



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Minnesota has struggled to deal with poverty and homelessness as more families have experienced personal and economic challenges; and
- WHEREAS: Giving families a safe place to stay, with access to services in one single location, has proven to be an effective way to help people escape the cycle of poverty; and
- WHEREAS: Homeless shelters and other facilities in the Twin Cities are at capacity and unable to provide comprehensive services to overcome the changing landscape of homelessness; and
- WHEREAS: Higher Ground is a first-of-its-kind housing facility in Minnesota, helping people rise out of homelessness. The seven-story building in downtown Minneapolis will offer 336 housing units for people experiencing varying degrees of homelessness; and
- WHEREAS: Higher Ground is a new housing model that aims to end long-term homelessness in Minnesota by including on-site job skills training, a computer lab, mental health services, and direct health support; and
- WHEREAS: Higher Ground will be operated by Catholic Charities, which worked with the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, the Community Housing Development Corporation, and other businesses and foundations to design, fund, and build the facility; and
- WHEREAS: On Thursday, June 7, 2012, Minnesota will celebrate the grand opening of Higher Ground with a dedication ceremony.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim June 7, 2012 as:

## HIGHER GROUND DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE