

# American Indian Community Development Corporation

*Elder housing survey*

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## *Elder housing survey*

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# Introduction

The American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC) was established in 1992 to serve the American Indian community in Minneapolis and surrounding areas. The mission of AICDC is to develop and provide culturally-specific programs and supportive services designed to strengthen the American Indian community by offering opportunities leading to a better quality of life and a more healthy Indian community. To this end, AICDC has several program areas including housing, training and technical assistance, research, demonstration projects, property rehabilitation, providing information, and partnerships with tribal governments.

Currently, AICDC operates 4 housing programs in Minneapolis, primarily in the Phillips neighborhood (South Minneapolis, near Franklin and Cedar). There has been some discussion about the need for more affordable housing for American Indian elders in the community. The purpose of this study is to examine the need for an elder housing facility and also to determine the amenities and features that elders would desire in a housing facility.

## ***Research methods***

Wilder Research was contracted by AICDC to design an elder housing survey that included questions about housing and services needs, cost, location, features, and amenities. AICDC staff completed surveys with 43 American Indian elders at various community events at Little Earth housing development and at the Minneapolis American Indian Center. It is important to note that this study did not use scientific sampling, so the respondents are not intended to be representative of the entire American Indian elder population in Minneapolis. Rather, a convenience sample was used to obtain an initial estimate about the interest in and need for an elder housing facility. This report describes the survey results from these 43 elders. The complete survey instrument can be found in the Appendix.

# Results

## *Demographics*

Respondent characteristics

A majority (58%) of the respondents are between the ages of 55 to 65. Thirty-five percent are over the age of 65. See Figure 1.

---

### 1. Age of respondents

| Age of respondents | N=43   |         |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
|                    | Number | Percent |
| 54 or younger      | 1      | 2%      |
| 55 to 65           | 25     | 58%     |
| 65 to 74           | 10     | 23%     |
| 75 or older        | 5      | 12%     |
| Not reported       | 2      | 5%      |

When asked about whether they are an enrolled member of a tribe or band, 79 percent of respondents reported they are enrolled members. Another five individuals (12%) are not enrolled, yet still identify with a tribe or band. Sixty-two percent of the respondents indicate they are from an Ojibwe, Chippewa, or Anishinabe tribe; 24 percent identify with the Leech Lake tribe in particular. Three out of the five persons who are not enrolled with any particular tribe or band identify themselves as Ojibwe, Chippewa, or Anishinabe. Fewer respondents identify with various bands in South Dakota, Lac Courte D'Oreille (Wisconsin), and others. Two persons (6%) did not specify their tribe or band. See Figure 2.

## 2. Characteristics: tribe or band

|  |  | N=43      |            |
|--|--|-----------|------------|
| Are you an enrolled member of a tribe or band? |  | Number    | Percent    |
| <b>Yes</b>                                     |  | <b>34</b> | <b>79%</b> |
| <b>No</b>                                      |  | <b>9</b>  | <b>21%</b> |
| <b>Not enrolled, but affiliated</b>            |  | <b>5</b>  | <b>56%</b> |

  

| Identify with the following tribe or band: | Enrolled member<br>N=34 |         | Not enrolled, but<br>affiliated<br>N=5 |         |
|--|-------------------------|---------|--|---------|
|  | Number                  | Percent | Number                                 | Percent |
| Leech Lake                                 | 8                       | 24%     | -                                      | -       |
| White Earth                                | 5                       | 15%     | 1                                      | 20%     |
| Red Lake                                   | 4                       | 12%     | -                                      | -       |
| Boise Forte/Nett Lake                      | 2                       | 6%      | 1                                      | 20%     |
| Rosebud                                    | 2                       | 6%      | -                                      | -       |
| Standing Rock Agency                       | 2                       | 6%      | -                                      | -       |
| Lac Courte D'Oreille                       | 3                       | 9%      | 1                                      | 20%     |
| Other                                      | 6                       | 18%     | 2                                      | 40%     |
| Did not specify                            | 2                       | 6%      | -                                      | -       |

*Note:* Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Next, respondents were asked whether they speak the native language of their tribe or band. Thirty-seven percent of respondents said “yes.” Of those respondents, 10 (63%) speak an Ojibwe, Chippewa, or Anishinabe dialect, three (19%) speak Sioux or Dakota, and one (6%) speaks a Zuni dialect. Two people (13%) did not specify which language they speak. See Figure 3.

