

**Light the Way
for Change.**





“ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY REQUIRES A BOLD AND INNOVATIVE NEW APPROACH.”

Rev. Forrest Gilmore
Executive Director of Beacon, Inc., a solutions-driven organization for people experiencing extreme poverty in Bloomington.

■ **In the heart of Bloomington, Beacon stands as a symbol of hope for children and adults grappling with extreme poverty, hunger, and homelessness.** Our vision is simple yet profound: a community to honor every person’s fundamental right to sustenance, a safe home, healthcare, and meaningful work. With a steadfast commitment to hospitality, dignity, empowerment, and hope, Beacon extends its reach beyond the margins, with support for all in a safe and nurturing space.

As the largest nonprofit housing provider in Monroe

County, Beacon has played a pivotal role for a quarter century addressing the pressing needs of our community. However, nearly 350 people, including families with children, experience homelessness on any given day in Bloomington and Monroe County, and the need for comprehensive support

for these individuals has never been more urgent. The challenges we face require a bold and innovative approach with community collaborations building on each other.

Now, more than ever, we must come together to address the growing needs in our community in ways that are compassionate and smart. Beacon offers you a transformative opportunity to light the path toward a brighter future for all.



■ **Within our community lies a deepening crisis—a crisis of hunger and homelessness that affects hundreds of lives each day.** Beacon

envisions a future where homelessness is not merely managed but eliminated, where individuals receive support from the moment they risk homelessness until they secure permanent stable housing and beyond.

Our proposed new facility embodies this vision—a shining light of hope, offering a solutions-driven approach and a comprehensive range of services. From emergency shelter to employment training, from mental healthcare to lifelong homes, the new Beacon Center will serve as a cornerstone for our community in the ongoing fight against homelessness.

As the demand for our services continues to escalate, the urgency to act becomes increasingly apparent. Now is the time for collective action. With your help, we can turn this visionary concept into a tangible reality. We can illuminate the path toward a community where everyone has a place to call home, ensuring no individual is left behind in the shadows of homelessness.



**“THE COMMUNITY WE
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DIVERSE, AS ARE THE
INDIVIDUAL ISSUES THAT
NEED TO BE ADDRESSED.”**

—Charlotte Zietlow, Honorary Co-Chair

*The new **Beacon Center** will combine homes and improved shelter with supportive services including an Employment Center, Health Clinic, and Multifaith Chapel for the people in need in our community.*





Northwest corner showing main Front Entrance located steps from public transportation.



Southeast corner of building showing the Courtyard Area and private parking access.



“THE NEW BEACON CENTER IS BUILT UPON RESEARCH AND VISION TO TACKLE OUR COMMUNITY’S HOMELESS CHALLENGE.”

—Gladys and Gene DeVane, Honorary Co-Chairs



The new **Beacon Center** will improve the quality and expand capacity of Beacon’s most effective programs, while co-locating with other nonprofits and government agencies to offer a full spectrum of essential services.

■ Taking the first step toward a brighter future begins with our purpose-built facility.

As we experience growing pains with our current spaces, this new Center will serve as home to Beacon’s vital programs, bringing Permanent Housing, Overnight Shelter, and a Daytime Resource Center into one facility.

Beacon Center will feature 25 apartments – 20 Supportive Housing Units for those who have experienced long-term homelessness due to disabilities, and 5 Work Exchange Apartments for residents supporting the Center with maintenance and security.

The Overnight Shelter will expand from 40 to 50 beds for women, men, and transgender/nonbinary residents of Monroe County, including couples and pets. The shelter will offer semi-private spaces with individual beds for increased safety and comfort.

The Day Center will include a dining room, family room, training kitchen, laundry facilities, showers, restrooms, a day sleep room, storage, mail service, and an outdoor courtyard. Co-located with community partners, it will offer healthcare, mental health services, legal aid, and more.

The Center will also provide an Employment Center with job search support, training kitchen, and a classroom for life skills training, high school equivalency diplomas, and job training.

With the new Beacon Center, we ensure every individual receives the support they need to flourish and contribute positively to our community.

■ **Situated on Bloomington's near west side, the new Beacon Center is much more than just a building.** It's a testament to our pragmatic approach to neighborhood integration and community collaboration. Built on the boundary between commercial and residential sectors of our city, it is well-placed to be accessible to our clients while being a positive presence in our neighborhood.

Developed on an abandoned site and beautifully designed in form and landscaping, it will light up its surroundings. Featuring a centralized entrance, thoughtfully secure fencing, ample parking, and close access to public transportation, every detail of our facility is meticulously planned with the safety and convenience of our guests and surrounding neighborhood in mind. In addition, we'll offer an employment program partnering with the Parks Department and neighborhood association to keep our community clean and extend our reach beyond our physical confines.

You are a vital part to this plan. Help us illuminate a path that builds a community where compassion drives our actions and every individual in need finds a secure and welcoming place to call home.



“THE NEW BEACON CENTER IS DESIGNED TO BE A WELCOMING ASSET TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND OUR COMMUNITY.”

—**Eric Spoonmore**, Honorary Co-Chair



■ **As the shadow of homelessness casts
itself over our community, the time is now
for us to step forward and make a difference.**

Beacon is more than just a shelter—it's a lifeline for those facing the darkest moments of their lives. With your financial contribution toward our new facility, you can join with others to be a beacon of hope guiding individuals from despair to stability, from uncertainty to opportunity.

Our Capital Campaign funding goal of \$20 million is within reach, but we cannot achieve it alone. With over \$8 million in initial grants already secured, we call upon you, our community, to help us bridge the gap and bring our vision to fruition. Your generous pledge of financial support will help light the way for a brighter future for those in need.

Together, let's build a community where homelessness is not just a problem but a memory of the past. Join us today in shaping a future where compassion knows no bounds and everyone finds a place to call home.



**“THE TIME IS NOW. THE
NEED IS REAL. YOU CAN
LIGHT THE WAY FOR
PEOPLE EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS IN OUR
COMMUNITY.”**

—*Traci Jovanovic & Von Welch, Campaign Co-Chairs*

C A M P A I G N C A B I N E T

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Cathy Croxton, Jim Bright**

Events / **Karen Garrett**

*For more information
on how you can ‘Light the
Way’ with your financial
contribution to the Beacon
Capital Campaign, please
contact **Amy Kendall**,
Development Director at
812-334-5734 or
amykendall@beaconinc.org*



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