RS EDEN’s Emanuel Housing is a sober, supportive apartment building located directly across from the Vikings Stadium on 3rd Street. Emanuel Housing opened in August of 2013 and leases apartments to 101 individuals who have committed to living a sober lifestyle and being a productive and positive member of the surrounding community.

Shortly after opening, our tenants experienced a full season of tailgating on all four sides of the building during the Vikings’ final season in the Metrodome. The tailgating impacted every tenant of Emanuel Housing in some way, and for many of them it changed their feeling of safety week after week.

**Sobriety:** Our tenants have signed a lease addendum committing to live a sober lifestyle. A majority of our tenants are in recovery from alcohol and/or drug addiction. During tailgating activities, almost every individual they encounter on any side of the building is holding alcohol, and many of them are exuberantly offering alcohol to anyone who wants to spend time tailgating with them. Because the vast majority of our tenants travel on foot and via public transportation, this is hard to avoid and can serve as a trigger for any individuals who are in recovery.

**Access to Emanuel Housing:** We provide a 24-hour secure building for our tenants. There is a staff person at the front desk 24 hours a day, and the entry door is controlled by that staff. When the many individuals tailgating are sharing a small number of portable toilets, they tend to seek access to cleaner, more available restrooms. During the 2013 season, it was very common to have many individuals a day who were tailgating and intoxicated, attempt to gain access to our building to use the restroom. We also experienced having intoxicated tailgaters urinating onto the new shrubbery along our fence line that backs one of the tailgate parking lots. When our front desk staff’s time is spent discouraging tailgaters from entering the building, and discouraging damages to our property, they are less available to serve the tenants whose rent pays for their services.

**Staff Costs:** Every week there was tailgating we increased staff to twice the number onsite to help deal with the problems that occur. This is an additional cost to our limited staff budget.

**Litter:** During the 2013 football season, there was a constant presence of alcohol containers and trash on the ground surrounding Emanuel Housing and the block it sits on. Though some parking lot managers did an effective job of cleaning up after tailgaters, many did not, and the areas not directly controlled by parking lot managers were always littered with trash and empty bottles throughout the season. Our tenants are proud to keep our property clean and litter-free, but the area surrounding the building is littered with more and more trash week after week during the football season.