



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole Agenda

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

1:00 PM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

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 January 13, 2026

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 *Community Corrections* - Update On Multicultural Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

5.2 *Social Services-Housing & Community Resources* - Housing Services Continuum Update

6. Community Services Director's Report

7. Future Agenda Items

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

For more information please call 651-554-5742.
Committee of the Whole agendas are available online at
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Public Comment can be sent to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5293

Agenda #: 3.1

Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5294

Agenda #: 4.1

Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on January 13, 2026



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

1:00 PM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Lucie O'Neill, Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Assistant County Manager, Community Services; Gil Acevedo, Assistant County Manager, Community Services; and Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

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

Due to technical issues, audio did not record for this meeting.

2. Audience

Chair, Commissioner Mike Slavik, 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)

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

Ayes: 7

4. Consent Agenda

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

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on December 2, 2025

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Housing Services Update

Madeline Kastler, Social Services Deputy Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. Tiffinie Miller-Sammons, Employment & Economic Assistance Deputy Director, and Will Wallo, Finance Director, also participated in the presentation. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes. Staff were given direction to continue to pursue alternative options for emergency shelter based on previous exploratory locations.

Information only; no action requested.

5.2 Update To Make Sense Of Fraud Scandals: County Responsibility, Programs, And Impacts

Dana DeMaster, Employment & Economic Assistance Director, and Emily Schug, Social Services Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

6. Community Services Director's Report

Marti Fischbach, Assistant County Manager, Community Services, referred the Committee to the written report that was provided. Assistant County Manager Fischbach pointed out the upcoming Point-in-time homeless count happening later this month and encouraged Commissioners to participate. She also mentioned that the Department of Children, Youth, and Families has acknowledged a notice from the federal government about freezing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program payments; no further direction has been given.

7. Future Agenda Items

The committee requested an update from the Fraud team in Employment & Economic Assistance.

The following topics were also brought up as future agenda items; staff will review the requests and return to a future General Government and Policy Committee for potential discussion:

1. Update on effects of recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Dakota County, and
2. Contingency plans should the federal government escalate operations and policy enforcement.

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

On a motion by Commissioner Liz Workman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division

DRAFT



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5187

Agenda #: 5.1

Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

DEPARTMENT: Community Corrections

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Update On Multicultural Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the Multicultural Juvenile Drug Treatment Court.

SUMMARY

In 2021, Dakota County Community Corrections received a federal grant to enhance and strengthen the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court. The grant was originally awarded for four years and has since been extended through October 31, 2026, allowing the program to continue building and sustaining enhanced services.

The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court is a collaborative, multidisciplinary initiative designed to improve outcomes for justice-involved youth experiencing substance use disorders (SUD).

The primary Drug Court Team includes the client's defense attorney, the County Attorney, the presiding Judge, the assigned Probation Officer, a Probation Supervisor, and the Wraparound Program Services Coordinator. This team meets regularly to monitor substance use progress, review treatment engagement, address barriers to sobriety, and ensure consistent and informed decision-making throughout each participant's involvement in the program.

A specialized Clinical Team provides assessment and guidance on responsivity factors and individualized interventions for youth struggling with SUD and co-occurring behavioral health needs. This team consists of a Mental Health Supervisor, Chemical Health Supervisor, Evidence-Based Practices Coordinator, Equity and Resource Coordinator, Probation Officer, and Supervisor. Their focus is to evaluate substance use severity, identify appropriate treatment pathways, and ensure that interventions align with best practices in SUD treatment and adolescent development. Beginning in 2026, the Clinical Team will also review potential referrals to the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court prior to their presentation to the Primary Team to ensure earlier clinical insight and strengthen the program's ability to match youth and families with the most appropriate supports.

The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court integrates a comprehensive array of programming designed to address substance use and support lasting recovery. Services include chemical dependency treatment and aftercare, Habilitation Empowerment Accountability Therapy (H.E.A.T.) 4 Youth (a culturally specific cognitive-based therapy program), Wraparound services, Family Peer Support groups, Community Coaches, and other culturally grounded supports. Together, these interventions help youth reduce or eliminate illegal drug use, build prosocial skills, strengthen family engagement,

and establish long-term stability.

OUTCOMES

How Much: Dakota County received \$750,000 in federal funding over four years to enhance the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court. This investment allowed the program to expand culturally responsive, evidence-based services and strengthen coordination between treatment, supervision, and family supports. The funding supported the implementation of new therapeutic and mentoring components designed to better address substance use, mental health, and family stability.

How Many: Since implementing these program enhancements, 36 youth have participated in the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court. These youth represent individuals with significant substance use and co-occurring needs who are at high risk for deeper justice system involvement without intervention. The program provides an intensive, structured alternative to traditional court processing.

Who Is Better Off: Youth are better off through increased access to culturally responsive treatment, skill-building interventions, and consistent mentoring supports that address the root causes of substance use and related behaviors. Families are better off through peer support and increased engagement in their child's recovery and accountability process. The community and justice system are better off through improved public safety, more effective use of resources, and reduced reliance on deeper system involvement for youth who can be safely and effectively served in the community.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

- 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: Suwana Kirkland
Author: Danielle McNamara



Community Corrections Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Update

Sarah Reetz, Field Services Deputy Director

Roy Adams, Juvenile Field Supervisor

Juvenile Drug Court Refresh



Received Enhancement grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention (OJJDP) \$750,000 over four years; requires 25% in-kind match
(Grant ends September 30, 2026)

Three Primary Objectives:

- ✓ Make Drug Court more accessible and meaningful to youth of color by developing and implementing culturally specific programming
- ✓ Improve Juvenile Drug Court Program based on best practice and recommendations of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
- ✓ Improve family engagement by creating parent-led support/education group

Alignment with Comprehensive Plan



IDEA at the Forefront of Our Work

- Expanded culturally responsive and accessible services for youth and families most impacted by system involvement

Responding to Emerging Needs of Youth & Families

- Built a comprehensive, evidence-based treatment and skill-development model for high-risk youth.
- Integrated Family Peer Support to strengthen caregiver engagement, education, and advocacy

Facilitating Meaningful Youth & Family Engagement

- Family Peer Support (parent-led education and advocacy)
- Community Coaches (culturally responsive mentoring)
- HEAT for Youth (trauma-informed skills groups)
- BIPOC therapist development
- DBT skills groups and individual therapy

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2023-2027



National Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines



JDC Guideline Component	Pre-2020 Model	Grant-Enhanced Model	Approximate Annual Cost
Multidisciplinary Court Team	✓	✓	N/A
Substance Use Disorder Treatment	✓	✓	Funded by private and/or state insurance
Monitoring & Accountability (UA, Court, PO)	✓	✓	\$3,000
Wraparound Services	✓	✓	\$42,000
Developmentally Appropriate Skill-Building (CBT / DBT)	✗	✓	\$48,000
Family Engagement & Support	✗	✓	\$40,000
Mentoring / Pro-Social Supports	✗	✓	\$36,000
Structured Pro-Social Activities	✗	✓	\$4,000
Incentives	✗	✓	\$3,000
Culturally Responsive Services	✗	✓	Embedded across service contracts

Federal Funding



Clinical Oversight and Consultation

Dialectical Behavioral Individual and Family Therapy (DBT)

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) Skills Groups

HEAT for Youth (Culturally Specific Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

