



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Agenda

Thursday, November 6, 2025

11:00 AM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

(or following Physical Development Committee)

If you wish to speak to an agenda item or an item not on the agenda, please notify the Clerk to the Board via email at CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us
Commissioners may participate in the meeting by interactive technology.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Note: Any action taken by this Committee of the Whole constitutes a recommendation to the County Board.

2. Audience

Anyone in the audience wishing to address the Committee on an item not on the Agenda or an item on the Consent Agenda may send comments to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us and instructions will be given to participate during the meeting. Verbal comments are limited to five minutes.

3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on October 14, 2025

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 *Extension* - Update On University Of Minnesota Extension Programming In Dakota County

5.2 *Public Health* - Community Health Improvement Plan (2025) Update

5.3 *Employment and Economic Assistance* - Federal Shutdown Impacts on Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program

6. Community Services Director's Report

- 7. Future Agenda Items
- 8. Adjournment
 - 8.1 Adjournment

For more information please call 651-554-5742.

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Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5042

Agenda #: 3.1

Meeting Date: 11/6/2025

Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5043

Agenda #: 4.1

Meeting Date: 11/6/2025

Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on October 14, 2025



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

1:00 PM

**Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Slavik, Commissioner Atkins, Chairperson Halverson, Commissioner Droste, Commissioner Workman, Commissioner Holberg and Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director; and Jeni Reynolds, Sr. Administrative Coordinator to the Board.

Commissioner Atkins attended the meeting remotely via interactive technology.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson.

The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

2. Audience

Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson, asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Community Services Committee on an item not on the agenda or an item on the consent agenda. No one came forward and no comments were submitted to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us.

3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the agenda was unanimously approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 7

4. Consent Agenda

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on July 22, 2025

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Update On Mental Health Crisis Services Continuum Expansion

Emily Schug, Social Services Director, and Megan Westerheide, Crisis Supervisor in Social Services, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

5.2 Update On Child And Teen Checkups Program

Tracy Howard, Public Health Deputy Director; Jen Odegard, Public Health Supervisor; and Mackenzie Eyen, Public Health Program Coordinator, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

5.3 Update On Family Home Visiting Program

Tracy Howard, Public Health Deputy Director along with Public Health Supervisors Lisa Guck and Amy Mimm, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

5.4 Update On Vaccine Preventable Disease And Vaccinations

Gina Pistulka, Interim Public Health Director, and Erin Carder, Public Health Deputy Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

6. Community Services Director's Report

Marti Fischbach, Division Director, referred the Committee to the written report that was provided to them. Director Fischbach also gave an update on the federal shutdown as it relates to programs directly affecting residents of Dakota County.

7. Future Agenda Items

Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson, asked the Committee if anyone had a topic they would like to hear more about at an upcoming Community Services Committee of the Whole meeting. No topics were brought forth.

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: William Droste

On a motion by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, seconded by
Commissioner William Droste, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg left the meeting early for another engagement.

Ayes: 6

Excused: 1

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4618

Agenda #: 5.1

Meeting Date: 11/6/2025

DEPARTMENT: Extension

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Update On University Of Minnesota Extension Programming In Dakota County

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the University of Minnesota (U of M) Extension programming in Dakota County.

SUMMARY

The University of Minnesota (U of M) Extension and Dakota County have an educational partnership to support 4-H youth development and natural resources/Master Gardener programming.

By Resolution No. 24-509 (October 29, 2024), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Regents of the U of M for the provision of Extension educators and program staff employed by the U of M for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

These positions provide specific educational programs and services to residents through a regional delivery system based on recommendations by the Dakota County Extension committee. The MOA contracts 4.0 full-time equivalents for 4-H youth development and a .75 full-time equivalent to support the Dakota County Extension Master Gardener volunteer program.

The U of M Extension mission is "Connecting community needs and University resources to address critical issues in Minnesota," reflecting a commitment to delivering high-quality, relevant, research-based educational programs and information to Dakota County residents and communities.

