

Dialogue

A reflective journal about faith and action
from Madison-area Urban Ministry

Healing House
Special Edition

Standing in the gap together

Their son had his surgery last summer. One day later he was discharged from the hospital. They were able to get motel vouchers for three days but it wasn't enough time for their son to recuperate from the surgery and they were back on the streets. As a result, there were numerous emergency room visits when their son experienced complications in his recovery.

Her one year old child needs surgery to correct a birth defect. The surgery keeps being put off because they are homeless and there is no place for the child to recover from foot surgery. The shelters are only open overnight. During the day if you are homeless, you are back on the street. The street is no place to be with a one year old recovering from surgery.

She put off surgery to remove additional tumors. She and her teenaged daughter were homeless and there was no place to recover from the surgery. She had stage 4 metastatic liver and colon cancer. It was hard enough on her 15 year old daughter when they had an apartment. When the landlord illegally evicted them it became even harder to keep up with school while trying to help her mom.

It's a high risk pregnancy. Her doctor has ordered her to complete bedrest, a meaningless order when the patient is homeless. She cannot effectively control the gestational diabetes while living on the streets during the day.

He worries about his young son who is recovering from surgery. Finding shelter for you and your son who has multiple medical issues and uses a wheelchair is no easy task in Dane County.

These stories are true. They happened within the last year in Dane County. You see, we have gaps in our safety net. These gaps leave people who need to recuperate from illness or surgery -- and who are homeless -- unable to access a safe place to recover and

“
**Healing house is all of us,
neighbors standing together,
offering support, comfort and
healing as we are called to do**
”

to obtain follow-up medical care. These gaps are nothing new in our safety net. They are nothing new in our community. These gaps are not acceptable.

There is an old expression “standing in the gap.” One interpretation of the saying is that a “gap” is the space between what is and what God says ought to be. Standing in the gap theologically has meant to intercede, whether through prayer or action. Centuries ago nearly every city had a wall around it for protection. A gap referred to a breach or hole in the wall that was caused by human

neglect, continual battering or assault from an enemy, or both. And maybe that's the case now when it comes to the gap in services for people who are homeless with a family member in need of medical respite. Together we can intercede. We can stand in the gap to support these families.

As an interfaith organization, Madison-area Urban Ministry is responding to the call across faith traditions to care for the sick. In Judaism, Bikur Cholim, (Hebrew for “visiting the sick”) includes a wide range of activities that include providing comfort and support for people who are ill. Bikur Cholim is a mitzvah, a moral and spiritual obligation. In Islam, it is one of the responsibilities of a Muslim to visit the sick. For Christians, perhaps the best known call to care for the sick comes in Matthew 25.

We share this call and Healing House is a response to the call. Healing house is all of us, neighbors standing together, offering support, comfort and healing as we are called to do.

Who will stand in the gap? Healing House will stand in the gap. Will you stand with us?

In faith,

Linda Ketcham
Director

Imagine you are...

- * Homeless and being treated for cancer
- * A mother with small children
- * Released from the hospital after surgery

Out of hope and no place to go



When you are released you may be given hotel vouchers for 3-5 days so you have a place to recuperate, which is great, except:

- * No meals
- * No child care
- * No prescription filled or medication follow-up
- * No medical attention
- * No way to get to follow-up appointments

OR

You are discharged to Healing House, which offers you...

Peace of Mind



- * 24/7 care
- * 3 meals a day
- * Child care
- * Medical attention
- * Case manager to assist with obtaining
 - ✓ Stable housing
 - ✓ Employment
 - ✓ Getting to follow-up appointments



Will you stand with us?

Become a Healing House Sponsor

- \$10,000 Patron
- \$1,000 Champion
- \$5,000 Visionary
- \$500 Partner
- Gift of your choice \$ _____

Your donation will help MUM reach our goal to make the first respite house in Wisconsin happen!

Campaign budget information

Renovations (303 Lathrop St.)	\$250,000
Operating budget (first year)	\$750,000
Capital Campaign goal	\$1,000,000

Ways to give:

- * Donate online: www.emum.org
- * Donate by check: Envelope enclosed

Dialogue is a reflective journal of faith and action printed by Madison-area Urban Ministry staff. The positions expressed here are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the board of directors or funding sources of MUM. Faith communities and all individual members receive a copy. Individual membership in MUM is encouraged. Please mail contributions to our address below or visit MUM's website.