Family Engagement and Support

Specialized Training for Staff

Incentives and Pro-Social Support

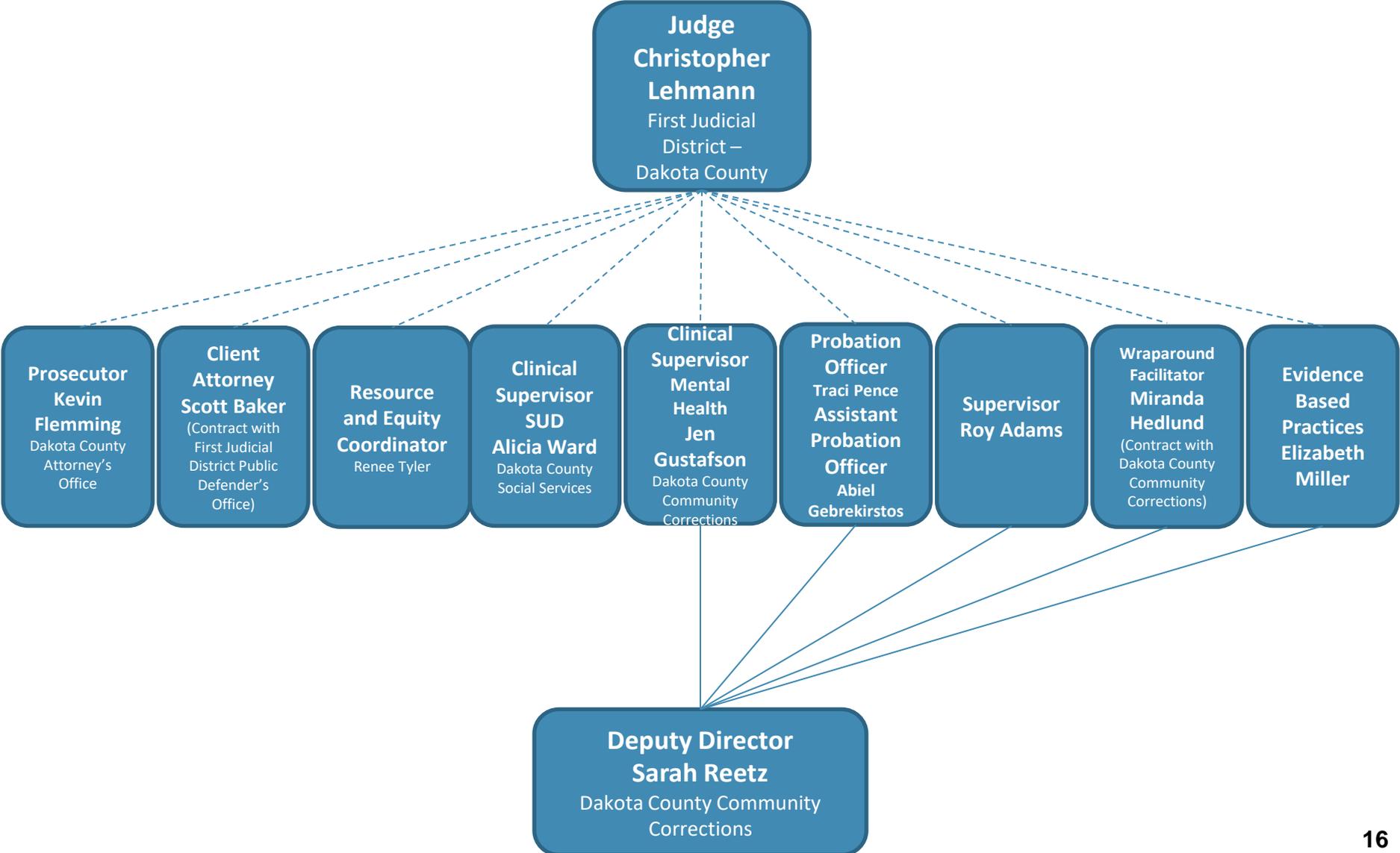
Additional State Funding



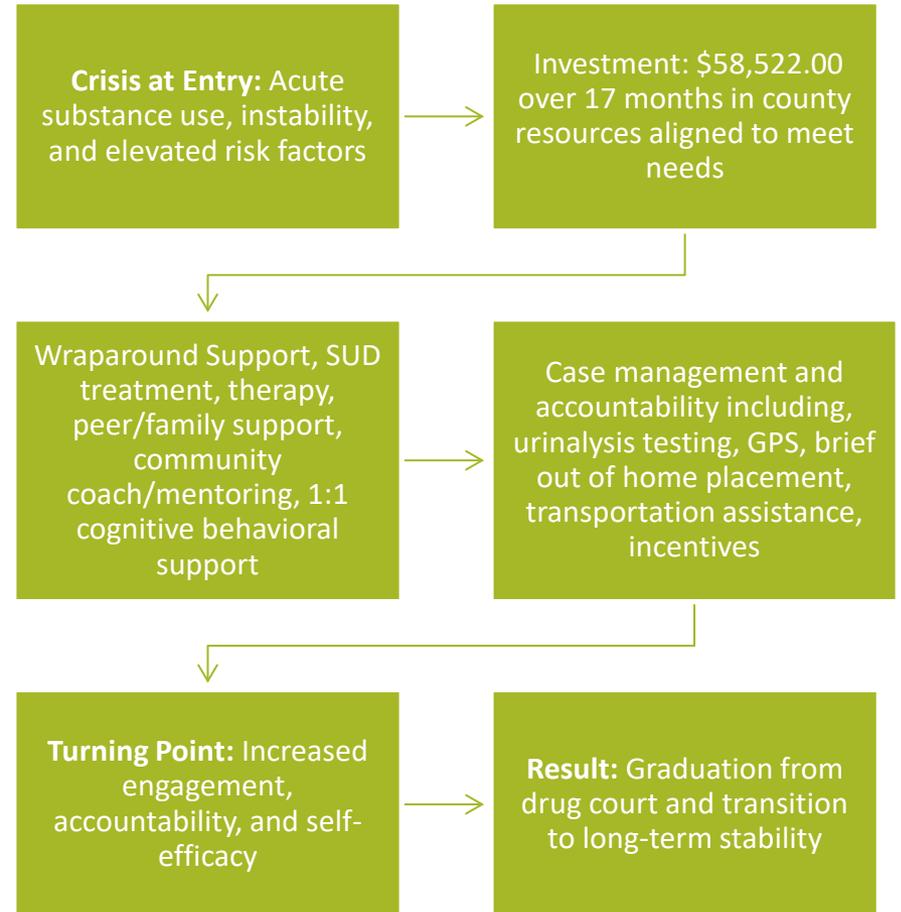
\$165,250 Allocated for FY25

- Wraparound Services
- Community Coach/Mentoring
- Urinalysis testing and supplies
- Transportation
- Office Supplies and materials