U of M Extension 4-H youth development staff will provide an overview of Dakota County 4-H by reporting on the October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, 4-H year program participation. U of M Extension natural resources Extension staff will outline a snapshot of the 2025 Dakota County Extension Master Gardener volunteer program.

OUTCOMES

Dakota County 4-H enriches young people in kindergarten through one year past high school with the following outcomes:

- Dakota County 4-H will support youth guided by research-based curricula and methods that support the learning and positive development of young people. Strategies to include utilizing mentoring models, advocating for cross-age teaching, delivering science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programming, and helping youth find their voice on

boards and committees.

- Dakota County 4-H will develop and nurture new partnerships to engage youth in identifying and pursuing areas of interest as it relates to career development and exploration.
- Dakota County 4-H will identify strategies to reduce participation barriers and address them proactively. Staff will continue to serve youth in their communities to not only achieve but exceed parity (i.e. establishing transportation funds, camp scholarships, or dues scholarships in the county budget).

Dakota County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program is guided by the state priorities, and because of this more county residents are growing food locally, promoting invasive species management, connecting with nearby nature, watering wisely, providing research-based horticultural information, and are planting pollinator-friendly, climate responsive gardens.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

The 2026 MOA includes a county contribution of \$477,625, a reduction of \$20,000 from 2025, which eliminated the four summer internships, but retained the 4.75 FTE staff positions. The funding for the Dakota County Extension 4-H Youth Development and Master Gardener Volunteer programs comes from levy and Parks, Trails and Legacy Fund (PTLF). This amount will be included in the 2026 County Manager's Recommended Budget.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☒ None | ☐ Current budget | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Amendment Requested | | ☐ New FTE(s) requested |

RESOLUTION

Information only; no action requested.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

24-509; 10/29/24

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: Presentation Slides

BOARD GOALS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☒ Thriving People | ☐ A Healthy Environment with Quality Natural Resources |
| ☐ A Successful Place for Business and Jobs | ☐ Excellence in Public Service |

CONTACT

Department Head: Gina Pistulka

Author: Tammy McCulloch



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

Making a Difference in Dakota County
Connecting Community Needs with University Resources



November 6, 2025



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Creating healthier families: 92,323 people served



Minnesota 4-H reaches new youth



Promoting responsible lawn and garden practices



Strengthening Minnesota's food and agriculture



Supporting community leadership, economic development and tourism



Protecting natural resources, including soil, water and woodlands



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Memorandum of Agreement History

Year	MOA Amount	FTE	Program(s)
Proposed 2026	\$477,625	4.75	4-H Youth Development and Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program
2025	\$483,750	4.75 4 Interns	4-H Youth Development and Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program
2024	\$431,677	4.75 4 Interns	4-H Youth Development and Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program
2023	\$421,637	4.75 4 Interns	4-H Youth Development and Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program
2022	\$412,796	4.75 4 Interns	4-H Youth Development and Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program



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Dakota County Master Gardener Volunteer Program Update

Jennifer Grilliot, Dakota County Extension
Master Gardener Volunteer Program Coordinator