## 3. Characteristics: native language

| Do you speak the native language of your tribe or band? | Yes<br>N=16 |         |
|---|-------------|---------|
|   | Number      | Percent |
| Ojibwe/Chippewa/Anishinabe                              | 10          | 63%     |
| Sioux/Dakota/Nakota/Lakota                              | 3           | 19%     |
| Zuni  | 1           | 6%      |
| Did not specify   | 2           | 13%     |

*Note:* Total may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.



## *Daily activities and service/assistance needs*

Respondents were asked about their abilities to do certain tasks such as preparing meals, grooming, bathing, general house maintenance, managing personal finances, and so on. These questions asked respondents whether they could do each task “without help,” “with help,” or if someone else needed to do the task for them. Nearly three-quarters of respondents (74%) indicate they are able to prepare meals by themselves (“without help”), while 19 percent required some help, and 7 percent needed someone else to prepare their meals for them. All other tasks required some assistance for around one-third (30% to 37%) of respondents. The tasks for which respondents needed the most help (“Someone else needs to do this for me”) include: yard work (27%), general house maintenance (21%), and transportation (19%). See Figure 4.

Next, respondents were asked to indicate whether they received help or services at the time of the survey, and if so, to specify the person or persons providing this help. Many of the respondents who indicated receiving services did not specify who provided them. One-third of respondents (33%) indicate having received help with their housecleaning. Two received this assistance from a family member, two indicated their personal care assistant provided this help, and eight did not specify who provided this service. Thirty-one percent of respondents received help with their yard work: three received this help from a family member, one received this help from his/her PCA, and two received this help from the property owner or rental manager (seven did not specify). Transportation (30%) was the third most common task for which respondents received assistance. Of these, four received help from a family member, one from a PCA, one used public transportation, and one received assistance from an ILS worker (eight did not specify). See Figure 5.

#### 4. Activities of daily living

|                              | N  | Can do this <u>without help</u> |     | Can do this <u>with help</u> |     | Someone <u>else</u> needs to do this for me |     |
|------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|---|-----|
|                              |    | Number                          | %   | Number                       | %   | Number                                      | %   |
| Preparing meals              | 43 | 32                              | 74% | 8                            | 19% | 3   | 7%  |
| Personal grooming            | 43 | 29                              | 67% | 14                           | 33% | -   | -   |
| Bathing                      | 43 | 28                              | 65% | 13                           | 30% | 2   | 5%  |
| Shopping                     | 42 | 26                              | 62% | 13                           | 31% | 3   | 7%  |
| Taking medications correctly | 43 | 26                              | 61% | 15                           | 35% | 2   | 5%  |
| Laundry                      | 43 | 25                              | 58% | 16                           | 37% | 2   | 5%  |
| Managing personal finances   | 43 | 25                              | 58% | 16                           | 37% | 2   | 5%  |
| Housekeeping (cleaning)      | 43 | 23                              | 54% | 16                           | 37% | 4   | 9%  |
| Transportation               | 43 | 23                              | 54% | 12                           | 28% | 8   | 19% |
| General house maintenance    | 42 | 19                              | 45% | 14                           | 33% | 9   | 21% |
| Yard work                    | 41 | 18                              | 44% | 12                           | 29% | 11  | 27% |

*Note: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.*

**5. Assistance received with daily activities**

| At this time, do you get help or services to do the following tasks? | IF YES:<br>N=42-43 |                  | Who helps you or provides this service?<br>Please list all sources of help, formal (such as home health agencies or other social service organizations) and informal (such as relatives or friends). |                 |   |       |                    |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--|-----------------|---|-------|--------------------|
|  | Number<br>"Yes"    | Percent<br>"Yes" | Family   | PCA or<br>nurse | Owner/<br>manager of<br>rental property | Other | Did not<br>specify |
| Housekeeping (cleaning)  | 14                 | 33%              | 2  | 2               | -                                       | 2     | 8                  |
| Yard work  | 13                 | 31%              | 3  | 1               | 2                                       | -     | 7                  |
| Transportation   | 13                 | 30%              | 4  | 1               | -                                       | 2     | 8                  |
| Shopping   | 12                 | 28%              | 2  | 1               | -                                       | 1     | 8                  |
| General house maintenance  | 11                 | 26%              | 2  | 1               | 2                                       | -     | 6                  |
| Laundry  | 10                 | 23%              | 3  | 2               | -                                       | -     | 4                  |
| Managing personal finances   | 10                 | 23%              | 2  | 1               | -                                       | 1     | 6                  |
| Taking medications correctly   | 10                 | 23%              | 2  | 3               | -                                       | -     | 5                  |
| Preparing meals  | 8                  | 19%              | 1  | 2               | -                                       | -     | 5                  |
| Personal grooming  | 6                  | 14%              | 1  | 1               | -                                       | -     | 4                  |
| Bathing  | 6                  | 14%              | -  | 1               | -                                       | -     | 5                  |

*Note(s):* "PCA (Personal Care Assistant) or nurse" category also includes in-home care and Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency (MVNA) nurses. Owner/manager of rental property includes landlord/landlady, and building maintenance personnel. "ILS worker" stands for "Independent Living Services worker."