2026 Juvenile Drug Court Team



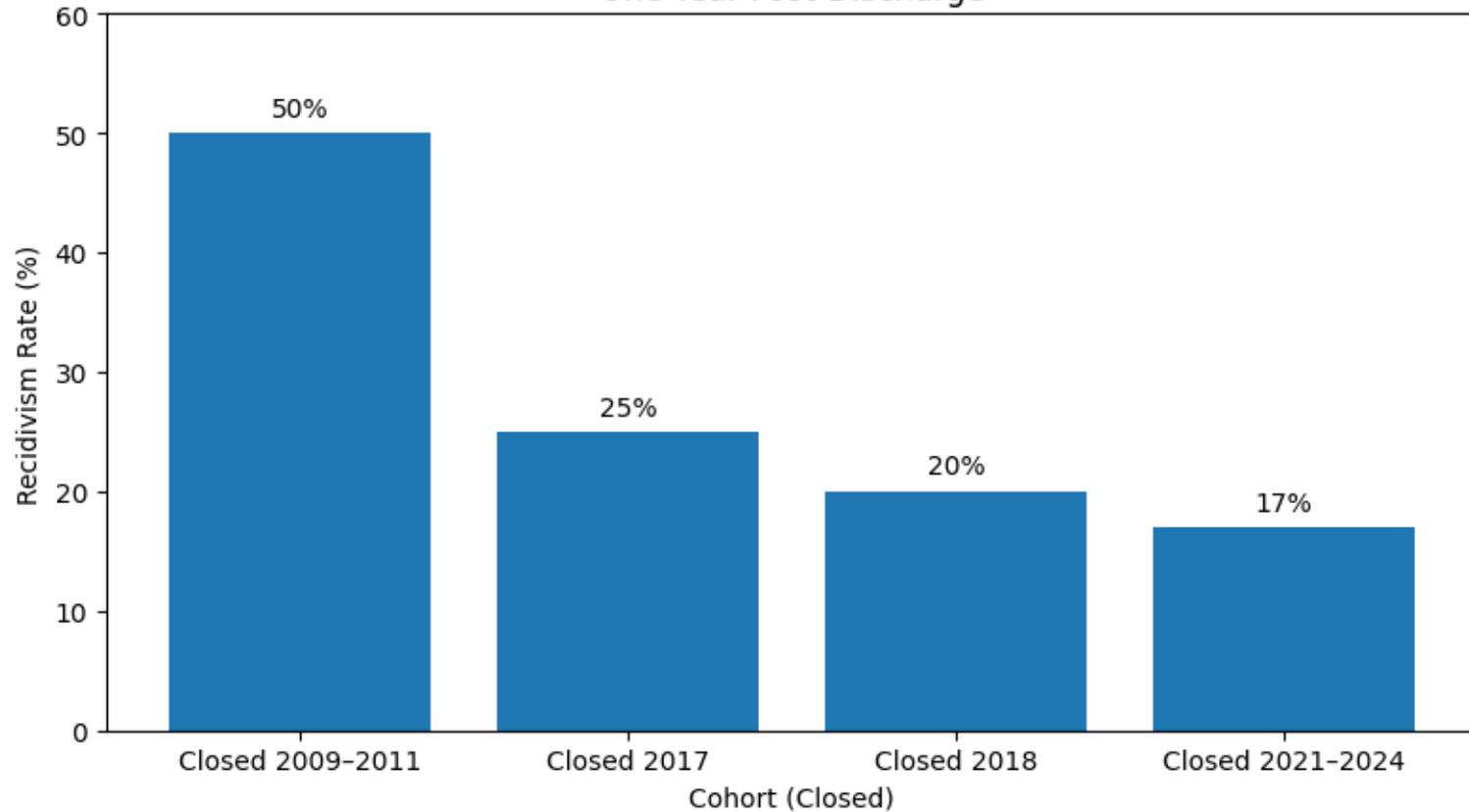
From High Risk to Graduation: A Participant Pathway



Recidivism One Year Post Discharge

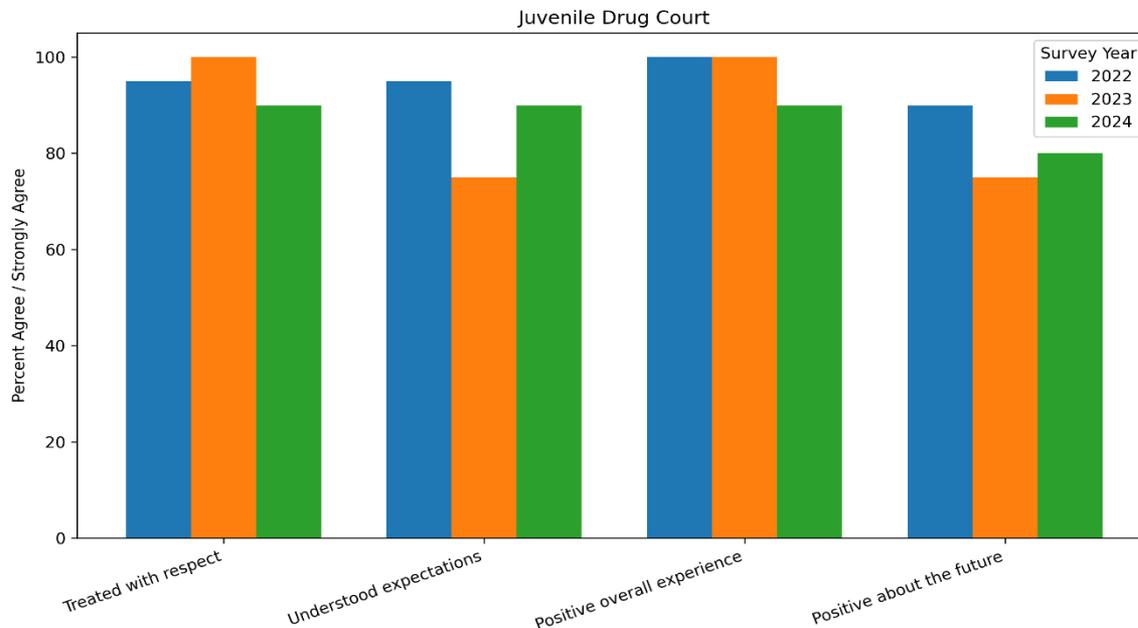


Juvenile Drug Court Recidivism
One Year Post-Discharge



Survey Results

“While I wish nobody would need to confront these circumstances, I am grateful for the staffs efforts to support our family and specifically my son. Never had I known that a program like this existed. I am profoundly grateful for not only the service but the avant-garde approach this program has taken. Thank you to everyone for its conception and it’s exceptionally professional implementation. It gives our family great hope for our sons future”



Plan for Program Sustainability Post Grant



Pursue additional grant opportunities and partnerships with service providers

Internally trained staff

Insurance funded programs

Existing budget

Questions





Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5320

Agenda #: 5.2

Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

DEPARTMENT: Social Services-Housing & Community Resources

FILE TYPE: Regular Information

TITLE

Housing Services Continuum Update

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on the housing services continuum and provide input to inform future planning.

SUMMARY

In 2021, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners convened the Housing Leadership Workgroup to assess outcomes of the County’s Housing Business Plan and make recommendations for future housing initiatives and investments.

The workgroup was made up of faith leaders, law enforcement representatives, people who have experienced homelessness, nonprofit partners, Dakota County Commissioners, and staff from the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) and the County. The workgroup recommended investments in three main areas of the Dakota County Housing Business Plan: emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, and affordable housing.

Since 2021, the County has made investments in the housing services continuum using funding sources of levy, Affordable Housing Aid (AHA), and state and federal grants. Housing services are delivered by County staff and contracted service providers.

Staff will provide an update on the Housing Business Plan.