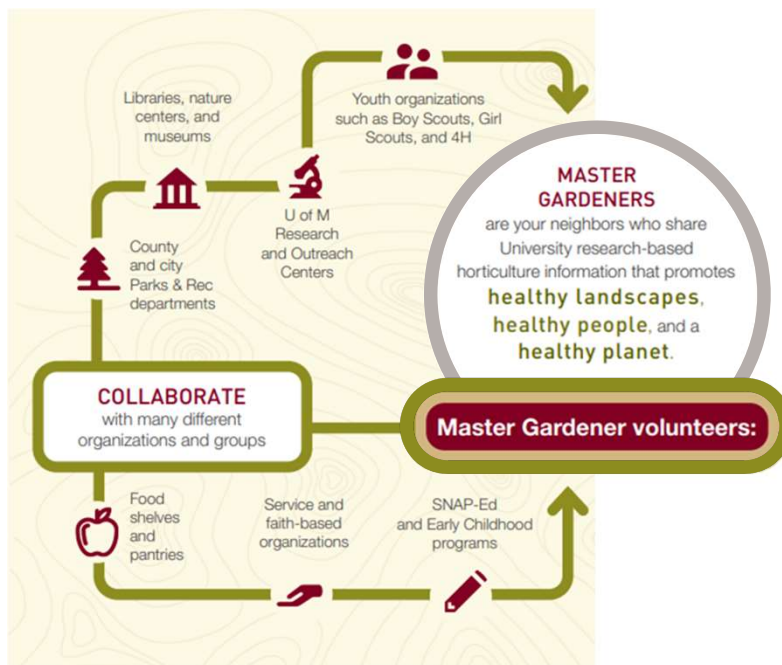
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MINNESOTA: ENVIRONMENT + FOOD & AGRICULTURE + COMMUNITIES + FAMILIES + YOUTH

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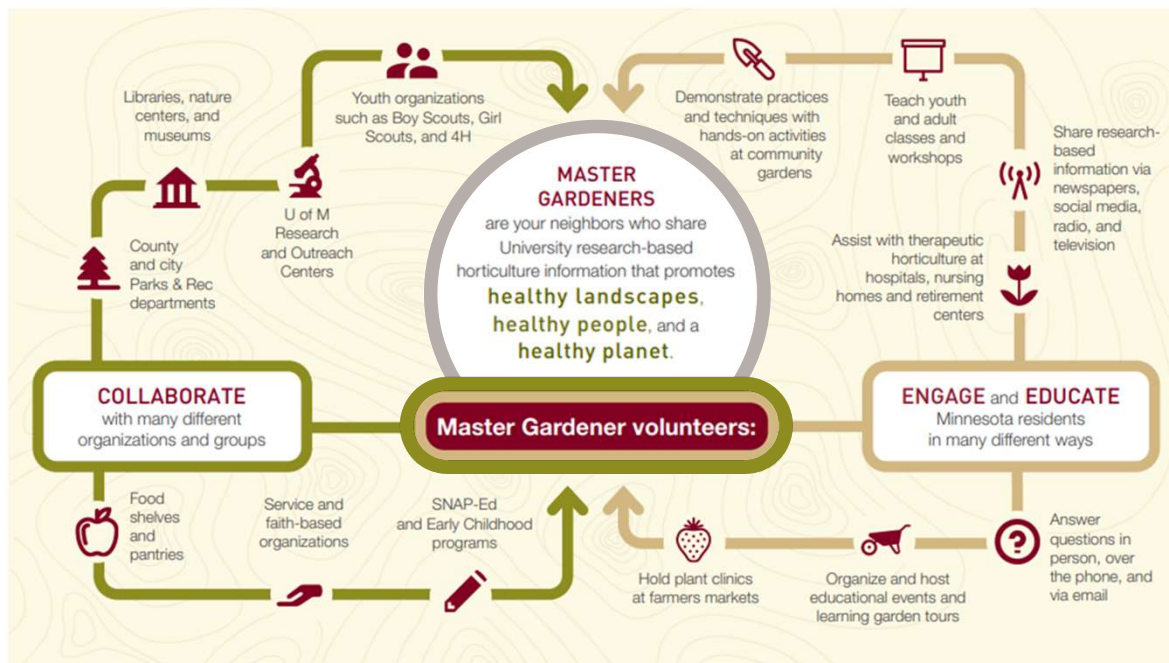
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5



6



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Recent Program Growth

Dakota County
Master Gardeners

**New Members
2025**

37

Dakota County
Master Gardeners

**Total Number of
Members 2025**

210

Dakota County
Master Gardeners

**2024 Volunteer
Hours valued at
\$556,792.56**

14,591

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Recent Outcomes and Impacts



Partnerships



Educational Outreach



Fundraising



Garden Projects



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Partnerships

Dakota County Master Gardeners collaborated with over **20** community partners in the past year including Gideon Pond Elementary in Burnsville.



