

Community Resources & News | February 2026

Note: External links may not be ADA accessible, contact the sponsoring agency for an accessible format.

February Celebrations & Small Actions

- **All Month – Black History Month**

Learn something local. Read about a Black leader, business, or organization in your community and share what you learn with someone else.

- **February 11 – 211 Day**

Take five minutes to learn what [211](#) offers in your area so you can connect someone to help when it matters.

- **February 14 – Valentine’s Day**

Broaden the definition of love. Send a note of appreciation to a friend, volunteer, neighbor, or colleague who quietly makes things better.

- **February 16, – Presidents Day**

Civic life starts close to home. Read a City update, attend a meeting, or learn one new way to engage locally.

- **February 17 – Lunar New Year**

Celebrate renewal and welcome the Fire Horse, a symbol of adventure, vitality, and momentum. Wish someone a happy new year, support a local Asian-owned business, or reflect on what you want to carry forward into the year ahead. [Lunar New Year Shamanic Drum Journey](#).

- **February 17 – Random Acts of Kindness Day**

Keep it simple. Hold a door, leave a kind note, shovel a sidewalk, or donate to your favorite charity.

- **Evening of February 17 – Ramadan Begins**

Practice consideration. Be mindful of meeting times, food-centered gatherings, and energy levels. A little flexibility and a kind word go a long way.

Free Food Distribution

- **Food in the ‘Hood at Cedar Valley Church | 8600 Bloomington Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55425 | Enter door #2**

- Hot meal and grocery distribution is from 5 – 7 pm every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month (Feb. 3rd and 17th).
- No income requirement. High quality groceries: dairy, meat, bread, fruits, vegetables, and non-perishables.
- [*Good In the ‘Hood website](#)

- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul/St. Bonaventure Conference | 900 East 90th Street, Bloomington, MN 55420**

- Open Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Drive-up Food Shelf is in the south parking lot in the activities building
- Drive-up orders/delivery to your car
- No appointment is needed
- [Info on Food Shelf and Emergency Assistance](#)

- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul/Nativity of Mary Conference| 9900 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420**

- Saturday, Feb. 14th & 28th from 8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- Volunteers will distribute food to all who come. Limit of 2 families per vehicle.
- For emergency Assistance, call 952-767-5521 or email Christopher.dietzen@gmail.com or bartzgregory@gmail.com
- [website](#)
- Volunteers needed

- **Campus Cupboard | Normandale Community College, 9700 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431 | A 1565 (Activities building on the first floor/ground level)**
 - Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 - **Closed Feb. 3rd for an all-employee development day**
 - The Campus Cupboard is a free resource on campus that provides food to any Normandale student and anyone from the community.
 - People can come as often as they want and get non-perishable food (food that does not need to be refrigerated), fresh and frozen food, and meals on the go.
 - [More info and ways to donate and volunteer](#)
- **VEAP Food Pantry | 9600 Aldrich Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420**
 - Appointments are requested
 - VEAP offers multiple ways to access healthy foods, including in-store shopping and home delivery. Households are welcome to schedule one appointment each month (in-store or home delivery). “Express” services, a selection of fresh produce and shelf-stable foods, are available Monday through Thursday for those without appointments.
 - Call **952-888-9616** to schedule an appointment for food or to connect with a member of our Social Services team. We can help with rent and utility assistance for those who qualify.
 - Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Fridays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. | [VEAP Food Shelf Website](#) | [Directions to VEAP](#) | visit [VEAP events calendar](#) for holiday closing dates and VEAP Mobile distribution sites and schedules.
- **Loaves and Fishes Community Meal Sites**
 - Christ the King Lutheran Church | 8600 Fremont Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420
 - Mondays through Fridays from 5 to 6 p.m.
 - To-go meals served at the main doors under the overhang. In-person meal service is also offered.
 - Hope Presbyterian Church | 7132 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423
 - Mondays through Fridays from 5 to 6 p.m.
 - Enter the parking lot off Portland Avenue or 4th Avenue South. To-go meals will be served from Door #4.
 - [For more community meal sites and information](#)
 - [Volunteer at Loaves & Fishes](#)
- **Bloomington Community Pantry**
 - 10835 Russell Ave. S, Bloomington, MN
 - Open 24/7 for all who need it. Works on an honor system.
 - Canned goods brought in at 8 pm and back by 10 am to prevent freezing.