OUTCOMES

See presentation document.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

- 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: Emily Schug

Author: Madeline Kastler



Housing Services Update

February 10, 2026

Madeline Kastler, Deputy Director, Social Services

Marti Fischbach, Assistant County Manager, Community Services

Agenda

- ❖ Community need data
- ❖ Housing Business Plan history
- ❖ Housing continuum and program impacts
- ❖ 2026 activities

Housing Terminology



Emergency Housing/Emergency Shelter – temporary accommodations to provide immediate, short-term safe space for people experiencing homelessness

Eviction Prevention – rent and case management to help residents maintain their current housing, preventing eviction and homelessness

Market Rate Housing –housing with prices set by supply and demand

Permanent Supportive Housing – housing for people exiting homelessness that has no time limits and provides on-site support services

Rapid Re-Housing - housing for people exiting homelessness that provides 24 months of rental assistance and support services

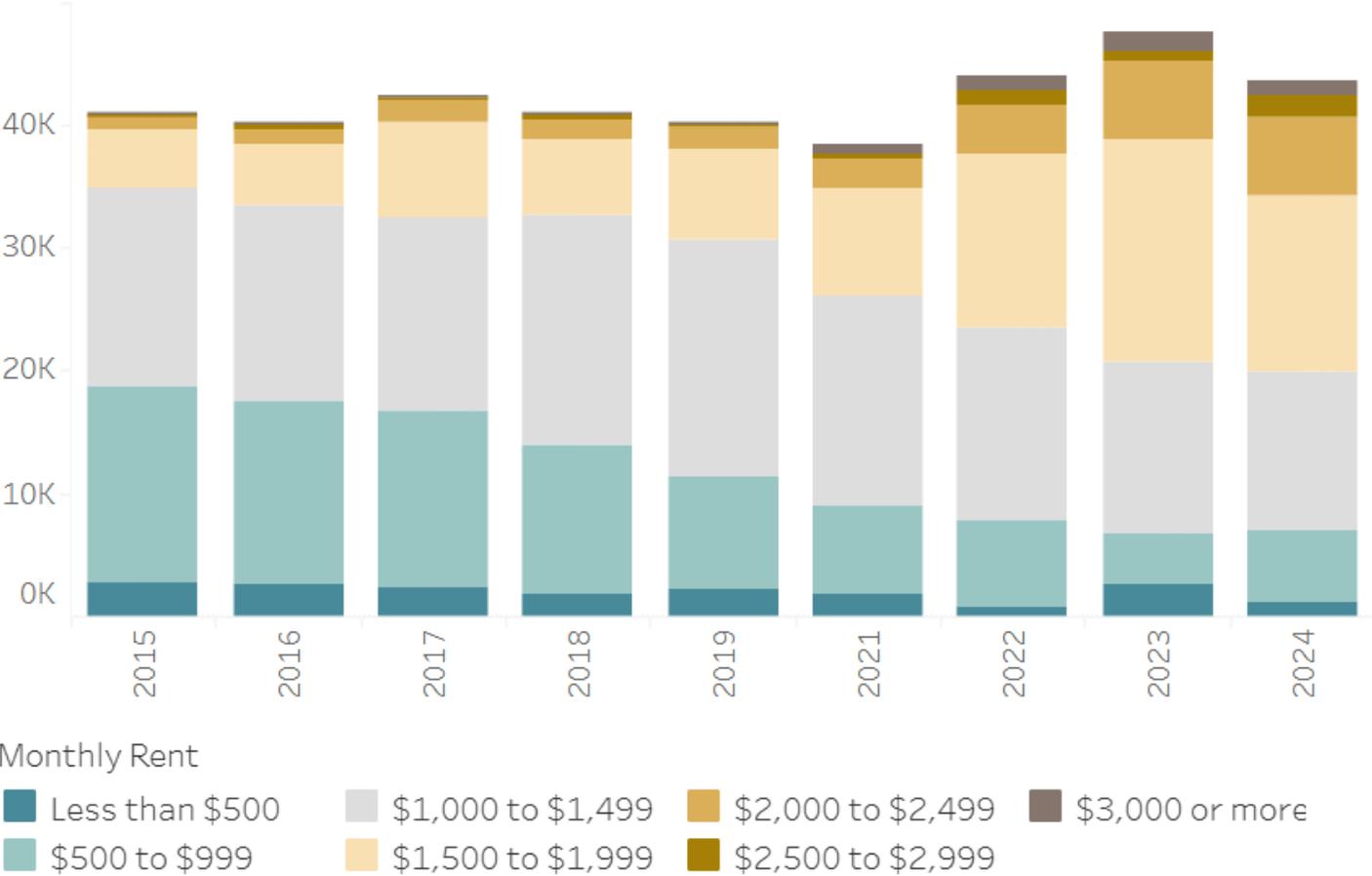
Rental Assistance/Vouchers – a portable housing subsidy that can be used in market rate housing to buy down rental costs

Subsidized Housing – subsidy to alleviate housing costs to create affordability for lower-income residents

Transitional Housing – housing for people exiting homelessness that provides 24 months of rental assistance and support services – services are required



Dakota County Rental Units by Price



Renters Cost Burdened

- 44,457 Renter Households
- 43% Renters Housing Cost Burdened
- Median Rent \$1,568 in 2024
- Only 44% of rental units under \$1,500
- Greatest increase in units \$1,500-\$1,999; Greatest decrease in units \$500-\$999