Classroom learning



Hands on learning



Harvest time



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Educational Outreach

Dakota County Master Gardeners answered **1000+** questions from residents during "Ask A Master Gardener" tabling events in 2024.



Ask A Master Gardener



GardenBuzz Monthly
Online Publication



Speaker Requests



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Fundraising

Dakota County Master Gardeners raised **\$14,887** (2025) to directly support community projects.



Spring Plant Sale



Let's Get Growing Event



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Garden Projects

Dakota County Master Gardener volunteers supported **9** garden projects and donated **2500** pounds of produce in 2024.



St. Paul Trial Garden



Community of Saints
School Garden



Dodge Nature Center
Teaching Garden



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Dakota County 4-H Youth Development Program Update

Jessica Beissel, Dakota County Extension Educator
Kirsten Pederson, Dakota County Extension Educator
Rachel Rezac, Dakota County Extension Educator
Kris Vatter, Dakota County Extension Educator



MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MINNESOTA: ENVIRONMENT + FOOD & AGRICULTURE + COMMUNITIES + FAMILIES + YOUTH

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Dakota County 4-H: Leading with Excellence



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Program Overview

2,444 4-H members

15 clubs meeting regularly

238 screened adult volunteers

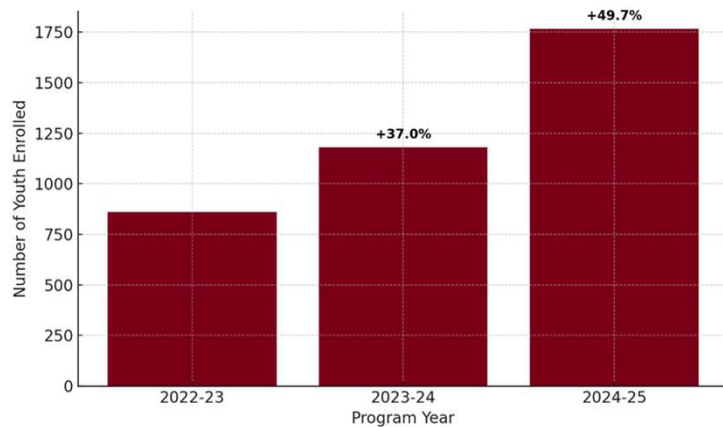


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Site-Based Club Enrollment

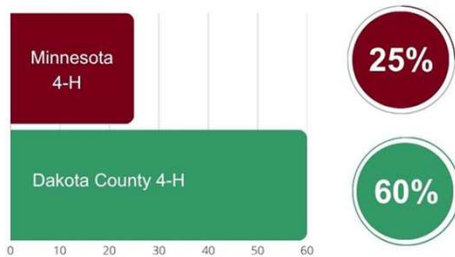


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First Generation Enrollment



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Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders Today



2025 Summer Interns

Cheney, University of Minnesota
Kimberly, University of Minnesota
Breanne, North Central University



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Key Award



"4-H taught me what responsibility looks like—not just doing the work, but showing up for others, being accountable, and taking pride in every step. That lesson followed me far beyond the barn.

It gave me the confidence to take on challenges in the world of science and technology, eventually working alongside researchers from Harvard and MIT on quantum computing projects—research that has since moved forward with the Department of Defense. What I learned in 4-H made me believe I belonged in those rooms—that curiosity, commitment, and character matter, no matter where you come from."

