as critically, a lack of integration into a supportive and nurturing community. A Community First approach is an alternative that focuses not only on providing shelter, but on meeting relational and social needs in a holistic way.

What is the Community First approach?

Homelessness is most often the result of a profound and catastrophic loss of family and community. Those of us with a strong-enough support network don't end up homeless.

PURPOSEFUL BELONGING:



Establish a sense of social belonging through mutual accountability, relational capital, and shared decision-making, empowering members to work together for the good of the community.

Affordable housing isn't affordable and there's not enough to go around.

TRULY AFFORDABLE, TRULY SUSTAINABLE HOUSING:

Bridge the gap between emergency shelter and costly conventional development by creating a plentiful supply of simple, efficient, permanent housing enabled by private funding to meet the real requirements of dignified accommodations.

Disorders and disabilities often restrict the chronically homeless from employment and limit their ability to have a meaningful role in society.

PRODUCTIVE WORK:



Help the chronically homeless rediscover and utilize their talents by providing opportunities to earn a dignified income through the production, operation, and maintenance of the Settlements, as well as support and increase entrepreneurship.

Mainstream services are fragmented, overburdened, difficult to access, and can be dehumanizing and perpetuate dependency.

SUPPORTIVE NETWORK:

Reconnect the homeless to self, family, and community through missional-neighbors and befrienders in order to navigate the system and achieve personal goals.

Fear of who the homeless are and what type of neighbors they will be causes NIMBY (Not in my backyard) opposition and prevents housing developments for the homeless from being built.

PROTECTED LAND:



Enable development of truly affordable housing by using land free from restrictive local zoning laws.



How does a Community First approach work?

A Community First Settlement is an innovative way to address long-term homelessness by developing settlements on available religious land in cooperation with a faith community.

Each resident has their own tiny home, and as a whole, the community shares facilities and amenities such as kitchens, dining spaces, bathrooms, laundry, gardens, workshops, and gathering areas. The land is managed by a religious or social organization to maintain standards for safety and welfare. Specially-trained missional neighbors live in the settlement and work with all the members to ensure that the settlement is healthy and thriving.



Why are churches critical?

A Community First approach can only succeed through the support of local churches. Why? Because outside of religious property, it is virtually impossible to find land and enable development to make Community First Settlements a reality.

Using church property reduces or eliminates the cost of land, and enables development where it would otherwise not happen because church land is protected under a federal land use law. In addition, Community First Settlements provide built-in community through partnering churches. Because human beings are wired for relationship, we all do better when we are in a place to care for others and be cared for ourselves and this model meets this relational need. All of this matches with the mission of the church and the Scriptural command to care for the poor.



Why tiny homes?

TINY HOMES ARE INEXPENSIVE

A tiny home is 1/10th the price of developing a new affordable studio apartment, and donated land and labor significantly reduce costs.

TINY HOMES ARE ECO-FRIENDLY

Homes use fewer materials and/or reused materials to create long-lasting structures that meet health and safety standards, and are equipped for year round living in a wintry climate!

TINY HOMES ALLOW FOR PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATION

They give residents a sense of pride and ownership by bringing neighbors together into the empowering experience of creating a settlement.

TINY HOMES CAN BE CUSTOMIZED

Creativity, individuality, and functionality can be incorporated.

TINY HOMES PROMOTE COMMUNITY

Emphasis is placed on shared spaces and shared amenities.

Penny

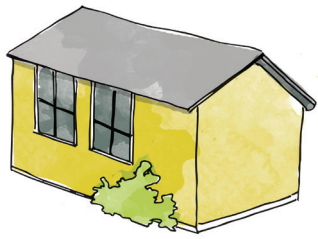


Plans to develop tiny home settlements in the Twin Cities are being based on the model of Community First! Village in Austin, Texas. Since 2015, they have successfully lifted over 200 chronically homeless men and women off the streets and into community, including Penny, a resident of the village.

Penny ran away from home for the first time at age 6 to escape her severely abusive mother. But as a child, she didn't know how to take care of herself and had to return. At age 10 she ran away for good. She never felt like she belonged anywhere, so she made the streets her home. Because her mother had given her drugs as a child, she began a long struggle with addiction. With no family support, Penny remained in a cycle of suffering and homelessness, but she never gave up.

Eventually, Penny found a home in Community First! Village, where she now lives and works as an artist, and is known for her bright personality. Each month, Penny donates the profits from five of her art pieces to help friends still suffering on the streets.

Penny says, "After 51 years, I finally have a home."



Quixote Village – 30 homes
(Est. 2013)