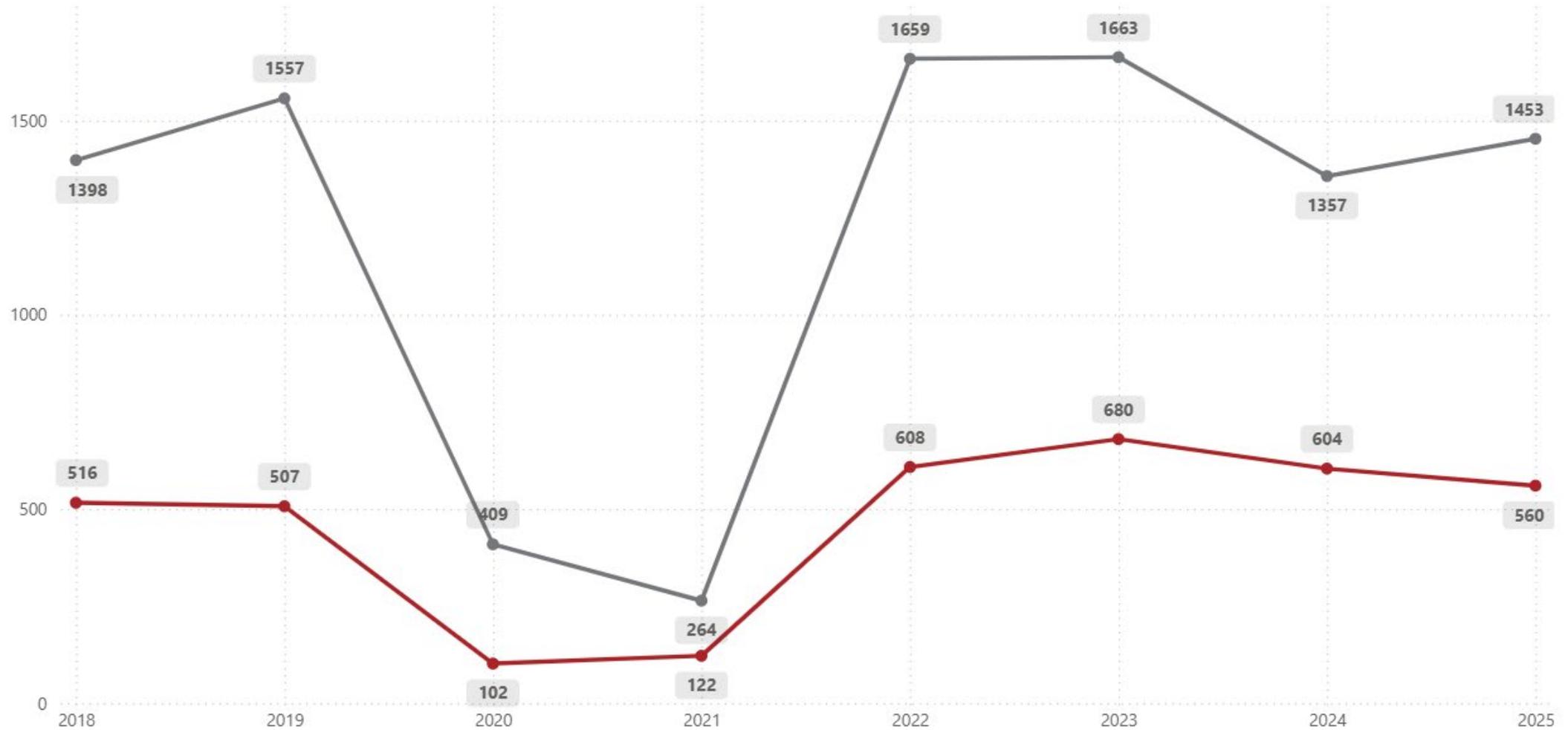
Source: American Community Survey

Dakota County Evictions



Eviction Filings and Eviction Judgments by Quarter

● Eviction Filings ● Eviction Judgments

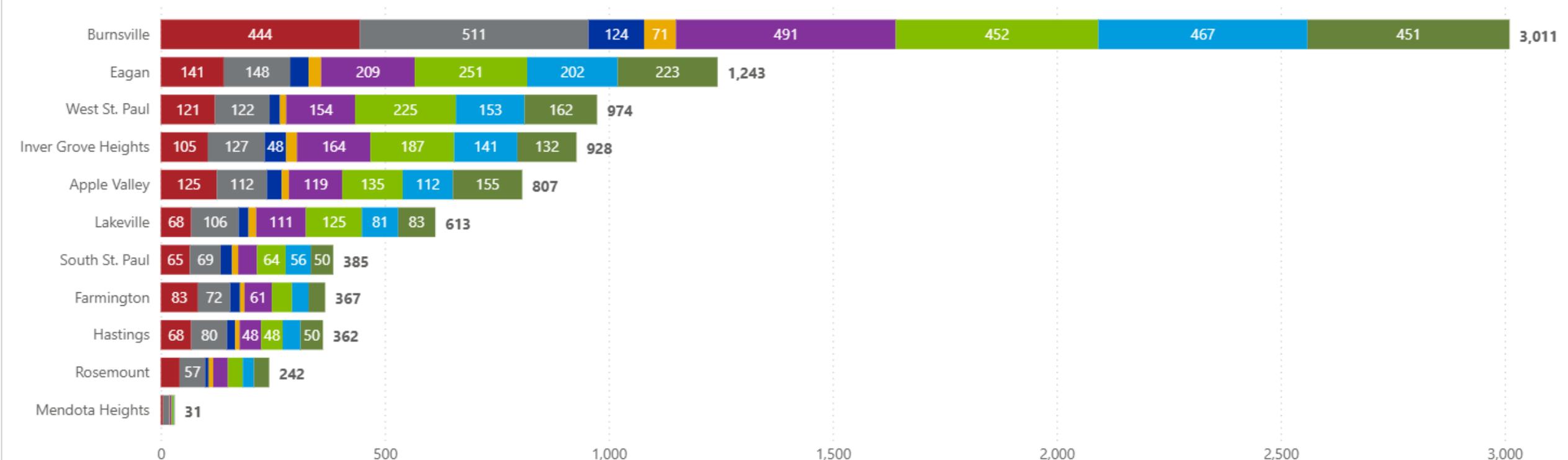


Dakota County Eviction Filings by City



Eviction Filings

Year ● 2018 ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



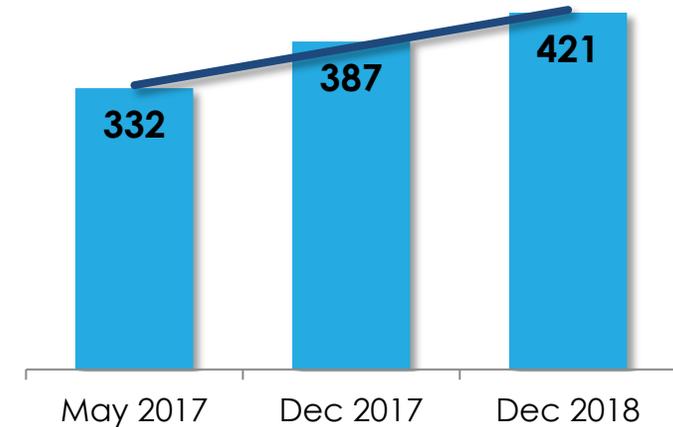
Timeline: May – September 2017

Chairs: Commissioners Atkins and Holberg

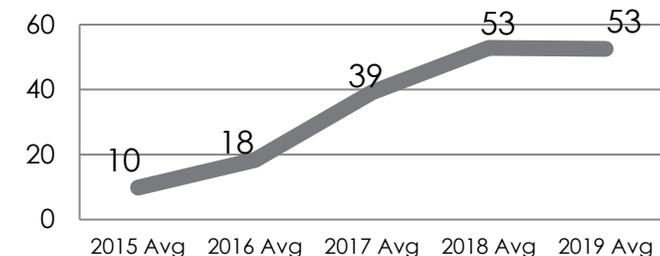
- **Purpose:** Charged with exploring options to create a business model to address shelter needs for single adults in Dakota County, specifically examining the County role and present recommendations to board.
- **Membership:** Faith leaders, sheriff and police chiefs, people who have experienced homelessness, Dakota County Commissioners, CDA and Community Services leaders

- Several factors informed plan:
 - Homelessness continued to grow
 - Waiting lists for shelter were increasing
 - Flow from shelters into permanent, affordable housing was slow
 - Cost of “emergency room” housing resources is high
 - Chairs: Commissioners Atkins and Holberg