- Dylan T., 2025 Key Award Recipient

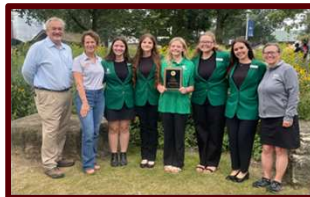


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Dakota County 4-H Empowers Youth to be Changemakers and Community Leaders

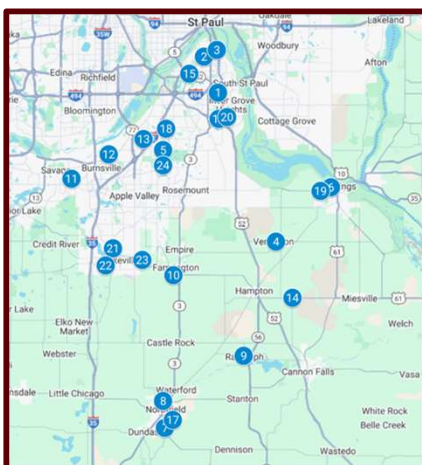


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Where are 4-H programs?



- Traditional Clubs
- Site-based Clubs
- Partnerships
- Youth Teaching Youth
- Library Collaborations



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Looking Ahead

- Offering Creative Writing Series to Homeschool Audience
- Project Workshops
- New Community Collaborations
- Growing New Partnerships
- Curriculum Development with County and Regional Partners



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Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-4791

Agenda #: 5.2

Meeting Date: 11/6/2025

DEPARTMENT: Public Health

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Community Health Improvement Plan (2025) Update

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the Community Health Improvement Plan.

SUMMARY

In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 145A, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners acts as the Community Board of Health and has responsibility to prevent disease and disability and to promote and protect the health and safety of county citizens. The Local Public Health Act of 2003 requires community health boards to assess community health needs, seek community input on health priorities, and identify local public health priorities. A list of up to ten local community health priorities must be submitted to the Commissioner of Health for continued eligibility to receive Local Public Health Grant funds. This list forms the basis for the development of a community health improvement plan that is also required by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the National Public Health Accreditation Board.

By Resolution No. 24-096 (February 27, 2024), the Board approved the 2024-2028 Community Health Priorities and authorized submission to MDH. The Healthy Dakota Initiative (HDI) is developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to facilitate goals and objectives related to the eight prioritized health concerns determined during the assessment phase: mental health, substance use, chronic absenteeism, food insecurity, high housing costs, dental care access, physical activity, and access to health care.

OUTCOMES

How much? CHIP Advisory Group has been created and will meet five times in 2025. Twenty organizations are represented with 44 individuals committed to the group. Public Health is using the "Four Pathways" to address all eight priorities via engagement with five initiatives/groups that make up the "decentralized" process. Additionally, the Crisis Continuum Access to Care group met twice in 2025 with plans to meet every other month. This group has representation from eight sectors and 24 organizations on the coalition.

How well? With this new model, all eight priorities are being addressed. Typical CHIPs range from two-three priorities. The CHIP Advisory Group highlighted the interconnectedness of the priorities and the needs of the community post-COVID. Outside of external partnerships, Public Health has been able to develop strong cross collaboration with our internal departments. Cross collaboration includes partnerships with Housing, Veteran Services, Libraries, Social Services, Parks, County Attorney's

Office, Public Safety, and Physical Development.

Is anyone better off? There has been increased community utilization of mental health services and increased community connections to resources. At times, those community connections and resource utilization have been in real-time.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☒ None | ☐ Current budget | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Amendment Requested | | ☐ New FTE(s) requested |

RESOLUTION

Information only; no action requested.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

24-096; 02/27/24

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: Presentation Slides

BOARD GOALS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☒ Thriving People | ☐ A Healthy Environment with Quality Natural Resources |
| ☐ A Successful Place for Business and Jobs | ☐ Excellence in Public Service |

CONTACTS

Department Head: Gina Pistulka

Author: Alex Groten



2025 to 2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) : Building Health Together

Natalie Vasilj and Alex Groten
Dakota County Public Health Department

1

What a CHIP Is & Why It Matters



***A strategic plan and roadmap that addresses PH priorities
and strategies to improve population health***



- ✓ Built with community voice grounded in data
- ✓ Designed for collective action
- ✓ Aligns with county strategic goals and community vision
- ✓ Meets PH Accreditation Board requirements

