



2024 annual report

DAKOTA WOODLANDS, INC.

Empowering displaced families on their journey to independence.



From Our Executive Director



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Executive Director

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with deep gratitude for your ongoing support and inspired by the incredible resilience of the families we serve.

At Dakota Woodlands, we recognize that homelessness is a deeply personal and complex challenge, affecting families in unique ways. We are honored to walk alongside each family on their journey toward self-sufficiency and long-term stability.

In 2024, Dakota Woodlands provided shelter, care, and critical resources to more than 214 individuals, helping 54 of the 70 families successfully transition to permanent housing. Each month, we distributed over 5,900 meals and 1,941 essential items—ensuring no family went without the basics they need to begin rebuilding their lives. We continued to deliver vital services, including housing support, career development, life skills education, and mental health counseling.

2025 is already shaping up to be a transformational year for Dakota Woodlands. With refreshed branding, leadership transitions, and strategic planning underway, we are entering a pivotal chapter. These changes will position us to broaden our reach and deepen our impact—strengthening our services and expanding our ability to support families in crisis.

Our strategic priorities for 2025 include optimizing service delivery, strengthening infrastructure, maximizing human capital, and transforming marketing and fundraising. These focus areas will help us respond to the growing complexity of client needs and the increasing demand for services. We are also excited to launch new programming, including expanded youth initiatives, life skills workshops, substance use support, and enhanced community partnerships to address mental health and financial barriers.

We know the road ahead will bring challenges—but with your continued support, we are confident in our ability to meet them. Thank you for being part of the Dakota Woodlands community. Together, we are equipping, enriching, and empowering families to create lasting change.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleena Carlisle". The script is fluid and cursive.

Colleena Carlisle
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Supina". The script is fluid and cursive.

Andrew Supina
Board Chair

our vision and mission



VISION

Dakota Woodlands envisions a community where every family, regardless of their past circumstances, has access to the resources, opportunities, and support needed to thrive in permanent, sustainable housing. We aim to break the cycle of homelessness, empower families, and create stronger, more resilient communities by providing the tools for families to achieve independence and lasting success.



MISSION

Our mission is to empower displaced families on their journey to independence.

our approach

Every household that comes to Dakota Woodlands is navigating crisis and trauma. Homelessness affects families in deeply personal ways, and our approach is designed to meet them where they are—affirming that seeking help is a sign of strength and that our goal is the same as theirs: to obtain and sustain permanent, stable housing.

Through person-centered dialogue, our staff partners with families to understand their unique strengths, challenges, and goals. By identifying barriers and co-creating individualized plans, we help them take meaningful steps toward independence. We do this by providing 24/7 support, removing barriers, making community connections, and offering specialized training and education.

As the only family shelter in Dakota County, we work closely with the County to serve families in need. Dakota County manages the waitlist for placement, and we partner with the Supportive Housing Unit to ensure families receive coordinated care and long-term support.

In 2024, Dakota Woodlands served 214 individuals from 70 families—a 13% increase from 2023. Of those served, 135 were children. Seventy percent identified as BIPOC; 47% reported a history of domestic violence; 57% had annual incomes of \$12,000 or less; and 30% reported a mental or physical disability. These figures reflect the growing complexity of need among our clients and the urgency of our work.

For 2025, we are expanding our services through our Equip, Enrich, Empower framework:

Enrich:

We offer classes and workshops that help families build confidence and create lasting change.

Equip:

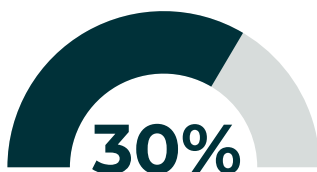
We stabilize families by providing access to nutritious meals, hygiene products, childcare, and healthcare—ensuring they have what they need to begin rebuilding.

Empower:

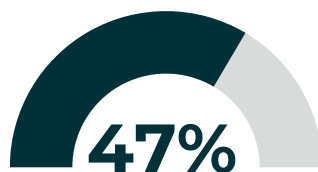
We walk alongside families, offering wraparound services like mental health counseling tailored to their goals.

