



NORTHPOINT
Health & Wellness Center

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



A Look Back at the Pilot City (NorthPoint's) Human Services Building

The NorthPoint Community will witness a huge change to its landscape with the demolition of the (Pilot City) Human Services Building located on the NorthPoint campus. The demolition will make room for the expansion of NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center.

Here is a look back on the important history of the Human Services Building and the way it has strengthened and broadened its services to meet the growing needs of our community.

Bringing the “Pilot City” Model to North Minneapolis

In 1960, the City of Minneapolis conducted a survey to identify the problems of blight and decay (terms used historically to describe under-resourced communities experiencing inequities) taking place in North Minneapolis. Residents of the Northside wanted access to health, employment, education, and housing services, right here in their community. At the same time, President Johnson introduced the nationwide Neighborhood Services Program (NSP) in 1967, as part of the Johnson Administration’s War on Poverty.

Working with the federal government, the City of Minneapolis, and local community leaders, the Pilot City Program was developed in North Minneapolis as one of the original 13 Neighborhood Service Programs (NSP) across the country. The program created accessible comprehensive social services to meet the needs of low-income and disenfranchised communities. The model combined public health services and clinical medicine. It was noted at the time, that “the problems of health are closely inter-related to the problems of poverty, education, housing, employment, human relations, and community disorganization.” In addition to creating access to health care for poor communities, the centers provided services around economic development, education, and social justice.



HONORING OUR HISTORY, CREATING OUR FUTURE

By 1969, Pilot City was offering social services programming as well as mental health services. What is now known as the Community Food Shelf also began its operations.

50
YEARS OF
COMMUNITY
CARE

In the 1970s Pilot City expanded to five offices throughout North Minneapolis which provided more than a dozen programs. In 1973, Hennepin County stepped in to provide direct funding when the program lost considerable federal funding. Soon, Pilot City was able to break ground for construction of a new building to house the Pilot City Regional Center. A year later, the Human Services building was completed which allowed Pilot City to house programs such as: Big Brother, Big Sisters; Putting It All Together, University of Minnesota Extension classes, Metropolitan Visiting Nurses Association, furniture pickup, and a tool lending program.

At the end of 1972, a large crowd gathered to witness the groundbreaking for the new Pilot City Neighborhood Service Center next to the existing Pilot City Health Center at 1349 Penn Avenue North. The new building would house all existing Pilot City Regional Center programs including a broad scope of community and social services developed by the Pilot City program.



By 1987, as Pilot City celebrated 20 years of service, its service area had grown to 16 neighborhoods, 25,950 households, and a Northside population of 66,358. The Pilot City Regional Center housed 18 social service programs plus a health center to meet the needs of the local community. Pilot City's emergency food services provided 240,344 meals to 38,378 individuals.

At the start of the new millennium, the Pilot City Health Center was positioning itself for significant growth. Pilot City's new resident-led Community Board of Directors began providing leadership to Pilot City as the organization developed a series of mergers including:

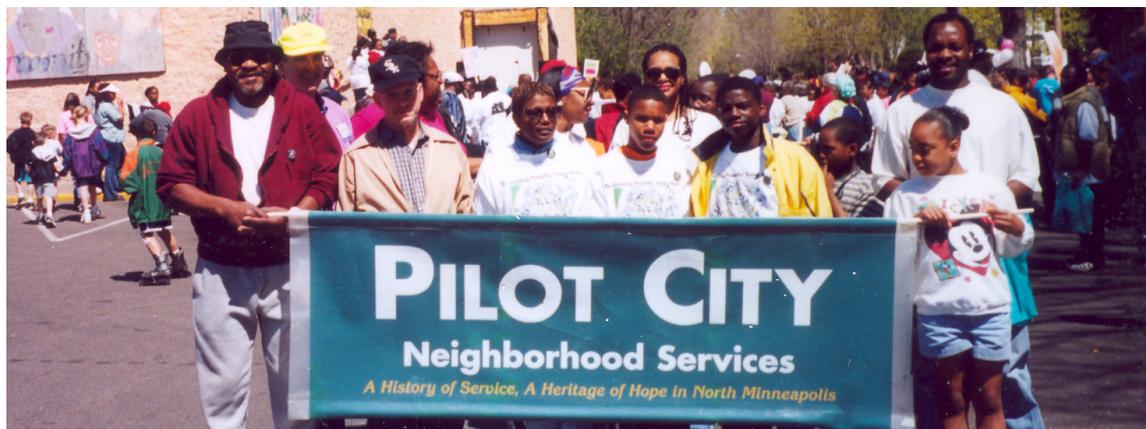
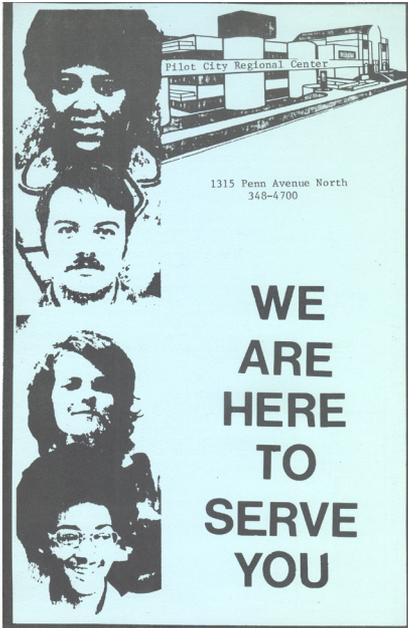
- Glenwood Lyndale Community Clinic
- Pilot City Neighborhood Services
- Pilot City Human Services
- Pilot City Mental Health Services

Pilot City Health Center now became known as NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center.

In 2013, NorthPoint Inc. launched the Mobile Food Shelf to help bring healthy nutritious foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables along with meat and dairy, directly to individuals, particularly home bound elderly residents and people with physical challenges.

In 2018, as NorthPoint celebrated 50 years of providing quality care and services to the North Minneapolis community, it also embarked on an extensive campus expansion project. The expansion includes: the relocation and construction of a new Estes Funeral Chapel; the demolition of the NorthPoint, Inc. (human services) building and the moving of operations into new space integrated with clinical space; expansion of the NorthPoint campus to incorporate new space for clinical services as well as a parking ramp.

NorthPoint will continue its 50-year legacy and vision as we move forward in charting our future in partnership with our patients, clients, community partners, and the North Minneapolis community. Our campus expansion will enable us to continue providing our community with the wide array of health and human services it has come to rely on. We look forward to serving our community for another 50 years!





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