Low-Cost Food Distribution

Ruby's Pantry Pop-Up Pantry | Bloomington Lutheran Church, 9350 Portland Ave S, Bloomington

2 Monday of the Month (Feb. 9) | 5 – 6:30 pm

Express Track Reservations are now open for the Bloomington Ruby's Pantry distribution. Reservations are available online until 3:00 pm the day before the event, or until spots fill. Express Track allows you to reserve bundles in advance, pay by debit or credit card, and choose a pickup time. Visit [*rubyspantry.org](#), select Find a Location, and choose Bloomington, MN to reserve.

Express Track is optional. Day-of bundles will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is **\$25 cash donation per bundle at the site.**

Ruby's Pantry is open to anyone looking to stretch their grocery budget. There are no income or residency requirements.

[The Food Group](#) | We're a nonprofit working at the intersection of equity and access to fresh, sustainable foods. From farming to distribution, we provide fresh food across Minnesota. Fare For All, our pop-up grocery store that sells packs of fresh produce and frozen meat at up to 40% off retail prices. To find a location near you, go [here](#).

[Fare for All at Bloomington Covenant Church | 10150 Xerxes Ave S, Minneapolis, MN, USA](#)

Distribution will take place from 11 am – 1 pm.

Important: Fare for All services at metro sites will close after February 2026. 2/20/20 will be the final distribution at the Bloomington Fare for All.

Helpful Websites

- [211UnitedWay.org](#) | United Way 211 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. We're here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with the resources and information you need.
- [988lifeline.org](#) | At the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, we understand that life's challenges can sometimes be difficult. Whether you're facing mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug use concerns, or just need someone to talk to, our caring counselors are here for you. You are not alone.
- [The Advocates for Human Rights](#) | The Advocates represents people in the Upper Midwest who are seeking asylum, detained by immigration, unaccompanied children, or trafficking victims.
- [ArriveMinistries.org](#) | Arrive Ministries is a refugee resettlement agency providing essential services and practical assistance to refugees and immigrants to advance self-sufficiency.
- [Caphennepin.org](#) | There are many organizations in Hennepin County that serve people with low income. Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC) works with the community to identify gaps in service, design programs that bridge those gaps, and collaborate with other service-provider organizations that complement our work.
- [CareerForce](#) | CareerForce can help you explore your options, showcase your skills with a solid resume and prepare for the interviewing process. We do this through individual appointments, as well as through in-person, live online and recorded workshops at no cost to you.
- [City of Bloomington Community Resources](#) | The City's core function is to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of its community members. The resources listed are provided by the City or link to local, regional, and state partners that support this core function. Also, check out [blm.mn/immigration](#) page.
- [Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio \(CLUES\)](#) | Our work is to ensure the advancement of social and economic equity and wellbeing for Latinos in Minnesota. CLUES has offices on the East Side of St. Paul, Lake Street in Minneapolis, and also Willmar and Austin in Greater MN.
- [Cope: mobile crisis response](#) | The Cope mobile crisis team can come to where you are. Cope responds to anyone in Hennepin County who needs an urgent response—individuals, families or communities. We have bi-lingual and bi-cultural staff available for face-to-face, phone, and video visits and uses interpreters when needed. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Call 612-596-1223.
 - **COPE Traumatic Event Response Team** provides psychological first aid, healing circles, etc. This team tailors its work to the specific needs of the community and the event. This requires coordination for structure, scheduling, and other logistic needs. Requests for this team should be directed to **Adesola Jaiyesimi** in Behavioral Health: Adesola.Jaiyesimi@hennepin.us.
- [Creating Parental Authority documents \(LawHelpMN.org\)](#) | Delegation of Parental Authority (DOPA)
- [Dios Habla Hoy \(DHH\) Operation](#) | DHH Operation exists to serve with dignity, compassion, and consistency—helping families stay fed, supported, and cared for during difficult times.
- [FastTrackerMN.org](#) | A free search tool that helps Minnesotans find real-time service availability for mental health and substance use disorder care. Whether you're searching for yourself, a loved one, a patient, or just exploring options, this is a great place to start.
- [FindHelp.org](#) | Findhelp can connect you with local food pantries and meal programs. You can also find resources for housing, financial assistance, health care, and more.