## *Income and benefits status*

Most respondents (70%) fall in the medium income bracket, receiving between \$501 and \$2,000 as their monthly income. Eight respondents (19%) fall in the low income bracket (\$500 or less per month), and five respondents (11%) fall in the high income bracket (more than \$2000 per month). Only 14 percent of respondents currently receive Section 8 housing. Next, respondents were asked about any benefits that their household receive as a whole, including any income from paid employment. Forty-two percent of households receive income from paid employment, another 42 percent receive Social Security benefits, 33 percent receive Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), and 21 percent receive MFIP, among other income sources. See Figure 6.

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### 6. Income and welfare status

|   | N=43          |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Monthly income</b>   | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| Low (\$0 to \$500)  | 8             | 19%            |
| Medium (\$501 to \$2,000)   | 30            | 70%            |
| High (\$2,001 and up)   | 5             | 12%            |
| <b>Do you receive Section 8 housing assistance?</b>   |               |                |
| Yes   | 6             | 14%            |
| No  | 34            | 79%            |
| <i>Don't know</i>   | 3             | 7%             |
| <b>Did you or any other person living in your house receive income from the following last month...?*</b> |               |                |
| <b>Income from paid employment</b>  | <b>18</b>     | <b>42%</b>     |
| Social Security   | 18            | 42%            |
| SSDI (Social Security Disability Income)  | 14            | 33%            |
| General Assistance  | 12            | 28%            |
| MFIP  | 9             | 21%            |
| Income from side jobs like babysitting or housecleaning   | 5             | 12%            |
| Child support   | 1             | 2%             |
| Per capita stipend from tribe   | 1             | 2%             |
| <i>Other: not specified</i>   | 2             | 5%             |

*\*Note: Total does not equal 100 percent, since respondents could indicate multiple income sources.*

## *Housing*

### Housing status

Forty percent of respondents reported living in an apartment and 33 percent live in a single family home. Finally, 28 percent live in a multi-family housing complex. Most respondents (70%) are renters and 21 percent are home owners. When asked about how much of their own money respondents contribute to housing, 26 percent indicated from \$501 to \$750 each month, most of whom fall in the medium income bracket. Of the five individuals in the low income bracket, three pay from \$100 to \$250 per month for housing. The four individuals in the high income bracket paid varying amounts – anywhere from \$100 to more than \$1,000 per month. See Figure 7.

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### 7. Housing status

|   | N=43          |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| <b>What type of housing do you live in now?</b>                           | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| Apartment (high-rise, multi-unit building, condo)                         | 17            | 40%            |
| Single family house   | 14            | 33%            |
| Multi-family house (duplex, four-plex, town home)                         | 12            | 28%            |
| <b>Do you own or rent your home?</b>                                      |               |                |
| Own   | 9             | 21%            |
| Rent  | 30            | 70%            |
| Live rent-free with family or friends                                     | 4             | 9%             |
| <b>How much of your own money do you pay for your housing each month?</b> |               |                |
| \$0   | 2             | 5%             |
| \$1 to \$250 <sup>a</sup>   | 8             | 19%            |
| \$251 to \$500  | 3             | 7%             |
| \$501 to \$750  | 11            | 26%            |
| \$751 to \$1,000  | 7             | 16%            |
| More than \$1,000   | 1             | 2%             |
| <i>Not reported</i>   | 11            | 26%            |

*Note(s): Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.*

<sup>a</sup> *No one indicated paying less than \$100 for rent each month.*

## Household characteristics

Regarding household characteristics, less than one-fifth (19%) of respondents indicate living by themselves. Eighty-one percent of all elders surveyed indicate that they live with one or more persons. Of these, 42 percent live with one or two other persons, and 39 percent live with three or more other persons. Sixty-five percent of elders report that they are the only persons in that household age 55 or older. Twenty-six percent of households have two or three persons age 55 or older, including the respondents. Less than half (40%) of elders surveyed live with one or more children under the age of 18. Of those 17 individuals living with children, nine indicate having custody of those children. See Figure 8.