2

What Guides Our Work

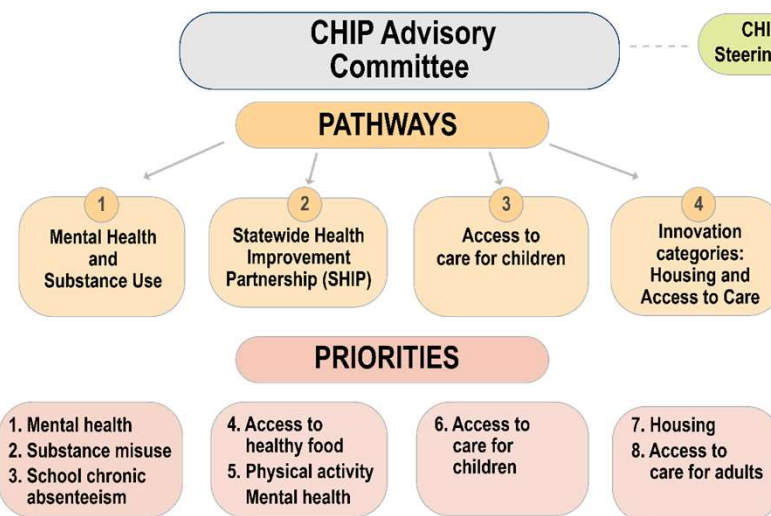


- Policy, Systems, and Environmental changes or “PSE”
- Equity & trauma-responsiveness
- Authentic engagement



3

What Guides Our Work



4

PATHWAY 1



Mental Health & Substance Use



GOAL: Strengthen prevention, early intervention, crisis response, and recovery supports for mental health substance misuse.

APPROACHES:

- . Prevention and stigma-reduction initiatives
- . Trauma Responsive Systems
- . Crisis continuum improvements
- . Recovery and postvention support networks

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PATHWAY 2



SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Partnership)



GOAL: Make the healthy choice the easy choice through policy, systems, and environmental change.

APPROACHES:

- . Access to healthy food and physical activity
- . Provide commercial tobacco prevention and cessation strategies
- . Support systems in wellbeing for all
- . Collaborate with schools, workplaces, and communities

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PATHWAY 3



Access to Care for Children



GOAL: Expand opportunities for children to receive timely, coordinated health care and dental care.

APPROACHES:

- . Oral Health Task Force actions
- . Increase access to school-located preventive healthcare
- . Strengthen capacity to deliver preventive healthcare; addressing social determinants of health for students and families

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PATHWAY 4



Innovation Categories: Housing and Access to Care



GOAL: Create space to learn current best practices, explore roles and opportunities, and pilot innovative strategies for housing & access to care.

APPROACHES:

- . Pilot projects to expand access and healthcare literacy
- . Data analysis to identify gaps, barriers, and opportunities
- . Build and expand partnerships

8

Cross-Sector Collaboration



- Action teams will implement workplans under each pathway
- Continued adaptation based on data, feedback and reporting



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Community Impact Story



*Access through
Collaboration*



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Thank you for your support
and shared vision for a
healthier Dakota County.

Natalie Vasilj, Public Health Coordinator
Natalie.Vasilj@co.Dakota.mn.us

Alex Groten, Public Health Supervisor
Alexandra.Groten@co.Dakota.mn.us



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5050

Agenda #: 5.3

Meeting Date: 11/6/2025

DEPARTMENT: Employment and Economic Assistance

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Federal Shutdown Impacts on Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the federal shutdown impacts on the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP).

SUMMARY

Timeline

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) notified Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) of insufficient funds to pay November SNAP benefits if the federal shutdown continued. DCYF shared this information with Dakota County midday on October 14, with the original guidance that benefits could no longer be processed by end of the day. This processing deadline was subsequently pushed out to October 15, and then later to October 31. DCYF sent text and email notifications to SNAP recipients on October 21 and began a media campaign to inform the community.

