



Emergency Assistance Programs

December 2, 2025

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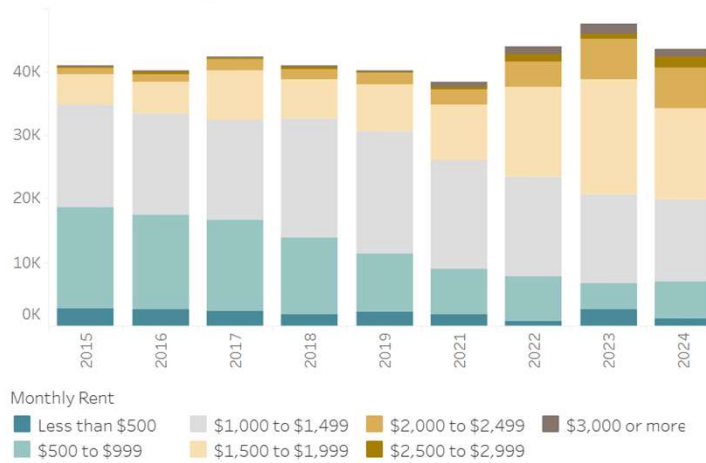
Agenda



- ❖ Community need data
- ❖ Emergency assistance system overview
 - ❖ Types of funding
 - ❖ Eligibility Policy
 - ❖ Data
- ❖ Lessons learned and system critiques
- ❖ Emergency Rental Assistance Options

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Dakota County Rental Units by Price



Source: American Community Survey

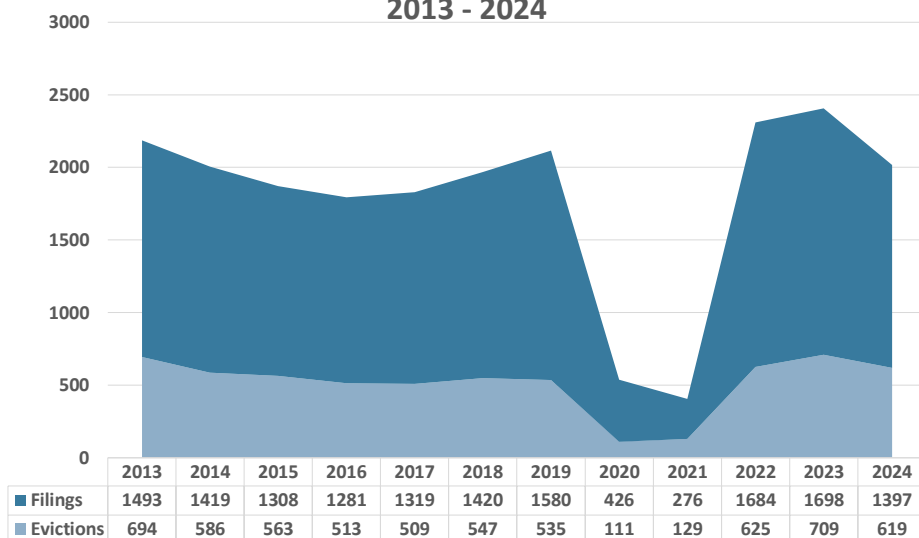
Renters Cost Burdened

- 44,457 Renter Households
- 43% Renters Housing Cost Burdened
- Median Rent \$1,585 in 2023
- Only 44% of rental units under \$1,500
- Greatest increase in units \$1,500-\$1,999; Greatest decrease in units \$500-\$999

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Dakota County Filings and Evictions

2013 - 2024



Source: [Hennepin County Power BI](#)

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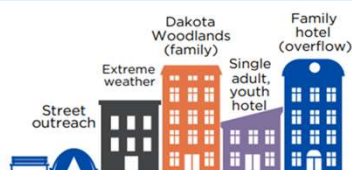
Dakota County Housing Plan



Prevention ← Emergency shelter → Housing stability



- **Emergency Rental Assistance**
- **Prevention Services**
- Housing Clinic at Eviction Court
- On-site Apartment Services



