IMPACT STATEMENT REGARDING TAILGATING AT NEW VIKINGS STADIUM

People Serving People is the largest family-focused shelter in Minnesota. It is a multiservice facility combining emergency housing with comprehensive support services, empowering homeless families to overcome their barriers to stability and return to self-sufficiency. Our mission is to serve homeless children and their families and provide new opportunities for healthy, stable family life.

People Serving People is a sober facility housing families with children of all ages. Last year, we sheltered 1,238 families, including 1,935 children from birth to age 17. While we provide a variety of services, our foremost focus is on the safety and welfare of children and families staying at People Serving People.

The upcoming completion of the new Vikings stadium brings renewed excitement to our Downtown East neighborhood; however, the potential for expanded tailgating close to our facility poses two concerns for our organization and our guests, specifically relating to alcohol consumption and litter.

- There is increased potential for negative interactions, both verbal and physical, between our guests and tailgaters, the latter of who may consume alcohol over an extended period of time in close proximity to People Serving People.
- Based on previous experience, tailgating frequently results in a significant increase of litter around our building, which strains our limited cleaning and litter removal resources. The additional litter also hurts our reputation among our neighbors, who may believe that our guests are doing the littering.

We look forward to working with the City, Vikings team, and our neighbors to support this important new amenity in our neighborhood, while also respecting the work we do and the children and families we serve.

Thank you,

Daniel Gummit
Chief Executive Officer