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### 8. Household characteristics

| <b>N=43</b>   |               |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| <b>How many people, including yourself live in your home?</b>               | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| 1   | 8             | 19%            |
| 2 to 3  | 18            | 42%            |
| 4 to 6  | 15            | 35%            |
| 7   | 2             | 5%             |
| <b>How many people, including yourself are age 55 or older?</b>             |               |                |
| 0   | 2             | 5%             |
| 1   | 29            | 67%            |
| 2   | 7             | 16%            |
| 3   | 4             | 9%             |
| <i>Not reported</i>   | 1             | 2%             |
| <b>How many children under age 18 live in your home?</b>                    |               |                |
| 0   | 24            | 56%            |
| 1 to 2  | 11            | 26%            |
| 3 to 4  | 3             | 7%             |
| 5 to 6  | 3             | 7%             |
| <i>Not reported</i>   | 2             | 4%             |
| <b>How many grandchildren or other minor relatives are in your custody?</b> |               |                |
| 0   | 34            | 79%            |
| 1 to 2  | 6             | 14%            |
| 3 to 4  | -             | -              |
| 5 to 6  | 3             | 7%             |

*Note:* Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

## *Stable and permanent housing concerns*

Thirty-five percent of respondents indicate that they have been without permanent or stable housing in the last five years. Thirty percent of all respondents reported that their current housing is unstable and nearly half of the respondents were afraid that their housing would become unstable within the next year (28% said “yes” and 21% said “maybe”).

Of the 15 respondents that mentioned they had been without housing one or more times in the last five years, seven persons indicate that their current housing is temporary or unstable. In another analysis of the same 15 persons, six said “yes,” they are afraid they “may be in a temporary or unstable housing within the next year,” and another six persons said “maybe.” Forty-two percent of respondents mentioned that they may be or are planning to move within the next year. See Figure 9.

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### **9. Housing concerns**

| <b>In the last five years, have you ever been without permanent or stable housing?</b>               | <b>N=43</b>   |                |
|--|---------------|----------------|
|  | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| Yes  | 15            | 35%            |
| No   | 28            | 65%            |
| <b>If yes, how many times have you been without permanent or stable housing in the last 5 years?</b> |               |                |
|  | <b>N=15</b>   |                |
| 1  | 5             | 33%            |
| 2  | 2             | 13%            |
| 4  | 2             | 13%            |
| <i>Not reported</i>  | 6             | 40%            |
| <b>In the last five years, have you lived in tribal housing or on a reservation?</b>                 |               |                |
|  | <b>N=43</b>   |                |
| Yes  | 3             | 7%             |
| No   | 40            | 93%            |
| <b>Why did you move?</b>   |               |                |
|  | <b>N=3</b>    |                |
| No money/lost my job/unemployed  | 1             | 33%            |
| <i>Did not specify further</i>   | 2             | 67%            |

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## 9. Housing concerns (continued)

|  | N=43          |                |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Is your current housing situation temporary or unstable?</b>  | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| Yes  | 13            | 30%            |
| No   | 30            | 70%            |
| <b>Are you afraid that you may be in a temporary or unstable housing situation within the next year?</b> |               |                |
| Yes  | 12            | 28%            |
| Maybe  | 9             | 21%            |
| No   | 22            | 51%            |
| <b>Are you planning to move within the next year?</b>  |               |                |
| Yes  | 6             | 14%            |
| Maybe  | 12            | 28%            |
| No   | 25            | 58%            |

*Note: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.*

### ***Housing needs***

When asked questions related to special housing needs within the next three to five years, one-third of respondents (33%) indicate needing an assisted living facility for the elderly or disabled. Another 23 percent mention a residence for people with severe physical disabilities or health problems would be needed. Twenty-one percent would need a nursing home, and 5 individuals indicate needing an emergency shelter.

A majority of respondents (83%) would consider living in a housing complex with services, if there was one available in South Minneapolis. Seven individuals said they would not consider living there, one of whom said it was because s/he is still working, and another two persons mentioned they would prefer to go back to the reservation.

Forty-two percent of respondents mention they would need a place with two bedrooms. Thirty-two percent need housing with three or more bedrooms, and 27 percent need housing with just one bedroom. A majority (60%) of respondents do not own a car. See Figure 10.