- Shelter beds and operation
- Shelter diversion
- Outreach to homeless populations



- Rental assistance
- Permanent Supportive Housing Services
- New affordable housing
- Preserved affordable housing
- Home improvement loans
- Home ownership

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Prevention Services vs Shelter Costs (Example)



	Prevention Services	Shelter
Prevention Payment	\$4,000 (max ERA payment)	\$0
Shelter Payment	\$0	\$25,560 (\$213/day for 120 days)
Staffing Costs	\$905 (case management for 60 days)	\$1,810 (case management for 120 days)
First Month's Rent/Deposit	\$0	\$3,170 (average rent of \$1585*2)
TOTAL	\$4,905	\$30,540

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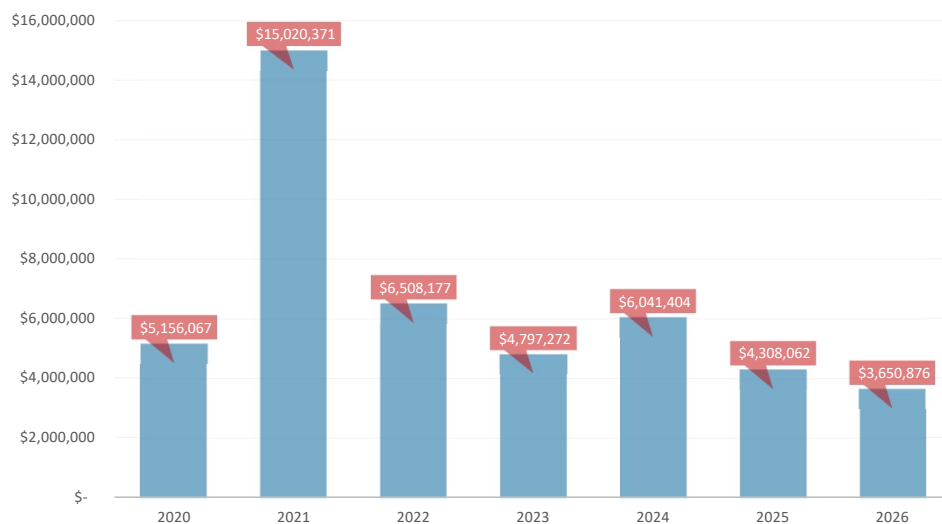
Funding Overview



Program	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	2026 Budget (projected)	Dept.	Funding	Population Served
Emergency Assistance (EA)	\$1,360,000 Calendar year	\$1,396,255	\$1,396,255	E&EA	Federal & State Consolidated Funds	Families with minor children
Emergency General Assistance (EGA)	\$262,459 State Fiscal Calendar 2024	\$261,981 SFY2025	\$282,121 SFY2026	E&EA	State	Single individuals or couples without children
Emergency Cash Assistance (ECA)	\$128,617	\$124,387	\$0	E&EA	Levy	Singles and families
Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)	\$1,283,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	SS	State	Singles and families
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)	\$3,007,328	\$1,425,439	\$872,500	SS	State	Singles, families, young adults

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Emergency Assistance Programs 2020 - 2025



*Does not include RentHelpMN funding available to Dakota County residents 2021-2024

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EA / EGA Overview and Eligibility

- ❖ EA for Families and EGA for adults without kids
- ❖ Most applications received from MNBenefits, and all are processed in MAXIS
- ❖ **Eligible once in 12 months**
- ❖ **Household income below 200% FPG**
- ❖ Emergencies; shelter, utilities, home repairs, medical/safety or moving expense
- ❖ Issuance must resolve emergency
- ❖ $\geq 50\%$ of net income/assets used on basic needs in past 60 days
- ❖ Contribute available income/assets to the emergency
- ❖ Last 4 years EGA funds depleted 3-4 months prior to end of year
- ❖ Maximum issuance; EA/EGA (HH 2) \$3,525 EA (HH 4) \$5,358
Utilities \$1,800 or 200% FPG for the house size or whichever is less
- ❖ Average issuance; EA \$1,862 EGA \$1,611