- [**HelpMeConnect**](#) | Resource portal for expecting and parenting families with young children, and those working with them.
- [**Hennepin County Emergency Assistance**](#) | When Hennepin County residents are in a financial crisis that poses a direct threat to their physical health or safety, the county may be able to help by providing short-term aid such as emergency temporary shelter, rent help, utility shut-off prevention, healthcare assistance and more.
- [**HOME Line**](#) | HOME Line provides free and low-cost legal, organizing, education, and advocacy services so that tenants throughout Minnesota can solve their own rental housing problems. We work to improve public and private policies relating to rental housing by involving affected tenants in the process.
- [**HousingLink.org**](#) | Minnesota's primary source for affordable housing-related openings, data, information and resources.
- [**Immigrant Law Center of MN**](#) | ILCM provides free immigration legal representation to low-income immigrants and refugees in Minnesota and North Dakota based on our capacity. [Comprehensive List of Resources](#) can also be found on our website.
- [**InspireChangeClinic.org**](#) | Inspire Change Clinic (ICC) is dedicated to enhancing healthcare accessibility, removing barriers, and improving health literacy in marginalized communities. Our mission is to provide high-quality, culturally responsive healthcare and education to empower individuals and families in Minnesota.
- [**Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health**](#) | Resource on how to support children when they're afraid of parent's deportation and how to support after a parent's deportation or detention.
- [**Native American Rights Fund**](#) | Resources for individuals and nonprofits approached by ICE.
- [**NexusFamilyHealing.org**](#) | Provide immediate, in-person support and stabilization for youth (ages 0-18) and their parents/caregivers in Hennepin County. Spanish speaking therapist available.
- [**Oasis for Youth**](#) | Oasis for Youth provides case management support and rental assistance to youth who live, work or go to school in Richfield, Bloomington, Edina and surrounding suburbs who are at risk of losing their housing. To learn more about eligibility requirements and the application process, contact us at 952-512-2061.
- [**St. Mary's Health Clinics**](#) | We provide free health care services to many uninsured persons. Services provided include the patient's visit to the clinic, lab tests, x-rays, diagnostic tests, and most medications. Specialty referrals are provided to the patient without charge through coordinated efforts with area health care providers. To be eligible for care, a patient must be without health insurance and cannot be receiving assistance from any government subsidy program such as Medicare, Medical Assistance, or MinnesotaCare. For more information about the requirements necessary to qualify, or to make an appointment, call (651) 287-7777 Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm and Friday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. or inquire at info@stmarysclinics.org.
- [**Refugee and Immigrant Helpline**](#) | Part of the MN Department of Human Services Resettlement Programs, the Refugee and Immigrant Helpline is a connection to helpful information, resources and services in your community. Our navigators are here to provide support and guidance you can trust. We value your privacy. Navigators are ready to answer questions in English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili and Ukrainian. Interpreters who speak more languages can connect to your call. 1-800-814-4806
- [**Youth Services Network**](#) | Helping youth find shelter and services.

