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AWARD-WINNING LINCOLN PLACE IMPROVES THE LIVES OF FORMERLY HOMELESS YOUTH IN SUBURBAN MINNESOTA

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In spring 2010, Mindy Paurus was completing her senior year of high school, was homeless, and living in a car. Two years after moving into Lincoln Place, she has graduated from high school and started her college education at Normandale Community College.

Lincoln Place is the largest suburban housing development in Minnesota to link affordable housing for homeless youth with services that develop self-sufficiency skills. Located in Eagan, MN, this 24 unit development was developed by Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA).



Mindy in her Lincoln Place Apartment

Mark Ulfers, the Executive Director at Dakota County CDA notes, "Lincoln Place is an excellent example of how supportive housing for young adults can be accomplished within the suburban context. Its strength is the three way partnership between the County, CDA and a non-profit service provider with strong city support."

For youth like Mindy, Lincoln Place offers a safe, stable home where they can receive life skills training and begin setting goals around education, employment and overall health. Mindy was recently awarded \$1,000 from the 2012 Minnesota NAHRO Education Scholarship Program to assist her with college expenses. In her scholarship application Mindy noted, "After I moved into Lincoln Place, I finally felt like I was on the right track."

Lincoln Place Apartments is featured as the project-of-the-month for Minnesota Housing Partnership's [Impact Spotlight](#). The *Impact Spotlight* celebrates the work of affordable housing partners in creating healthy, sustainable communities. Pace-setting projects are selected based on ingenuity in housing development

and collaborative efforts linking housing for low-to-moderate income families to transportation, jobs, or services.

About Dakota County CDA: The mission of the Dakota County Community Development Agency is to improve the lives of Dakota County residents through affordable housing and community development.

About MHP: The Minnesota Housing Partnership (www.mhponline.org) supports affordable housing development for low- and moderate-income people to strengthen Minnesota communities and families. MHP provides information, consulting, training, resources and advocacy for communities to bolster options for safe and affordable housing.

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