New UMN Crookston Gender Inclusive Statement
Spring 2019

UMC Residential Life, in accordance with the University of Minnesota equal opportunity statement, recognizes and respects the stated gender identity of each student. Residential Life will make every attempt to provide students with safe and comfortable housing assignments in keeping with their gender identity and expression. Students will be allowed to select gender inclusive housing options, in which the student make-up of the room can consist of any combination of gender identities.

Notes on Gender Inclusive Housing
- No student will be assigned to Gender Inclusive Housing without consultation from Residential Life staff.
- Residential Life will still continue to offer single gender housing options for students throughout our facilities.
- Residential Life discourages students in relationships from living together.

Vacancies in Gender Inclusive Housing
If a vacancy occurs in a room, Residential Life will keep in mind the original requests of the students in this room when filling the vacancy. If the remaining occupant in a space are of one gender, Residential Life will assign a student of that same gender to the open space. If the remaining occupants of the space are of different genders, Residential Life will assign a student who has indicated preference of living with someone of a different gender.

Frequently Asked Questions
What is the difference between Gender Inclusive Housing, Gender Neutral Housing, or Gender Open Housing?

*Each campus approaches gender inclusive housing in a different way and uses different terminology to describe it. Ultimately, the three titles are referring to the same concept. UMC students and staff felt the term Gender Inclusive Housing was the most appropriate term for us to use on our campus.*

Why should UMC offer gender inclusive housing?
*Offering gender inclusive housing is supportive of UMCs Strategic Planning Initiative of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in creating a more inclusive campus climate & community. Adoption of this policy not only supports LGBTQIA students, but also provides an additional housing option to all students which may aide in their success.*

Will any student be forced into gender inclusive housing?
*No. Students will not be forced into a gender inclusive housing environment. They will need to select this as a housing option. If they do not select it, they will not be assigned into it.*

Won’t this take away options for students who don’t want to live in gender inclusive housing?
*No. Students will still have the opportunity to live in a single gender environment if they desire it.*

Can students in a heterosexual relationship live together under this option?
Certainly they could, however students are encouraged to think through the decision of living with a significant other, regardless of whether it is a same-sex or different-sex relationship. Some relationships are ready for this step and others are not. While this is a common concern, at other institutions with a gender inclusive housing policy, this is a rare occurrence.