## 10. Housing needs

| <b>N=43</b>  |                         |                          |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>In the next three to five years do you think that you will need to live any of the following types of housing?</b>                      | <b>Number<br/>"Yes"</b> | <b>Percent<br/>"Yes"</b> |
| An assisted living facility for elderly or disabled?   | 14                      | 33%                      |
| Residence for people with physical disabilities or severe health problems?   | 10                      | 23%                      |
| A nursing home for the elderly or disabled?  | 9                       | 21%                      |
| An emergency shelter?  | 5                       | 12%                      |
| <b>If a housing complex with services were available for American Indian elders in South Minneapolis, would you consider living there?</b> |                         |                          |
| <b>N=42</b>  |                         |                          |
| Yes  | 18                      | 43%                      |
| Maybe  | 17                      | 41%                      |
| No   | 7                       | 17%                      |
| <b>If no, why not?</b>   |                         |                          |
| <b>N=7</b>   |                         |                          |
| Still working  | 1                       | 14%                      |
| I would like to go back to the reservation   | 2                       | 29%                      |
| <i>Did not specify further</i>   | 4                       | 57%                      |
| <b>How many bedrooms do you need in your home?</b>   |                         |                          |
| <b>N=41</b>  |                         |                          |
| 1  | 11                      | 27%                      |
| 2  | 17                      | 42%                      |
| 3 or more  | 13                      | 32%                      |
| <b>Do you own a car?</b>   |                         |                          |
| <b>N=42</b>  |                         |                          |
| Yes  | 17                      | 41%                      |
| No   | 25                      | 60%                      |

*Note: Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.*

Approximately one-quarter (29%) of the elders who participated in this survey would require housing that is wheelchair accessible. Another half use a cane and/or other assistive devices and would likely benefit from having some handicapped accessible features in their housing. Nearly half (48%) of the respondents have chronic health conditions. See Figure 11.

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## 11. Health or medical accommodations

|   | N=42-43         |                  |
|---|-----------------|------------------|
|   | Number<br>"Yes" | Percent<br>"Yes" |
| <b>Physical disabilities</b>  |                 |                  |
| Do you need a housing unit that is designed for a person who is confined to a wheelchair? | 12              | 29%              |
| Do you use a wheelchair, walker or other assistive devices to get around in your home?    | 8               | 19%              |
| <b>What devices do you use?<sup>a</sup></b>   | <b>(n=8)</b>    |                  |
| Walker  | 4               | 50%              |
| Cane  | 2               | 25%              |
| Wheelchair  | 1               | 13%              |
| <i>Did not specify further</i>  | 3               | 38%              |
| <b>Do you have any severe or chronic health conditions?</b>                               | <b>N=42</b>     |                  |
| Yes   | 20              | 48%              |
| No  | 22              | 52%              |

<sup>a</sup> This was an open-ended question. Respondents could give up to two responses. Therefore, percentages do not add up to 100 percent.

When asked what special services they would need in a new elder housing facility, the most common responses were related to cultural activities, transportation, other social or recreational opportunities, and house cleaning services. Assistance with activities of daily living such as meal preparation, bathing and grooming, and nursing services are also needed by a significant proportion of respondents. In general, it appears that this group of respondents would need a fairly high level of care (or at least the option of accessing these services) in order to live comfortably and safely in a community setting (versus a nursing home). See Figure 12.

## 12. Elder housing: special services needed

| How important would it be for you to have the following services available at an elder housing facility? | N  | Very important |     | Somewhat important |     | Not important |     |
|--|----|----------------|-----|--------------------|-----|---------------|-----|
|  |    | Number         | %   | Number             | %   | Number        | %   |
| Assistance with bill paying, correspondence, banking   | 42 | 16             | 38% | 19                 | 45% | 7             | 17% |
| Congregate dining  | 43 | 13             | 30% | 21                 | 49% | 9             | 21% |
| Meals-on-Wheels (home-delivered meals)   | 43 | 20             | 47% | 15                 | 35% | 8             | 19% |
| Assistance with bathing, grooming, taking medication   | 43 | 10             | 23% | 17                 | 40% | 16            | 37% |
| Meal preparation assistance  | 43 | 10             | 23% | 17                 | 40% | 16            | 37% |
| Physical therapy services  | 43 | 15             | 35% | 19                 | 44% | 9             | 21% |
| Nursing services   | 43 | 18             | 42% | 16                 | 37% | 9             | 21% |
| House cleaning, laundry, shopping assistance   | 38 | 21             | 55% | 11                 | 29% | 6             | 16% |
| Transportation services  | 41 | 27             | 66% | 10                 | 24% | 4             | 10% |
| Religious services   | 38 | 15             | 40% | 12                 | 32% | 11            | 29% |
| Social recreational activities   | 40 | 25             | 63% | 9                  | 23% | 6             | 15% |
| A social worker  | 33 | 14             | 42% | 10                 | 30% | 9             | 27% |
| Cultural activities (American Indian crafts, language, traditional activities)                           | 41 | 31             | 76% | 7                  | 17% | 3             | 7%  |

*Note:* Total may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

It appears that air conditioning and community rooms or other large gathering areas are the features rated most important by the elders who participated in this survey. Internet access and exercise rooms appear to be relatively less important to these respondents.

