



**Homes
within
Reach™**

Bulletin

Summer 2016

The Path to Family Stability

A HOMEOWNER'S STORY

Kirbi Premkumar knew she needed to find a new place in life, and a home for her two young kids.

"I was a newly divorced single mom with a college degree, but no career work experience," she explained.

"I hit the job search trail hard and soon found a position as a health fitness advisor for SUPERVALU," she said. "And then a friend from church let us stay in the living room of her one-bedroom apartment."

Living and sleeping in the front room of a small rental was helpful — but a short term solution at best.

Now I have the freedom to pursue both family and community goals.

She discovered HWR via an acquaintance, and shortly thereafter another step on her new journey began.

After being approved by HWR, her home search started. "I was impressed with how HWR's municipal, legal and financial partners collaborated to make it all happen," she said.

As a result of that team effort, four months later she and the kids purchased a three bedroom rambler in a quiet, safe St. Louis Park neighborhood.



The home features an updated exterior, modern kitchen, and a finished basement and large back yard where the kids play.

"I've even got my own cherry tree out back!," she exclaimed.

Now Kirbi and the kids can enjoy family life to the fullest.

"We had about thirty friends and relatives over for Thanksgiving last year — every room in the house was filled," she said.

We've even got our own cherry tree!

"Community and personal relationships are what's most important to me, and now I have the freedom to pursue those goals." As part of that commitment, she was recently elected to the HWR board of directors.

As so often happens, life improves in many other ways when families have stability at home.

The kids are thriving, Kirbi has had two recent job promotions, and she's enrolled in a master's program to earn an advanced degree in public health.

It looks like she's found that new place called home.

-  Learn about the HWR Community Land Trust
-  Homeownership is just a few steps away
-  Receive HWR news & events emails

HOME ABOUT FAQ ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION HOMES NEWS & EVENTS RESOURCES FUND DEVELOPMENT CONTACT

 **Homes within Reach**
Wood Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust

AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR WORKING FAMILIES



We recently launched our new website, with updated branding and technology.

This will promote communications with current and prospective homeowners, municipal and service partners, and government and private funding sources.

-Transforming Lives Through Homeownership Since 2002-

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Homes Within Reach

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2015 Annual Meeting Notes

Our November 2015 Annual Meeting was a productive and fun gathering that was well-attended. Highlights of the evening at Pizza Lucia in Hopkins include:

- ◆ Celebrating new and current homeowners with introductions, social time, good food and door prizes.
- ◆ Recognizing the commitment and achievements of four departing board members – Winnie White-Scherber, Joel Papa, Patti Marrinan and Robert Hamilton.
- ◆ The election of four new board members – Vicki Siskin, Brad Wiersum, Kirbi Premkumar and Shayla Anderson.
- ◆ Announcing an upcoming partnership with the City of Bloomington.
- ◆ Board President Brian Sullivan reported progress on HWR’s four Strategic Plan initiatives:
 - ◇ Continue expanding the HWR Community Land Trust program.
 - ◇ Remain financially stable.
 - ◇ Expand, strengthen and nurture partnerships and collaboration.
 - ◇ Support and influence housing policies and regulations to enable HWR to allocate resources to provide affordable homeownership options in the suburbs of Hennepin County.

Our Vision

To transform people’s lives through homeownership.

Our Mission

To use the Community Land Trust practice to create and preserve affordable homeownership for families in suburban Hennepin County.

Our Core Values

- > Belief in homeownership.
- > Bringing stability into people’s lives.
- > Creating value for communities and families.



“Owning a home has inspired me to pursue more education and other life goals.” HWR Homeowner

Transforming Lives Through Homeownership Since 2002