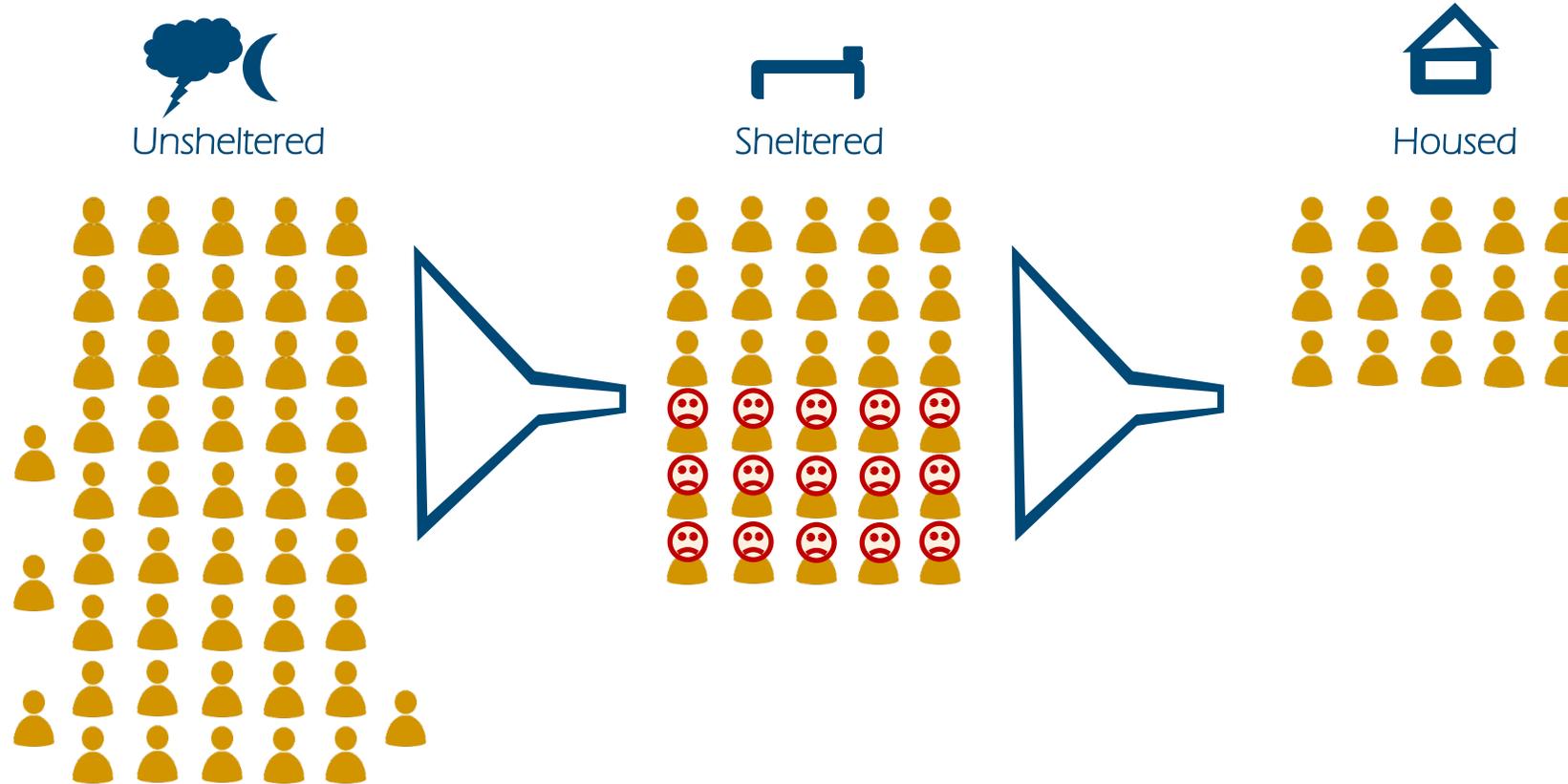
Number of Households on Coordinated Entry List



Number of Families on Dakota Woodlands Waitlist



A Stuck System



$$49 \text{ unsheltered} + 30 \text{ sheltered} = 79$$

Housing Business Plan 1.0

- **Invest** in housing solutions, support services, and temporary, emergency housing
- **Collaborate for solutions** with the Community Development Agency (CDA), private developers and cities
- **Utilize development tools** available through the CDA
- **Invest in support services** to help people maintain housing stability

Housing Business Plan 1.0: New Annual Investments



In 2017, the Dakota County Board adopted a **Housing Business Plan** to address homelessness which created new investments throughout the continuum

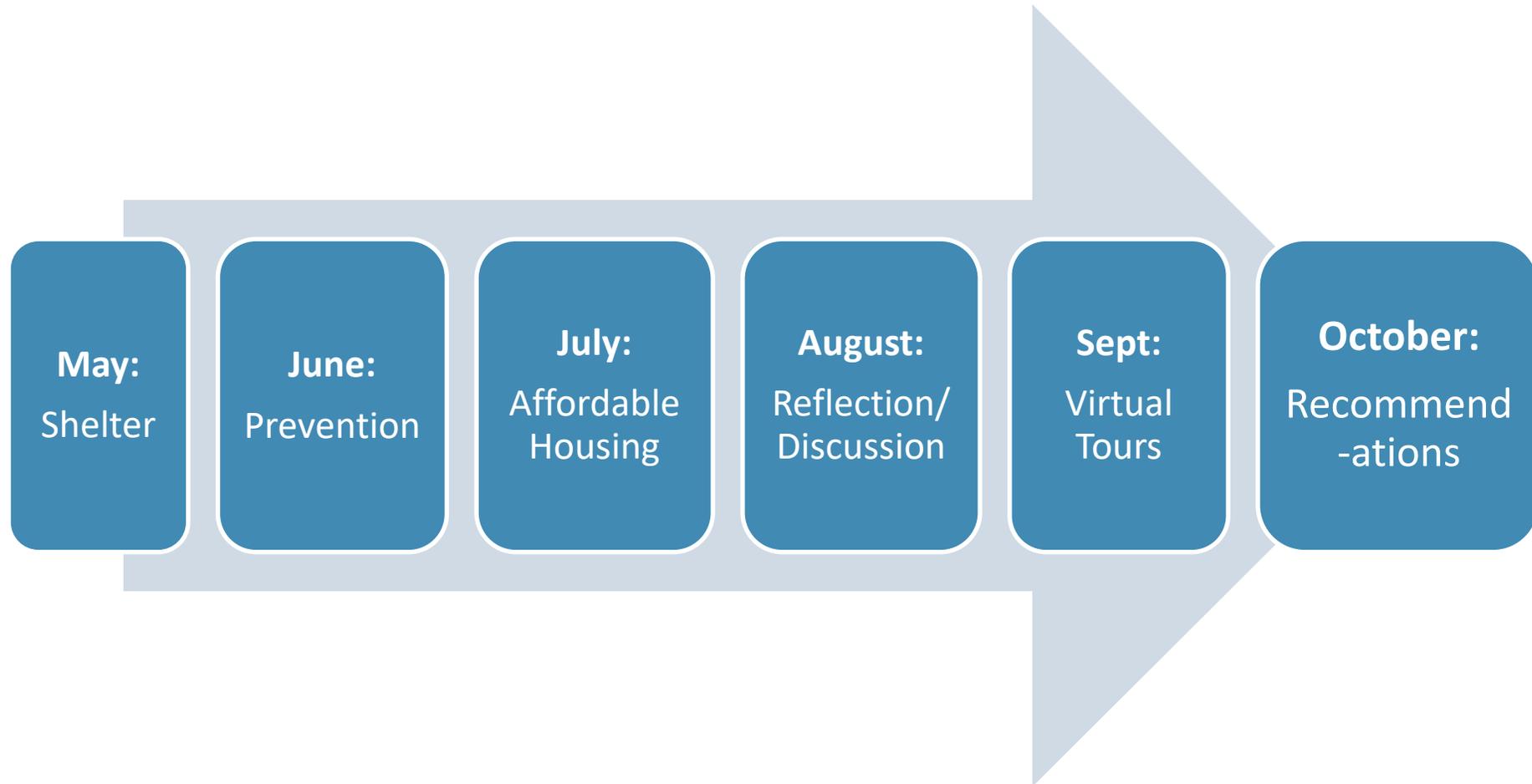
Year	Activity	Annual NEW Investment
2018	Housing Search and Stability Services	\$700,000
	Emergency Shelter	\$250,000
	Lincoln Place	\$200,000
	Landlord Engagement	\$50,000
	Hard-to-House Units (CDA)	10 set aside units
2019	Levy-Funded Rental Assistance (CDA)	\$240,000
2020	Cahill Place	\$630,000
New Annual Investments – Cumulative		\$2,070,000