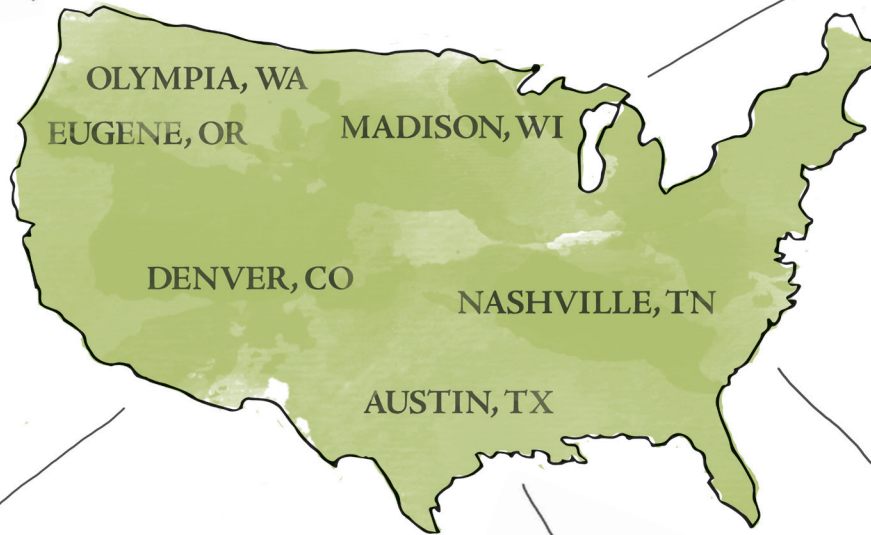
Life centers around the community building ... Residents begin to trust and support each other through struggles and hardships and to share the joys and challenges of rebuilding their lives.



OM Village – 5 homes
(Est. 2014)

We envision a place where people with or without current safe housing can live and/or work cooperatively in a way that promotes dignity, safety, stewardship, and sustainability for all.

Part of a Movement



Infinity Village – 15 homes
(Est. 2015)

“This could be a model for not just the homeless, but for the general population in Nashville — that instead of investing in square footage, you can invest in community.”



Opportunity Village – 30 homes
(Est. 2013)

Every person needs a place to be if they are going to thrive as human beings.



Community First! Village – 240 homes
(Est. 2015)

We have a basic philosophy that housing alone will never solve homelessness, but community will.



Beloved Community Village – 11 homes
(Est. 2017)

This is an opportunity for healing as many have experienced isolation throughout their time on the streets and in shelter systems.



The Components of Home

A HOME IS A PLACE OF PERMANENCE

To be 'at home' somewhere is more than simply having a place to stay . . . Home . . . signifies a certain degree of spatial permanence, an enduring presence, or residence. In a speed-bound culture, every highly mobile person is a victim of some form of homelessness because there is no time to foster a sense of enduring emplacement. Shelter alone is not sufficient.

A HOME IS A DWELLING PLACE

. . . but not the same as a house. A house is a domicile, while a home is an abode. Home is a relationship that is created and evolved over time. A house refers to its construction while a home has deep psychological and social significance.

A HOME IS A STORIED PLACE

A home becomes a home when it is transformed by memory-shaped meaning into a place of identity, connectedness, order and care. Rituals like celebration of holidays make a house a home by linking our personal and communal stories with a particular location.

A HOME IS A SAFE RESTING PLACE

. . . where you can relax and be yourself. It's a safe-place where you can be vulnerable and learn to trust, a place of safety and rest.

A HOME IS A PLACE OF HOSPITALITY

As opposed to a fortress, few are strangers there and there is room to include others.

A HOME IS A PLACE OF EMBODIED INHABITATION

. . . where a person feels a sense of rootedness. To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognized need of the human soul. A resident is a temporary and rootless thing . . . The inhabitant by contrast 'dwells' . . . in an intimate, organic, and mutually nurturing relationship with a place.

A HOME IS A PLACE OF ORIENTATION

. . . in which we know where we are and what we are in this world. A home provides a sense of order and direction to our lives.

A HOME IS A PLACE OF AFFILIATION & BELONGING

. . . where we experience recognition, acceptance, and identity.

Q&A

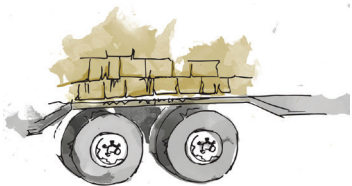
WHAT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE TINY HOME SOLUTION TO CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS?

A report commissioned by HUD supports the use of tiny home villages as a "feasible, cost-effective option" to house people experiencing homelessness. The report found that villages "create communal support, benefiting residents' likelihood of long-term housing, employment, and contentment."

WHAT ABOUT BUILDING CODES?

All tiny homes are NOAH (National Organization for Affordable Housing) certified. NOAH certification is a rigorous inspection process that ensures each home meets a high standard of quality suitable for full-time, year-round residential living.

WHY ARE YOUR HOMES MOBILE?



Many cities have minimum square footages that make building affordable housing cost prohibitive. Our tiny homes are on wheels in order to allow us to build smaller.

WHAT ABOUT ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL ILLNESS?

In Minnesota, 3/4 of homeless adults have experienced significant childhood traumas that make them more likely to suffer from major chronic health issues later in life. These issues can best be healed through meaningful relationships in community.

HOW MUCH CHEAPER ARE TINY HOMES?



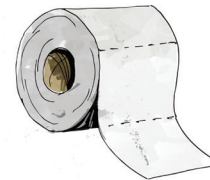
On average, one new affordable housing unit is \$250,000.

On average, our proposed tiny homes are \$20,000 - \$30,000 per unit.

WHAT DO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THINK ABOUT THE IDEA OF A TINY HOME?

People experiencing homelessness have shared they would prefer more housing be built with fewer amenities than the status quo that leaves people on the streets. James, a previously homeless man, said it best, "If they were in our position, that's your heaven, that's your castle."

HOW DO YOU HANDLE BATHROOMS?



There are a variety of options from passive, inexpensive strategies like dry toilets, to more traditional, expensive options which include plumbing to each unit. At the heart of every settlement is a design that encourages routine interactions. A common bathhouse and kitchen create this opportunity.

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