See Figure 13.

## 13. Elder housing: amenities

| What features would be important to you in your apartment in an Elder housing complex? | N  | Very important |     | Somewhat important |     | Not important |     |
|--|----|----------------|-----|--------------------|-----|---------------|-----|
|  |    | Number         | %   | Number             | %   | Number        | %   |
| Internet access  | 43 | 13             | 30% | 11                 | 26% | 19            | 44% |
| Air conditioning   | 43 | 28             | 65% | 10                 | 23% | 5             | 12% |
| Cable TV   | 43 | 21             | 49% | 11                 | 26% | 11            | 26% |
| Unit with outdoor space (patio, balcony)   | 43 | 19             | 44% | 10                 | 23% | 14            | 33% |
| Common outdoor spaces, grass, trees, recreation area, picnic area                      | 43 | 23             | 54% | 12                 | 28% | 8             | 19% |
| Community rooms in building (rooms for family and friends to get together)             | 43 | 25             | 58% | 12                 | 28% | 6             | 14% |
| Exercise room in building  | 43 | 15             | 35% | 19                 | 44% | 9             | 21% |

*Note:* Total may not equal 100 percent due to rounding

Over half (54%) of respondents are in favor of allowing children to live with residents in an elder housing complex, while 33 percent had no opinion, and five individuals were opposed (Figure 14). When asked whether respondents would need housing to allow grandchildren to live with them, 48 percent said “yes,” 19 percent said “maybe,” and 33 percent said “no” (Figure 15). Forty percent were in favor of allowing small pets, 37 percent had no opinion on this matter, and 23 percent were opposed (Figure 16).

#### 14. Opinions about allowing children in the complex

|  | N  | I am in favor |     | I am opposed |     | No opinion |     |
|--|----|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|------------|-----|
|  |    | Number        | %   | Number       | %   | Number     | %   |
| How would you feel about allowing children or grandchildren (age 17 or younger) of residents to live with them in an Elder housing facility? | 43 | 24            | 56% | 5            | 12% | 14         | 33% |

*Note:* Total may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

#### 15. Housing requirements for grandchildren

| Do you need housing that would allow grandchildren to live with you? | N=42   |         |
|--|--------|---------|
|  | Number | Percent |
| Yes  | 20     | 48%     |
| Maybe  | 8      | 19%     |
| No   | 14     | 33%     |

#### 16. Opinions about allowing pets in the complex

|  | N  | I am in favor |     | I am opposed |     | No opinion |     |
|--|----|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|------------|-----|
|  |    | Number        | %   | Number       | %   | Number     | %   |
| How would you feel about allowing people to keep small pets in the Elder housing facility? | 43 | 17            | 40% | 10           | 23% | 16         | 37% |

More than half of the respondents (55%) would prefer that the American Indian Elder Housing facility be located in the Phillips neighborhood; 36 percent would prefer for it to be outside of Phillips, but in the city of Minneapolis; and 10 percent would like the facility to be located outside of Minneapolis. See Figure 17.

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**17. Preferred location for the elder housing complex**

| <b>What location would you prefer for an American Indian Elder housing facility?</b> | <b>N=42</b>   |                |
|--|---------------|----------------|
|  | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
| In the Phillips neighborhood   | 23            | 55%            |
| Outside of Phillips neighborhood, but in city of Minneapolis                         | 15            | 36%            |
| Outside the city of Minneapolis  | 4             | 10%            |

*Note: Total may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.*

# Issues to consider

These survey results indicate that there is some interest among American Indian elders for an American Indian elder housing facility in the Phillips Neighborhood of Minneapolis. It is important to note that the survey results are not representative of all American Indian elders in Minneapolis, because convenience sampling rather than scientific random sampling techniques were used. However, this results of this study can be used as an initial gauge of elders' willingness to consider various living arrangements and also to gain a better understanding of the amenities and services that would be most needed in an American Indian elder housing facility.

Many of the elders who participated in this survey indicated a preference for living in the Phillips Neighborhood of Minneapolis, but this is likely related to the fact that most of the respondents currently live in this neighborhood. Therefore, it would be important to do more research to determine the ideal location of such a facility. However, if the target population for this facility is elders currently living in the Phillips Neighborhood then it appears most appropriate to find a location in the Phillips Neighborhood for the housing development.