*ECA maximum issuance \$750 in 12 months for smaller and broader types of emergencies.
Sunsetting 12/31/2025

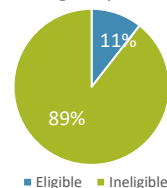


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EA/EGA Application Volume & Ineligibility rates

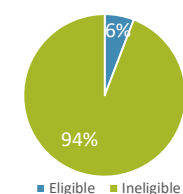
EA calendar year 2024 (based on Application Date)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Eligible	29	18	22	24	30	32	57	43	63	26	26	17	387
Ineligible	281	241	246	313	330	324	400	321	293	260	152	104	3265

Emergency Assistance



EGA State fiscal year 2024 (based on Application Date)													
	2023						2024						TOTAL
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Eligible	26	21	10	17	14	22	18	10	8	16	14	10	186
Ineligible	269	292	238	244	269	256	298	267	210	211	205	216	2975

Emergency General Assistance



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Emergency Program Payments by Category



Categories	Programs		
	ECA	EA	EGA
Housing	48%	88%	94%
Utilities	15%	10%	5%
Transportation & Moving	18%	3%	1%
Miscellaneous	7%		
Medical	4%		
Home Repair	3%		
Child Care & Diapers	2%		
Food	2%		
Employment	1%		



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EA / EGA Approved Applicant Demographics



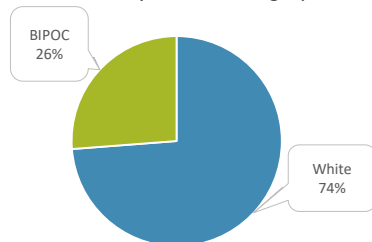
Household Types in 2024

673 Households

- 492 families with children (73%)
- 181 adults only households (27%)

1,615 people served – 54% children

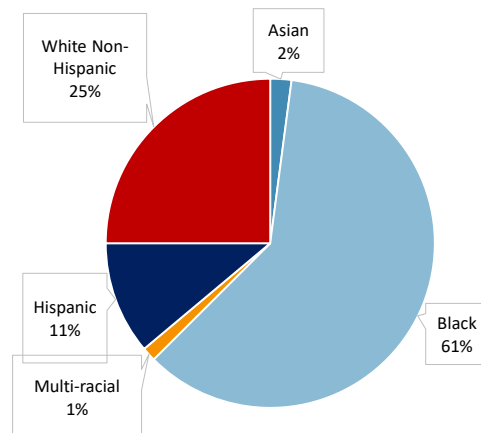
Dakota County Race Demographics



Race of Applicant (1 month, 2025)

25% White households

75% BIPOC Households



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Emergency Rental Assistance - AHA



- ❖ Must be housed and at imminent risk of eviction (majority have eviction summons)
- ❖ No other ability to resolve
- ❖ Ability to maintain housing after resolution. Emergency created by a temporary income loss, medical challenges, etc. as funding is short term and limited to up to \$4,000* a household.
- ❖ Household income below 80% AMI
- ❖ Not open to another county for financial or social services
- ❖ Majority of referrals are received from Housing Clinic and Housing Resource Line (651) 554-5751
- ❖ Funding available for 23 households/month or 5/week

*Per household limit in 2025 to stretch funding. Previously \$6000/household.

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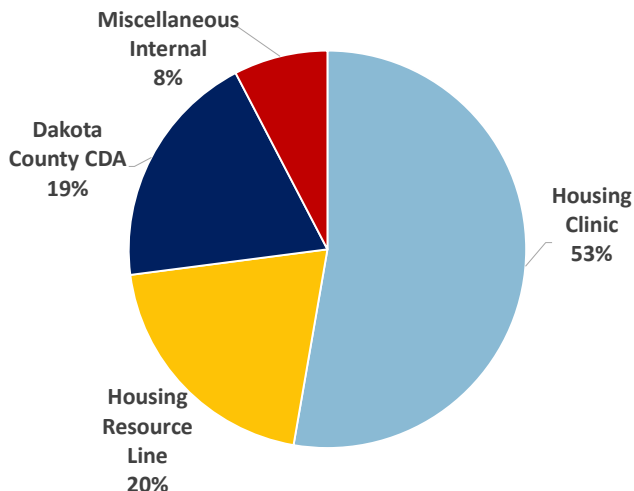
Prevention Referrals in 2024