Impact on Residents

More than 11,700 Dakota County households (22,000 individuals) will be impacted by the pause in SNAP benefits. To date, neither Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) cash benefits nor MFIP-funded Special Diets are impacted.

Staff Response

Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) staff have prioritized SNAP and MFIP processing and mobilized a significant staffing effort to maximize our case processing within the given deadlines. The EEA team dispositioned more than 1,500 SNAP applications and renewals prior to the deadline so that at least October benefits were processed and sent to recipients. Staff have prepared and distributed resources capturing food supports in our community to share with walk-in clients, sent out over social media, and put on the County website.

Community Response

Governor Walz announced \$5.5M in new funding for Minnesota food shelves. Many local community partners are standing up increased access to food drives, pick-up events, and community meals.

Incident Command Structure

An incident command structure was established on October 17, to harness efforts and the response of many departments, including E&EA, Public Health, Social Services, Communications, and Risk

Management. The group has been coordinating food resources, sharing community responses, and facilitating messaging to residents.

OUTCOMES

- Provide timely and culturally informed communication to staff, partner organizations, affected communities, and the public.
- Determine the resources available to residents to supplement SNAP & MFIP.
- Maintain situational awareness around other federal and state assistance programs.
- Ensure response activities are coordinated with community partners and other Minnesota state assistance programs.
- Establish clear and consistent documentation, data collection, and reporting procedures for the emergency response.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☒ None | ☐ Current budget | ☐ Other |
| ☐ Amendment Requested | | ☐ New FTE(s) requested |

RESOLUTION

Information only; no action requested.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: Presentation Slides

BOARD GOALS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☒ Thriving People | ☐ A Healthy Environment with Quality Natural Resources |
| ☐ A Successful Place for Business and Jobs | ☐ Excellence in Public Service |

CONTACTS

Department Head: Mark Jacobs

Author: Tiffinie Miller



Federal Government Shutdown Impacts on SNAP

November 6, 2025

Amalia Roberts, Supervisor, PH
Tiffinie Miller-Sammons, Deputy Director, E&EA

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Agenda



- Timeline
- Impact on Residents
- Staff Response
- Community Response
- Incident Command Structure

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Timeline



- 10/10: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) notified the Minnesota Department of children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) of insufficient federal funds to pay November SNAP benefits if shutdown continues
- 10/14: DCYF alerted Counties of USDA direction to delay benefit transmission effective at 10:00 pm.
- 10/15: DCYF alerted Counties delayed benefit transmission was pushed out, to this day at 10:00 pm.
- 10/16: DCYF alerted Counties that the delayed benefit transition was further pushed out to 10/31.
- 10/21: SNAP and Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) recipients received text and email from DCYF alerting of upcoming benefits pause
- 10/27: Governor Walz announced \$4M in new funding for Minnesota food shelves
- 10/31: Last day SNAP cases could be approved

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Impact Data by Population & City



- Data forthcoming

4

Impact on residents



- Dakota County SNAP Participants
 - ~11,700 households/22,000 individuals
- MN Average SNAP Benefit: \$157 per person/month
- Benefits delivered between 4-13th of month
 - This is when participants will feel the absence of their benefits
- SCAM Alert: Targeting SNAP recipients claiming available funds

5

Staff Response



- Prioritized SNAP and MFIP processing
- Overtime push prior to Oct 31 processing deadline
- 1,542 SNAP applications/renewals dispositioned between Oct 14 - Oct 31

6

Community Response



- \$5.5M in new funding for MN food shelves
- The Open Door: Shutdown Support Saturdays
- 360 Communities: Fresh Food Giveaway
- Food Drives with matching funds
- Community Meals; local businesses & faith-based organizations



**OPEN DOOR
FOOD PANTRY**



360 Communities.
Help in the moment. Hope for the future.



Hastings Family Service



neighborsinc.