Timeline: May – October 2021

Chairs: Commissioners Atkins and Holberg

- **Purpose:** Learn from *Housing Business Plan* outcomes to make recommendations for future housing plans.
- **Membership:** Faith leaders, sheriff and police chiefs, people who have experienced homelessness, Dakota County Commissioners, CDA and Community Services leaders

Recap of 2021 Meetings and Topics





- Prevention is key
- System flow
- Unsheltered homelessness remains high
- Need for permanent shelter solutions

Housing Business Plan 2.0

1. Invest in fixed-location shelter(s)
2. Focus on prevention at multiple levels
3. Significantly increase affordable housing supply

Dakota County Investment Summary 2018-2026

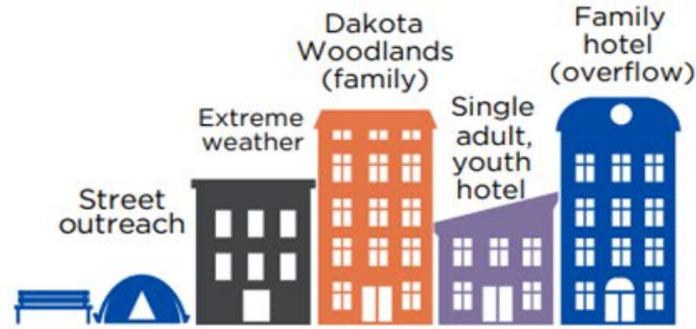
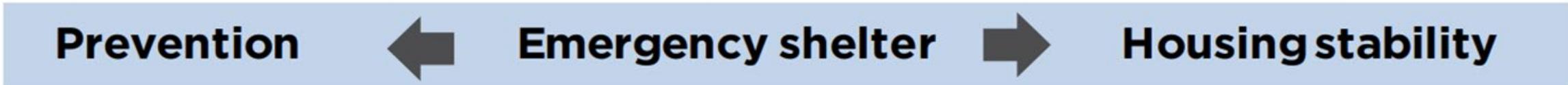


	Actual and Planned Expenses*	Funder
Prevention	\$39,979,906	Dakota County, Federal, State, and Local Grants
Shelter	\$17,019,786	Dakota County, Federal and State Grants
Housing Stability	\$40,762,871	Dakota County, Federal, State, and Local Grants
Total	\$97,762,563	

* includes actual expenditures from 2018-2025, budgeted expenditures for 2026

Investments are working and having a positive impact on Dakota County residents

Dakota County Housing Continuum

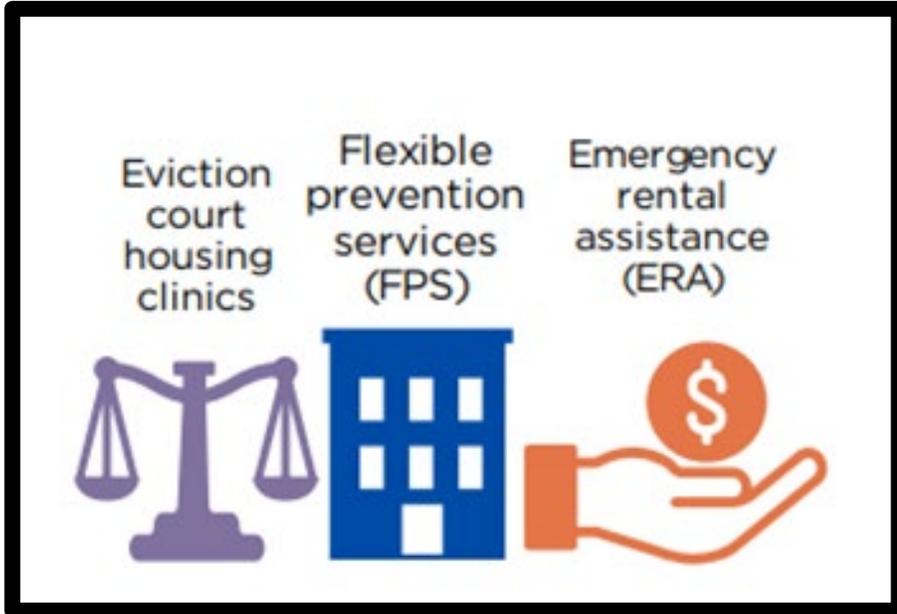


- **Emergency Rental Assistance**
- **Prevention Services**
- **Housing Clinic at Eviction Court**
- **On-site Apartment Services**

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

- **Rental assistance**
- **Permanent Supportive Housing Services**
- **Access to affordable units**
- New affordable housing
- Preserved affordable housing
- Home improvement loans
- Home ownership

Prevention



Prevention Services and Navigation staffing to prevent evictions and homelessness

Emergency Rental Assistance financial assistance to households facing eviction

Housing Clinic services at eviction court

On-site Apartment Services services at apartment buildings throughout Dakota County

Funding Source	Amount 2018-2026
Property Tax Levy	\$889,848
Federal Grants (Emergency Rental Assistance)	\$23,451,779
State Grants (i.e., LAHA, FHPAP)	\$15,057,482
Intergovernmental and Other Grants (i.e., Pohlad Foundation, Family Housing Fund)	\$580,797
Total	\$39,979,906

1501 households served in 2025 with Prevention Services

Housing Clinic – 2025 Data



Housing Clinic Households Served

From 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2025

Total served at court

1,034

Eviction Filings by Outcome

● Settled ● Eviction ● Dismissed ● Other (Against Tenant) ● Other (In Favor of Tenant) ● Closed

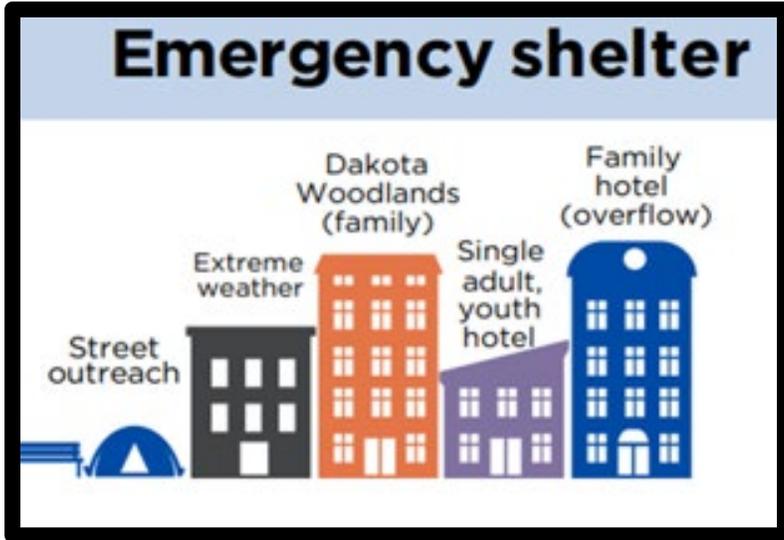
Not Served by
Housing Clinic
n = 869



Served by
Housing Clinic
n = 559



Shelter/Street Outreach



Funding Source	Amount 2018-2026
Property Tax Levy	\$9,432,142
Federal Grants (American Resuce Plan Act)	\$510,194
State Grants (i.e., DHS grants, LAHA)	\$7,077,450
Intergovernmental and Other Grants	\$0
Total	\$17,019,786