Housing

Plymouth Housing Authority Opening | Bring It Home Wait List

- **Wait List Opens:** Tuesday, February 17th at 8:00 am
- **Wait List Closes:** Wednesday, February 18th at 8:00 pm

The Bring It Home (BIH) Rental Assistance program is a new program funded through MN Housing to create rental assistance for low-income families across Minnesota. This is a tenant-based rental assistance program where

tenants pay approximately 30% of their income towards their rent. Plymouth HRA Bring it Home vouchers remain in Plymouth and are NOT portable to any other housing authority or jurisdiction. [See eligibility details and how to apply.](#)

Bulletin Board

Passport Application

The [Bloomington City Clerk's office](#) is a passport application acceptance facility. We accept applications by appointment. If you have concerns and need an expedited passport appointment, please contact City Clerk Jamy Hanson directly at (952) 563-4946.

Hennepin County Office of Multi-Cultural Services:

Office of Multi-Cultural Services (OMS) is designed to provide support and resources to individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds. Residents we serve have access to culturally specific case management assistants who provide resources, bridge cultural gaps, provide support to refugees and persons with varying immigration statuses by connecting them to services and navigating systems.

OMS Case Management Assistant (CMAs) speak more than 20 languages. OMS CMAs work out of the South Minneapolis Human Services Center and at several collocation sites throughout Hennepin County. CMAs assist with applying for Social Security, identifying housing options, connecting to food resources, supporting seniors and a host of other services designed to support health, safety, and stability. All CMAs are mobile and can serve residents in the community, virtually, in their homes or at a county office.

Website: <https://www.hennepin.us/en/residents/human-services/multi-cultural-services>

Referral link to OMS CMA: [Office of Multi-Cultural Services - Community Outreach Liaison Referral](#)

Address: 2215 East Lake Street Minneapolis MN 55407 – walk in services available Monday-Friday from 8:00-4:30pm

Phone number: 612-348-2193

Share your thoughts and concerns with your representatives

Minnesota Secretary of State [Polling Place Finder](#) will tell you not only where you vote, based on your home address, but also lets you know your Congressional District, your Minnesota State Senate and House districts, school district and other elected offices for which you vote.

Contact Information

- [U.S. Representatives and Senators from Minnesota](#)
- [Minnesota Governor](#)
- [State House of Representatives](#)
- [State Senate](#)
- [County Commissioner](#)
- [City Council](#)

2026 AARP Community Challenge | A grant program to make communities more livable for people of all ages

AARP is accepting applications for the 2026 funding cycle that:

- Deliver tangible improvements to communities, such as new crosswalks, benches, bike lanes, housing designs, and public space enhancements.
- Leverage additional support from public, private, and philanthropic sources
- Help communities overcome policy barriers and implement lasting change
- Foster new collaborations and increase community engagement
- For more details, go [*here](#).

Minnesota Social Service Association Scholarships

Minnesota Social Service Association scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 school year are open now through March 31. Scholarship opportunities include:

- **Children and Families Impact Scholarships (15 available at \$5,000 each)**
These scholarships are open to both undergrad and graduate students. The purpose of this scholarship is to support BIPOC students who are pursuing careers where they will work with children and families in Minnesota.
- **Diversity Scholarship (2 undergrad available at \$2,500 each, 3 graduate available at \$3,000 each)**
The purpose of this scholarship is to work toward the elimination of disparities within the health and human service system.
- **Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarship (3 graduate available at \$3,000 each, 2 undergraduate available at \$2,000 each)**
The purpose of this scholarship is to support students who are pursuing careers in the human service/social work field in Minnesota.
- [**SEE FULL DETAILS & APPLY**](#)



Civics Bee City-wide Championship | Tues, Feb. 3, 7 pm

Bloomington Civic Plaza—Council Chambers

1800 W. Old Shakopee Road

Moderated by Mayor Busse

Top student performers from Oak Grove, Olson and Valley View Middle Schools Compete for the Championship.

Come support our students and find out if you're smarter than a 7th grader.

FREE Winter 2025-2026 Programs at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Join us for free programming this winter at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge! This month we are hosting a mix of indoor and outdoor programs to connect with nature throughout the winter. Please visit our [website](#) for our full calendar of events and for registration information.