366 Households Served

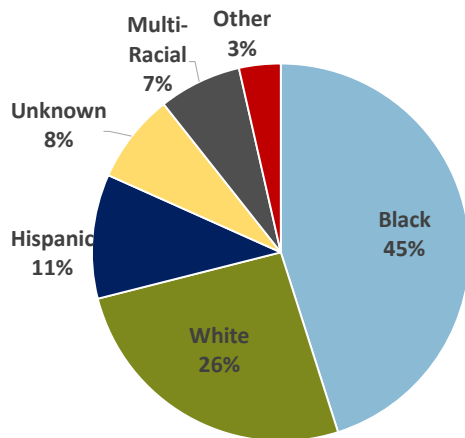
Referrals primarily through:

- Dakota Housing Resource Line (651) 554-5751
- Housing Clinic at Eviction Court
- CDA (through July 2024)
- Crisis Social Workers



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Prevention Demographics 2024



Household Types in 2024

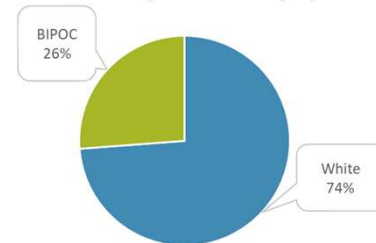
366 Households

- 235 families with children (64%)
 - 131 adults only households (36%)
- 952 people served - 49% children

Race

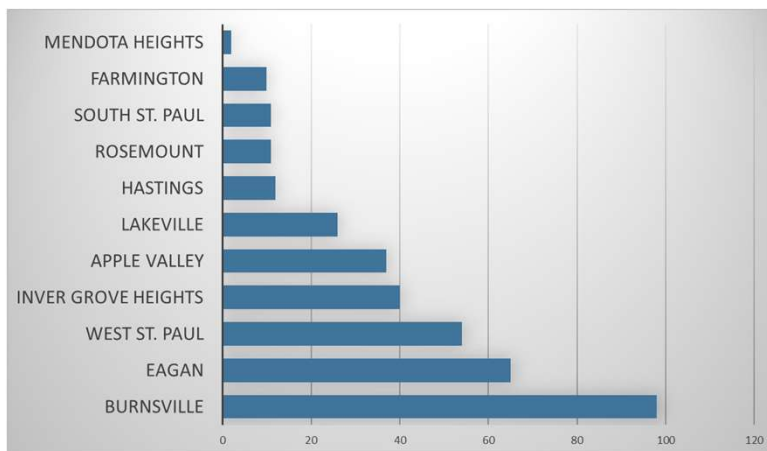
26% White households
66% BIPOC Households

Dakota County Race Demographics



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Prevention Cities 2024



Burnsville
represented 27% of
ERA cases in 2024

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2024 ERA – AHA/Prevention Team Accomplishments



- ❖ 366 households served with Prevention Services in 2024
 - 91% of evictions prevented (333 households)
- ❖ 242 assisted with ERA
 - ❖ \$1,025,592 assistance paid to prevent eviction for households
 - ❖ Average of \$4,238 per household in 2024
- ❖ Households also assisted with RentHelpMN apps through partnership with Community Mediation of MN referrals
- ❖ Households assisted with case management services and referrals to improve long-term stability

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Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Program (FHPAP)

FHPAP serves families, singles and youth

- ❖ Funded by MN Housing grant
- ❖ Contracted through 360 Communities, CAP Agency, and YMCA (youth 18-24)
- ❖ \$872,500 available for 2026
- ❖ Eligibility:
 - Imminent risk of homelessness
 - Household income at or below 200% FPG
 - Average \$4000/household
- ❖ Referrals:
 - CAP: self referral to agency – serve 3.3 households/month
 - 360: Housing Clinic – serve 5.6 households/month (more referred to Prevention Team)
 - YMCA: self referral to agency – serve 1 household/month



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Awesome, I couldn't have gotten this far without ALL your HELP. This is all so much for me to handle alone.. without your help, I probably would've given out and been homeless or would have probably ended everything. So I truly thank you with all my life

Idk if you're religious or not but I thank God for putting u in my path. And for your selflessness. May the lord bless you


I got it!!!! Thank you SO much, Alicia! You're a Godsend!