7

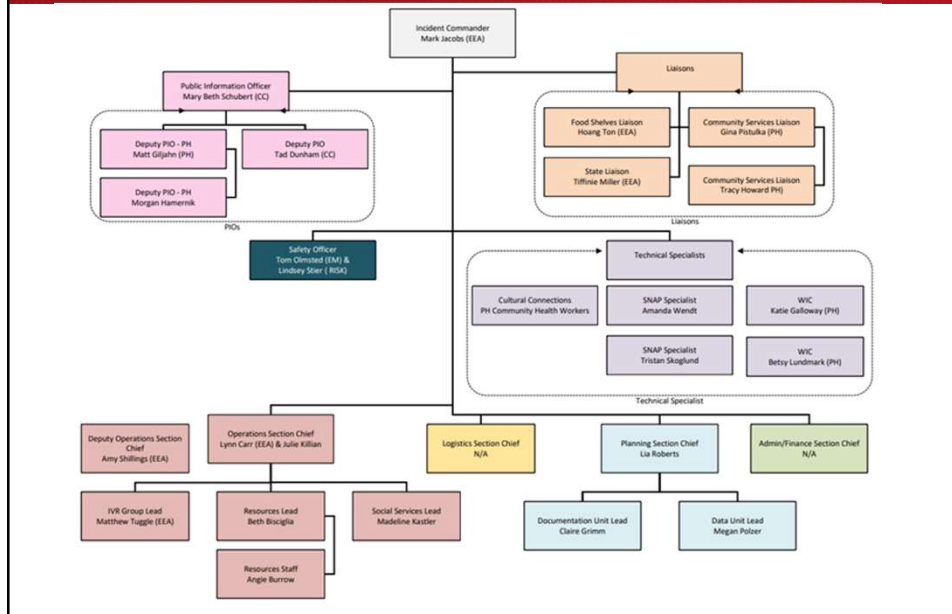
Incident Command System Activation



- Utilized the Community Services Emergency Preparedness Team to activate the Incident Command System as requested by the CS Division Director.
- Initial meeting 10/17; planning meetings 10/22, 10/29
- Harnessing efforts among E&EA, Public Health, Social Services, Communications, and Risk/Emergency Management.
- Coordinating food resources, community response, and messaging to residents.

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Incident Org Chart



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Incident Objectives



1. Provide timely and culturally informed communication to staff, partner organizations, affected communities, and the public.
2. Determine the resources available to residents to supplement SNAP & MFIP.
3. Maintain situational awareness around other federal and state assistance programs.
4. Ensure response activities are coordinated with community partners and other Minnesota state assistance programs.
5. Establish clear and consistent documentation, data collection, and reporting procedures for the emergency response.

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Key Actions to Date



- Developed a Teams channel and response thread for the Incident Command System team to share real time updates.
- Developed internal communications for E&EA, Community Services Division and all county staff.
- Coordinating external communications with County Communications and Public Affairs.
- Gathered and cross walked existing resources guide for consistency and shared widely across departments and the county website.
- Convened meeting with major Dakota County food shelves on 10/22 and continue to communicate as new information arises.
- Pursing existing food options such as food RX and emergency food bags in E&EA lobby.
- Coordinating data collection to capture the response and the community impact.

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Looking Forward



- Continue coordination with food shelves around capacity and resource needs.
- Provide continued communications to the community, partners and county staff.
- Monitor potential impacts to WIC and other county programs if the federal shutdown continues.
- Maintain situational awareness around external efforts, such as national organizations petitioning emergency funds for WIC.
- Hold weekly planning meetings with the ICS team.

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Latest Updates & Questions



11/03: USDA to report to the court the amount of funding available in the federal SNAP contingency fund and other sources, for November benefits



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5044	Agenda #: 8.1	Meeting Date: 11/6/2025
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Adjournment