Highlights this month in Bloomington:

- Nature Discovery Day: Hearts in Nature (Sunday, February 8th from 10am - 12pm) Bloomington Visitor Center - no registration required
- Nature Novice: Winter Birding (Saturday, February 14th from 1-2 pm) Bloomington Visitor Center - optional registration

Manage utility bills with free resources | Wed, February 25, 2-4 pm | Penn Lake Library | 8800 Penn Ave. S.

Join the City for Utility Bill Skills. Learn how to manage your utility bills and apply for assistance. Learn how to save money on electric, heat, water, and garbage bills. Enjoy free snacks, coffee, and tea. Spanish and Somali interpretation available. Can't make it in person? Schedule a virtual chat with sustainability specialists blm.mn/sustainablechats or call/text 612-394-6442.

Who will be there?

- [Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota](#)
- [Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County](#)
- [City of Bloomington Solid Waste](#)
- [City of Bloomington Sustainability](#)



Travel as a part of the Official Sister City Student Delegation!
The Bloomington Sister City Organization is pleased to announce its bi-annual student delegation to our sister city of Izumi, Osaka, Japan on **June 9-22, 2026**. Delegates will stay with host families in Izumi City and engage in guided tours around the Osaka area.

The Bloomington Sister City Organization is currently in search of **10 middle/high school students** to participate in this exchange. [To learn more](#), or to apply to participate in this exciting intercultural opportunity, please scan QR code below or email bloomingtonsistercity@gmail.com for an application. **Applications are due by April 1, 2026.**



Tech Fest at the Works Museum | Saturday, Feb. 21, 10 am – 4 pm

Tech Fest is our annual family-friendly engineering and technology fair. At Tech Fest, kids and their grown-ups can explore hands-on activities, build together, and meet inspiring STEM role models. It's a fun and exciting introduction to engineering, offering opportunities for problem-solving and real-world connections.

Admission: Presale tickets \$15 | Event Day \$17 | Members Free

Get tickets: <https://www.theworks.org/tech-fest-event>

The Artist's Way Book Club – Spring 2026

Local artists and creatives are invited to join a 12-week guided journey through The Artist's Way, beginning March 3, 2026, and concluding May 19, 2026, with a brief welcome week prior.

This low-cost, inclusive program supports individuals who are reconnecting with their creative practice or seeking a supportive community. Weekly 90-minute gatherings include optional discussion, reflection, and relaxed hands-on making. An optional Zoom option is available to support accessibility. [Register here](#)

Homestead Art Camps – Spring Break & Summer Camps

Homestead Art Camps offer youth a hands-on creative experience rooted in slow making, curiosity, and connection to the natural world. Campers explore art alongside seasonal garden activities such as planting, observing, sketching, and building. Offered during Spring Break and Summer 2026.

[Camp details and registration](#)

Virtual Psychological First Aid Classes--Free

Psychological First Aid (PFA) is an evidence-informed approach that is built on the concept of human resilience. PFA aims to reduce stress symptoms and assist in a healthy recovery following a traumatic event, natural disaster, public health emergency, or even a personal crisis. Emotional distress is not always as visible as a physical injury but is just as painful and debilitating. After going through a life altering experience, it is common to be affected emotionally. While physical First Aid is used to reduce physical discomfort due to a bodily injury, Psychological First Aid is a strategy to reduce the painful range of emotions and responses experienced by people exposed to high stress. Continuing Education Units are available to completers.

Upcoming training courses:

- Wednesday, Feb. 4, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 24, 12 – 2 p.m.

- Tuesday, March 10, 2 – 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 25, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- [To register go here.](#) Or scan QR code



Community

Little Pet Library

A local Girl Scout troop created a Little Pet Library at the Bloomington Animal Shelter to help pet owners access free supplies. They planned, built and continue to restock the library as an ongoing way to support animals and pet owners in the community. [View](#)



Support Your Neighbors

More than 70 Bloomington families are requesting housing assistance for February, with more reaching out each day. Donations will support the Bloomington Mutual Aid fund, helping families stay housed, fed, and supported without having to choose between safety and survival. Thanks to a generous family, who is deeply rooted in the Twin Cities, gifts will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$70,000.