Omg thank u so much for all ur help a appreciate u so much

I think u got it covered bro thank you I have the email with the resources and now I have this message with the auto shop dude you've been a blessing. I've already been able to start saving money and setting a budget apart for furniture. If I could hug u I would 😊

I appreciate your help so much, you have no clue. If you have An address I can send you a card to please let me know!


Thank you for your unfailing support over the past couple months. I really appreciate the help and guidance that you've given me with rental help and I am grateful for the many resources that you've provided me.



thank goodness im so relieved and can start over now thank u so much for all of your work

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Program Interaction



- ❖ Average issuance total for each program (2024)
 - Average issuance; EA \$1,862 EGA \$1,611 ERA \$4,238 FHPAP \$3084
- ❖ Why would someone need multiple programs
 - EA used for Dakota Woodlands and subsequent need occurs for stable housing
 - Multiple emergencies in one year (each program only allows for 1x/year assistance)
 - Time sensitive so unable to use EA/EGA so LAHA ERA
- ❖ How many households were prevented 2024
 - 573 EA / EGA households resolved their emergency
 - 242 ERA
 - 616 FHPAP
- ❖ How do we interact between programs
 - Partnerships with E&EA Client Relations Specialists
 - Look for EA or EGA eligibility before other housing funds
- ❖ FHPAP allocated by community providers

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Internal Partnerships



EA and EGA Referrals by Internal Partners to E&EA

	2024 # Apps / Approval rate	2025 as of April 28 th
Eviction Court	143 / 63%	65 / 49%
Other	53 / 26%	7 / 14%

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System Critiques



Community Perspective/Stigma

- ❖ Dakota County emergency rental assistance programs help the same household multiple times across various programs.
- ❖ Some households are reliant on emergency programs to pay rent.
- ❖ Some households deserve/don't deserve these funds.


System Limitations

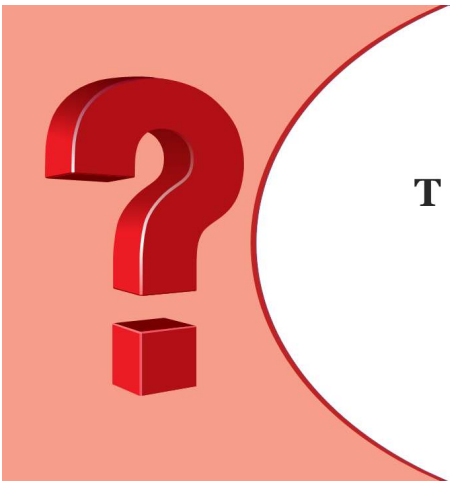
- ❖ Difficult to see if a household has received assistance from other programs.
- ❖ Difficult to make policy decisions without understanding the big picture.

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Emergency Rental Assistance System Options	Pros	Cons
Continue as is with three programs and informal staff-to-staff coordination	Maintains high degree of flexibility to problem-solve complex situations	Lack of cross-program data restricts ability to see county-wide need
	Allows multiple access points in community	Residents need to self navigate to the different assistance options
Operate as one program with one set of policies	Potential for high degree of data visibility	“One size” program restricts flexibility to assist in complex situations
	Possibility for one access point for all clients	Slow down system flexibility
		Need to determine if state funding allows for this level of coordination
Develop a data-driven system with flexibility to help households avoid evictions and connect to services	Potential for high degree of data visibility	Need time to plan
	Possibility for one access point for all clients	Need financial investment to plan and implement
	Maintain some program-by-program autonomy to meet unique needs	
	Potential to better maximize funds	

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THANK YOU

Any Question

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