Based on respondents' answers regarding the services they currently use and their ratings of the importance of various services and amenities in a new housing facility, it seems that the option for assisted living and possibly even some skilled nursing care services would be a valuable and necessary option in any new American Indian elder housing facility. In addition, although respondents indicated a need for basic amenities such as air conditioning, their responses indicate that higher-level amenities such as Internet access may not be as highly valued.

Many respondents are responsible for the care of grandchildren and others have intermittent child caring responsibilities. Therefore, an American Indian elder housing facility should allow children to live with and/or visit the elder residents. In addition, intergenerational sharing and transmission of cultural values is an important part of American Indian culture and should be acknowledged by incorporating these cultural practices into the rules and informal culture of any new housing program.

Finally, many of the elders who participated in this survey reported a high level of interest in cultural activities and a need for community gathering space in their housing. Therefore, a new elder housing program should incorporate opportunities for residents to participate in cultural activities (both within and outside the facility) and to incorporate community spaces that could be used for private and/or community gatherings and events.

# Appendix

**American Indian Community Development Corporation  
Elder Housing Survey**

American Indian CDC is collecting information from American Indian elders (ages 55 and over) to assist us in the development of an American Indian assisted living facility or facilities in the Phillips neighborhood and/or surrounding area. Your participation in this study will greatly assist us with making informed decisions as we move along with this project. Your answers will be kept confidential and no names will be used in any final reports. Thank you for your time and participation!

1a. Are you an enrolled member of a tribe or band?

<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ Name of tribe or band: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> No →→ What tribe or band, if any, do you identify with? \_\_\_\_\_

1b. Do you speak the native language of your tribe or band?

<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ What is the language? \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> No

2. Which of the following age categories describes you?

<sup>1</sup> 55-65

<sup>2</sup> 65-74

<sup>3</sup> 75 or older

3. What type of housing do you live in now? **(CHECK ONE BOX.)**

<sup>1</sup> Single family house

<sup>2</sup> Multi-family house (duplex, four-plex, townhome)

<sup>3</sup> Apartment (high-rise, multi-unit building, condo)

<sup>4</sup> Other type of housing (PLEASE DESCRIBE: \_\_\_\_\_)

4. How much of your own money do you pay for your housing each month? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you own or rent you home? **(CHECK ONE BOX.)**

<sup>1</sup> I own my home

<sup>2</sup> I rent my home

<sup>3</sup> Live rent-free with relatives or friends

6. Do you receive Section 8 housing assistance?

<sup>1</sup> Yes

<sup>2</sup> No

<sup>8</sup> Don't know



7. Do you receive any other kinds (besides or in addition to Section 8) of housing assistance or subsidy including U.S. government or tribal assistance?  
<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ Who provides this assistance? \_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>2</sup> No  
<sup>8</sup> Don't know
8. How many people, including yourself, live in your home?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people
- 9a. How many people who live in your home, including yourself, are age 55 or older?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people
- 9b. How many children under age 18 live in your home?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of children
10. Do you have grandchildren or other minor relatives who are in your custody?  
<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ How many? \_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>2</sup> No
11. What income category best matches your total income for the last month, including all sources of income? **(CHECK ONE CATEGORY.)**  
<sup>1</sup> \$0 to \$250  
<sup>2</sup> \$251 to \$500  
<sup>3</sup> \$501 to \$1,000  
<sup>4</sup> \$1,001 to \$2,000  
<sup>5</sup> \$2,001 to \$3,000  
<sup>6</sup> More than \$3,000
12. Did you or any other person living in your household receive income from the following in the last month? **(CHECK YES OR NO FOR EACH.)**

|  | Yes                                   | No                                    | Don't know                            |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Income from paid employment                             | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| b. Income from side jobs like babysitting or housecleaning | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| c. General assistance                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| d. MFIP  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| e. SSDI (Social Security Disability Income)                | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| f. Social Security   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| g. Child support   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |
| h. Other income sources: _____                             | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>8</sup> |

13a. In the last five years, have you ever been without permanent or stable housing? This includes having to stay on the street, in a shelter, staying temporarily with friends or family because you have no place of your own.

<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ How many times in last 5 years? \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> No

13b. In the last five years, have you lived in tribal housing or on a reservation?