All gifts given to the Bloomington Mutual Aid Fund through Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. You will receive an automatic tax receipt in your email after donating. To donate, go to <https://givebutter.com/bloomingtonma>.



Richfield's Annual 'Share the Love' Community Food Drive

February 1–28

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

1. Collect shelf-stable food and personal care items at your home or Richfield-based business throughout the month of February!
2. Bring donations to your favorite [participating city building, business](#), or directly to VEAP! *Open building hours vary.
3. Encourage your friends and neighbors to participate by spreading the word.

4. Sign up to volunteer at VEAP. Learn more: www.richfieldmn.gov/fooddrive

Most needed items: <https://veap.org/most-needed-items/>

Shop Local. Support our small businesses. Here are a few in Bloomington and Richfield.

- [Action Hair Salon](#) | 10514 France Ave S
- [Andale Taqueria & Mercado](#) | 7700 Nicollet Ave
- [Agape African Market](#) | 8746 Lyndale Ave. S
- [Amazing Momo's](#) | 5113 W 98th Street
- [Bullvino's Churrascaria](#) | 5121 W 98th St
- [Chan Oriental Market](#) | 9016 Lyndale Ave S
- [Clawzone Park](#) | 7700 W. Old Shakopee Road, #200
- [Colonial Market Bloomington](#) | 8100 31st Ave S
- [Dosa Restaurant](#) | 8654 Lyndale Ave S
- [El Guanaco Bakery y Café II](#) | 7837 Portland Ave

- Estrella Super Market | 9070 Lyndale Ave. S
- [Grand Szechuan Restaurant](#) | 10602 France Ave S
- [Gyropolis](#) | 2325 W. 90th Street
- [Itton Ramen](#) | 2137 W. 80th ½ Street Dr
- [Las Cuatro Milpas Restaurant Bar](#) | 415 E. 78th Street
- [Luna Di Luna](#) | 8820 Lyndale Ave S
- [Luro Boots](#) | 7831 Portland Ave
- [Mandarin Kitchen](#) | 8766 Lyndale Ave S
- [Mouna's Hair Braiding Salon](#) | 8009 Nicollet Ave
- [Penn Lake Roast Beef](#) | 8911 Penn Ave S
- [Pink Tea](#) | 8772 Lyndale Ave. S
- [Sawatdee Bloomington Restaurant](#) | 8501 Lyndale Ave S
- [Sunrise Donuts](#) | 9032 Lyndale Ave S
- [Tandoor](#) | 8062 Morgan Circle S
- [Waffle Bar](#) | 3810 W. Old Shakopee Road
- [Valentina's Michoacana Ice Cream](#) | 9040 Lyndale Ave S
- [Zawadi Center](#) | 1701 American Blvd E
- [Ze's Diner](#) | 8405 Lyndale Ave S
- [Twin Cities immigrant and refugee-owned businesses](#)

Family Fun Events in Bloomington

- [Toddler Open Gym, Substance Gym, Wednesday mornings through April 29](#)
- [Science Crew: Super Wind, Center for the Arts, February 5](#)
- [Sledstravaganza, Brookside Park, February 6 \(rescheduled from 1/19\)](#)
- [Winter History Festival, Pond House, February 7](#)
- [Intro to Ice Fishing, Bush Lake, February 8](#)
- [Try Outdoor Skating, Bryant Park, February 9](#)
- [Heijeu Arts: Basics of Abstract Art, Center for the Arts, February 10](#)
- [Indoor Farmers Market, Civic Plaza, February 14](#)
- [Naturalist: Skulls, Furs and Tracks, Pond House, February 15](#)
- [Heijeu Arts: Basics of Abstract Art, Center for the Arts, February 17](#)
- [Button and String Puzzles and Games, Pond House, February 21](#)
- [Naturalist: Snow Art, Brookside Park, February 22](#)
- [ACYC: Pixar and Disney Hits, Center for the Arts, February 22](#)
- [Intro to Ice Fishing, Bush Lake, February 22](#)
- [Heijeu Artists Retreat, Center for the Arts, February 28](#)
- [Medalist Band: Elements, Center for the Arts, February 28](#)
- [Mystery House Tours, Pond House, February 28](#)