- *Shelter Services* provide emergency shelter to individuals and families experiencing homelessness
- *Shelter Diversion* provides services to individuals and families prior to shelter placement
- *Street Outreach* provides services to people experiencing homelessness who are living outside

382 households served in 2025 with Shelter Services

Shelter – 2025 Data



296

Total Exits

185

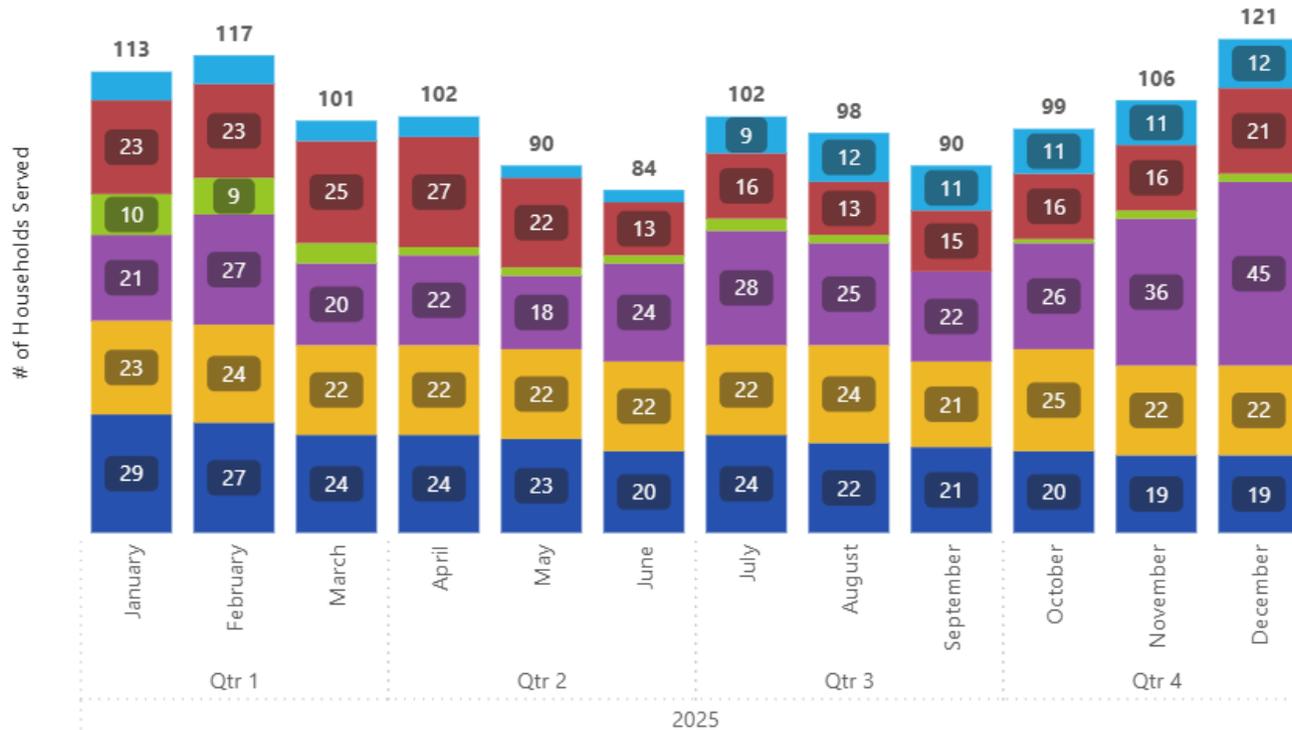
Successful Exits

63%

Success Rate %

How Many Households were Served and Where?

● Ally Hotel Shelter ● Dakota Woodlands ● Emergency Hotel S... ● Hotel 2 Home ● Hotel Connect ● The Link Hotel ...



Households Served Over Time

382

Housing Stability



Rental Assistance and Services includes Rapid Re-Housing and Family Voucher Program

Permanent Supportive Housing Services at Cahill Place, Haralson Apartments and Lincoln Place

Set-Aside Units provides access to community rental units and one year of case management

Funding Source	Amount 2018-2026
Property Tax Levy	\$20,387,150
Federal Grants (American Resuce Plan Act)	\$6,410,540
State Grants (i.e., LAHA, LHPA)	\$12,074,702
Intergovernmental and Other Grants	\$1,890,480
Total	\$40,762,871

388 households served in 2025 with Housing Stability Services

Permanent Supportive Housing – 2025 Data



93

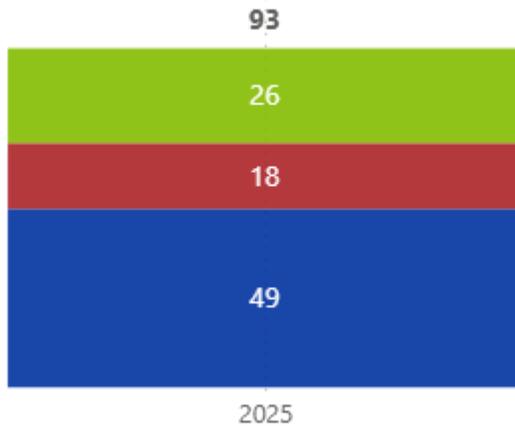
Total Households Served Over Time

216

Total Individuals Served Over Time

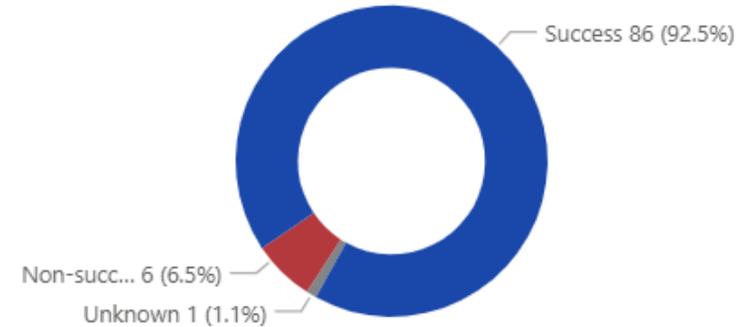
How Many Households were Served and Where?

● Cahill Place ● Haralson ● Lincoln Place



Number of Units:
Lincoln Place = 24
Haralson = 16
Cahill Place = 40

How Many Households had Successful Exit Outcomes?



2026 Activities



Continue focus on Housing Business Plan/Housing Comp Plan goals

1. Invest in fixed-location shelter(s)
2. Focus on prevention at multiple levels
3. Significantly increase affordable housing supply

Provide monthly data reports to County Board

- Shelter focus - monthly
- All housing continuum data - quarterly

Continue to use data to support program efficiencies in all areas of continuum

Monitor federal policy changes

LAHA discussion will be led by Finance as part of the budget process

Thank you



Community Services Committee of the Whole

Request for Board Action

Item Number: DC-5295

Agenda #: 8.1

Meeting Date: 2/10/2026

Adjournment