<sup>1</sup> Yes →→ Why did you move? \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> No

14. Is your current housing situation temporary or unstable?

<sup>1</sup> Yes

<sup>2</sup> No

15. Are you afraid that you may be in a temporary or unstable housing situation within the next year?

<sup>1</sup> Yes

<sup>2</sup> Maybe

<sup>3</sup> No

16. Are you planning to move within the next year?

<sup>1</sup> Yes

<sup>2</sup> Maybe

<sup>3</sup> No

17. In the next three to five years do you think you will need to live in any of the following types of housing?

|   | Probably<br>yes                       | Probably<br>not                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Residence for people with physical disabilities or severe health problems? | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |
| b. An assisted living facility for elderly or disabled?                       | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |
| c. A nursing home for the elderly or disabled?                                | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |
| d. An emergency shelter?  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |

18. If a housing complex with services were available for American Indian elders in South Minneapolis, would you consider living there?

<sup>1</sup> Yes

<sup>2</sup> Maybe

<sup>3</sup> No →→ Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

## Space and Personal Needs in Elder Housing

19. How many bedrooms do you need in your home? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of bedrooms
20. Do you need a housing unit that is designed for a person who is confined to a wheelchair?
- <sup>1</sup> Yes
- <sup>2</sup> No

## Expectations for Services

21. How important would it be for you to have the following services available at an Elder housing facility?

|  | Very important                        | Somewhat important                    | Not important                         |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Assistance with bill paying, correspondence, banking                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| b. Congregate dining   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| c. Meals-on-wheels (Home-delivered meals)  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| d. Assistance with bathing, grooming, taking medication                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| e. Meal preparation assistance   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| f. Physical therapy services   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| g. Nursing services  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| h. Housecleaning, laundry, shopping assistance                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| i. Transportation services   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| j. Religious services  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| k. Social/recreational activities  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| l. A social worker   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| m. Cultural activities (American Indian crafts, language, traditional practices) | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |

22. What features would be important to you in your apartment in an Elder housing complex?

|   | Very important                        | Somewhat important                    | Not important                         |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Internet access  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| b. Air conditioning   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| c. Cable TV   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| d. Unit with outdoor space (patio, balcony)                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| e. Common outdoor spaces, grass, trees, recreation area, picnic area          | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| f. Community rooms in building (rooms for family and friends to get together) | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| g. Exercise room in building  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> |

- 23a. How would you feel about allowing children or grandchildren (age 17 or younger) of residents to live with them in an Elder housing facility?
- <sup>1</sup> I am in favor of this
- <sup>2</sup> I am opposed to this
- <sup>3</sup> I have no opinion about this
- 23b. Do you need housing that would allow grandchildren to live with you?
- <sup>1</sup> Yes
- <sup>2</sup> Maybe
- <sup>3</sup> No
24. How do you feel about allowing people to keep small pets in the Elder housing facility?
- <sup>1</sup> I am in favor of this
- <sup>2</sup> I am opposed to this
- <sup>3</sup> I have no opinion about this
25. What location would you prefer for an American Indian Elder housing facility? **(CHECK ONE.)**
- <sup>1</sup> In the Phillips neighborhood
- <sup>2</sup> Outside of Phillips neighborhood, but in city of Minneapolis
- <sup>3</sup> Outside of the city of Minneapolis
26. Do you use a wheelchair, walker or other assistive devices to get around in your home?
- <sup>1</sup> Yes →→ What devices do you use? \_\_\_\_\_
- <sup>2</sup> No
27. Do you own a car?
- <sup>1</sup> Yes
- <sup>2</sup> No
28. Do you have any severe or chronic health conditions?
- <sup>1</sup> Yes →→ Please list them: \_\_\_\_\_
- <sup>2</sup> No \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

29. Please indicate your ability to do the following tasks:

|                                 | Can do this<br><u>without</u><br>help | Can do this<br><u>with</u><br>help    | Someone<br><u>else</u> needs<br>to do this<br>for me |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| a. Preparing meals              | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| b. Shopping                     | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| c. Laundry                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| d. Housekeeping (cleaning)      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| e. Personal grooming            | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| f. Bathing                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| g. General house maintenance    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| h. Yard work                    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| i. Managing personal finances   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| j. Taking medications correctly | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |
| k. Transportation               | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>                |

30a. At this time, do you get help or services to do the following tasks?

|                                 | IF YES:                               |                                       | 30b. Who helps you or provides this service?<br>Please list all sources of help, formal (such as home health agencies or other social service organizations) and informal (such as relatives or friends). |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
|                                 | Yes                                   | No                                    |   |
| a. Preparing meals              | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| b. Shopping                     | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| c. Laundry                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| d. Housekeeping (cleaning)      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| e. Personal grooming            | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| f. Bathing                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| g. General house maintenance    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| h. Yard work                    | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| i. Managing personal finances   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| j. Taking medications correctly | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |
| k. Transportation               | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup> |   |

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!**