



THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING
THE *link*
IN 2021!

We appreciate the generous support of each individual, community group, business, and foundation who made our work possible in 2021. Because of you, thousands of youth had a safe place to stay and received the one on one support they needed to progress during another difficult year.

Together we raised over **\$2,784,000** for youth and families in 2021!

While 2021 is over, the pandemic is not and the needs of our youth and community continue to grow. Our goal for 2022 is to raise **\$2,700,000** to support the ongoing and urgent needs of the youth and families in our community. **We need YOUR help** to make it happen!

If you would like an end of year giving summary for your 2021 donations, please reach out to us at: donate@thelinkmn.org

\$2.5 Million to support young families experiencing homelessness



The Day 1 Families Fund

The Link is honored to be a recipient of a \$2.5 Million Bezos Day 1 Families Fund grant! The contribution to our organization and community will have a measurable impact by helping us transition many more young families out of homelessness and into stable housing. It will also help break the cycle of homelessness for these families and their

children — preventing homelessness from becoming generational.

This one-time grant will allow The Link to sustain and expand its housing and supportive services for young families experiencing homelessness over the next three years. The Link will focus on culturally specific and youth-driven programming for young Black families, who are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. While this investment is incredible and helps increase services for young families in the Twin Cities, The Link works with thousands of youth each year who are not supported through these funds. We will continue to need your help to support all of the youth in our community!

HAPPENINGS

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Sexual exploitation and trafficking is an experience that no one should have to face. However, it happens within Minnesota and across the country every day.

- Youth experiencing homelessness are more vulnerable to trafficking. At least one in five youth experiencing homelessness are also survivors of sexual exploitation or trafficking.
- A **2019 study** found that at least 5,000 of Minnesota's current high schoolers have traded sex for money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, and more.

The Link provides vital services for youth survivors of trafficking including:

- 24 hour Crisis Response
- Emergency Shelter
- Supportive Housing
- Mobile Case Management
- Survivor Leadership

Learn more about [The Link's Safe Harbor Programming](#)





SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for The Link's Virtual Annual Event on Thursday, April 21st, 2022.

Registration information coming soon!

Interested in supporting the Silent Auction? Click [HERE](#) to view needed items & sign up!

SPONSOR A YOUTH FACE MASK!

Youth at The Link participated in a contest, designing artwork to be featured on a new face mask for The Link. The winning design was created into a face mask available to youth at The Link!

[Make a donation today](#) to provide a face mask and vital support to youth in The Link's programs!



The Link's Monthly Giving Club

Join our special group of donors who make a monthly gift to support youth and families at The Link all year long.

[Join Today](#)

Help fill urgent needs of youth and families by shopping The Link's Amazon wish list!

Visit our wish list [HERE](#) for details!



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