For Seniors

- [Yellowstone Presentation \(50+\), Logan Lodge, February 9](#)
- [Valentine's Dance \(50+\), Center for the Arts, February 12](#)
- [Women in WW II \(50+\) History Presentation, Logan Lodge, February 24](#)

[February events in surrounding cities](#)

City News

The City of Bloomington's mission is to cultivate an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be.

Bloomington City Council Approves Emergency Rental Assistance Funding

In response to rising demand for rental assistance, the Bloomington City Council unanimously approved up to \$350,000 for emergency rental assistance on Monday, January 26.

The funding comes from the City's 2025 Local Affordable Housing Aid (LAHA), state funds typically used for affordable housing development and homeownership programs. State law allows LAHA funds to be used for emergency rental assistance when there is a demonstrated community need. The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) will manage the funding.

As a first step, \$50,000 has been allocated to Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP), a nonprofit that provides rental assistance, food support, and other basic needs. In the first two weeks of January, VEAP received 243 calls for financial assistance, including 66 from Bloomington residents.

The HRA will continue to assess community needs and consider additional allocations to organizations serving Bloomington residents in the coming months.

Residents seeking housing resources can visit blm.mn/hraresources. For emergency rental assistance, contact VEAP at 952-888-9616.

Bloomington joins nine Minnesota suburbs to support federal lawsuit related to ICE activity

Bloomington joins nine other Twin Cities metro-area suburban communities in support of the lawsuit filed by the Minnesota Attorney General and the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The lawsuit asks the U.S. District Court to issue a temporary injunction against unlawful ICE activity that is impacting children from attending schools safely, local businesses from thriving economically, and reducing access to courts and public services due to the fear and apprehension caused by ICE tactics. It argues that ICE operations be limited to acceptable constitutional operations. A brief indicating support was filed on Thursday, January 29. [Read the rest of article.](#)

Council Minute: Jan. 21

In this week's Council Minute, Mayor Tim Busse shares the City Council statement regarding Immigration and Customs Enforcement actions in Bloomington, as well as some information and resources for community members. [View](#)

Bloomington Today: The Buzz Jan. 28

The City has resources to help answer your questions about immigration, mark your calendars for the Civics Bee this February and stock up on some farmers market fare this winter. [View](#)

Driving Sustainability Forward with Metro Micro

[Ride along on a Metro Micro trip with Sustainability Coordinator Emma Struss](#) and Metro Transit driver Anastasia to see how this flexible, shared ride option connects our community while supporting more sustainable transportation. Curious if Metro Micro is for you? Check it out at metrotransit.com/micro.

Job Postings

City of Bloomington

- [2026 Summer Seasonal - Public Works Maintenance](#) | all positions will remain open until filled
- [Laboratory Analyst](#) | close on 2/8
- [2026 Dwan Food & Beverage Associate](#) | close on 2/20
- [Parks & Recreation positions](#) | closing varies
- [Environmental Health Specialist](#) | close on 2/10
- [Bloom in Bloomington Internship Program](#) | close on 3/6
- For more listings, go to blm.mn/jobs

Martin Luther Campus is now hiring for a part-time Chaplain

We're seeking a part-time, compassionate chaplain to support weekly worship services and activities and provide one-on-one spiritual care with residents in partnership with our Director of Spiritual Care.

If you or someone you know is passionate about building meaningful relationships with individuals in a care community—offering spiritual support, comfort, end-of-life care and more—please consider this deeply meaningful opportunity. Learn more and apply: [Chaplain Job Posting](#)