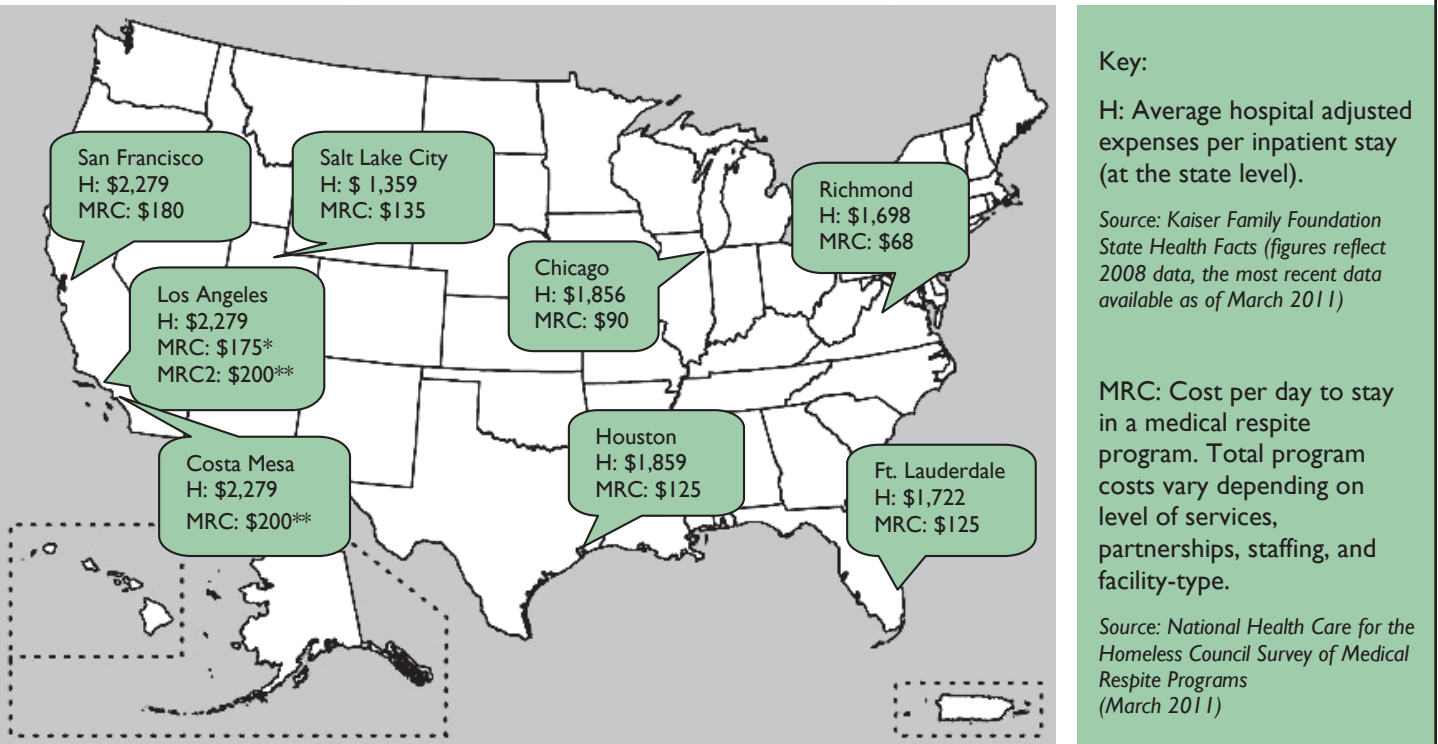

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Healing House

A cost effective alternative for hospitals and community
 Promoting wellness for homeless families in Dane County
 There are 63 Medical Respites Nationwide: a proven model of care

Average Daily Cost – Hospital vs. Medical Respite Center



Key:
 H: Average hospital adjusted expenses per inpatient stay (at the state level).

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts (figures reflect 2008 data, the most recent data available as of March 2011)

MRC: Cost per day to stay in a medical respite program. Total program costs vary depending on level of services, partnerships, staffing, and facility-type.

Source: National Health Care for the Homeless Council Survey of Medical Respite Programs (March 2011)

Figure 3: Average daily hospital inpatient cost for select states compared to the daily cost in a medical respite program in that state.

*JWCH Institute, Inc.

**National Health Foundation/Hospital Association of Southern California/Illumination Foundation

Medical Respite Care:

Efficient use of health care dollars

Cincinnati, OH*	Madison, WI
2013 Population 297,517	2013 Population 243,344
3 Hospitals	4 Hospitals

In a comparable city, Cincinnati saw a \$6.2 million total annual cost avoidance for 3 hospitals and community.

*Medical Respite in Cincinnati, OH not shown on above map

Why MUM?

- ☀ **MUM has been a voice for social justice in Dane County for over 40 years.**
- ☀ **During our history, sixteen of the most innovative and community building nonprofits in the area were conceived, incubated and hatched by MUM.**
- ☀ **MUM's staff are compassionate, specially trained individuals with years of experience standing with the poor and hurting of Dane County.**
- ☀ **Healing House is a concept born of decades of MUM work.**
- ☀ **MUM identifies community needs and figures out a way to help meet those needs.**



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Non-Profit
Organization
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Healing House

*Imagine:
It can happen with your help*



*For more information on this
phenomenal project:*

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nasra@emum.org terri@emum.org

Phone 256-0906

Visit us at www.emum.org



*Medical Respite site at 303 Lathrop St. is pledged.
Renovations will start as soon as MUM raises \$375,000
(half of operating budget for first year).*

What is Healing House?

- ✱ A program of Madison-area Urban Ministry (MUM)
- ✱ First medical respite of its kind in Wisconsin
- ✱ Cozy, home-like atmosphere
- ✱ Convenient location on bus line
- ✱ Close to hospitals
- ✱ Provides medical respite care to families who are homeless and have an immediate family member in need of ongoing medical care during recovery
- ✱ Hospital staff identify clients in need of recuperative care
- ✱ Facility will be staffed 24/7
- ✱ Respite care for up to 28 days
- ✱ Follow-up includes medical care and case management to obtain stable housing