We're deepening these efforts by launching new initiatives in collaboration with the families we serve, ensuring they are empowering, relevant, and responsive to their aspirations:

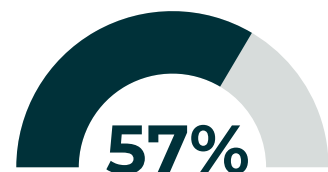
- Life Skills Education
- Financial Literacy
- Career and Professional Development
- Parenting Education and Support



reported a mental illness



reported history of domestic violence



reported annual incomes of \$12,000 or less

Homelessness remains a critical issue in our community, but we are steadfast in our commitment to supporting families through every step of their journey.

our financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$150,425
Accounts receivable	\$26,322
Grants receivable	\$104,704
Other prepaids	\$16,633
Investments	\$911,426
Property & Equipment (net)	\$983,392
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,192,902

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$17,585
Accrued expenses	\$46,994
Deferred revenue	\$2,500
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$67,079

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$2,125,823
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$2,125,823
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$2,192,902

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE

Government	\$775,476
Grants & contrubutions	\$532,682
In-kind contributions	\$150,327
Fundrasing	\$30,433
Investments	\$72,457
Miscellaneous	\$1,362
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,562,747

EXPENSES

Program services	\$1,281,375
Management & general	\$237,285
Development & fundraising	\$146,321
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,664,981

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$102,234)
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our cause

Homelessness infiltrates nearly all communities, ages, and family structures. Among developed countries, the United States has the highest number of women and children experiencing homelessness. In America, over 771,480 people are homeless, and 50 million live below the poverty level. 1 in 3 of these are children.

Homelessness is more than physical discomfort; it can cause fear for personal safety, stigmatization and isolation, and a sense of hopelessness. Children without secure and stable housing are at increased risk for lower educational attainment, jeopardized physical and mental health, and decreased social development. Childhood trauma is the leading factor for adult homelessness.

Families experiencing homelessness are doing so primarily due to a lack of income and affordable housing. One-third of homeless adults in Minnesota are working full-time. Certain populations are more apt to be homeless, such as those with criminal records, credit complications, drug or alcohol difficulties, and chronic health issues, including mental health challenges. Often, an initial problem will compound into other issues that eventually lead to homelessness.

Our location in a suburban community brings a unique challenge: Families experiencing homelessness in the suburbs are considered the "hidden homeless," turning to family or friends for temporary living quarters. Even if they cannot be seen, they are still in need of services and support.



771,480
people in the USA

are homeless without permanent housing and shelter. The majority of these people are children.



our 2024 impact

136



days
the average length of stay at
the shelter for families

166

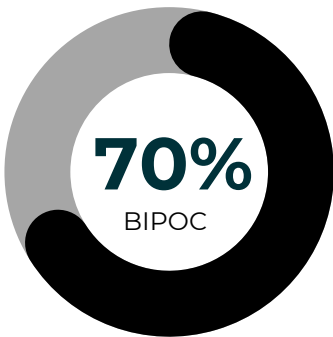


individuals
exited to permanent
housing

135

children

0-17 years of age were
served at the shelter



97+



rides for emergency
care provided for clients

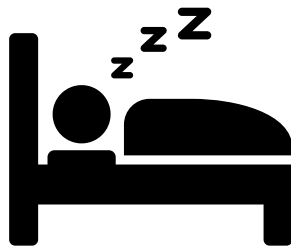
71,387+

meals and snacks
provided



23,292+

basic needs items
given out to clients



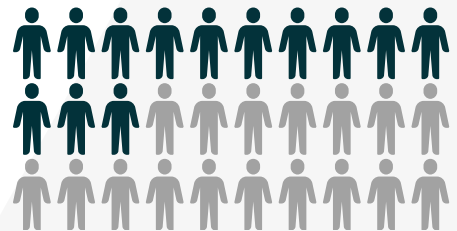
21,911+

total nights of a
safe place to sleep
provided to clients

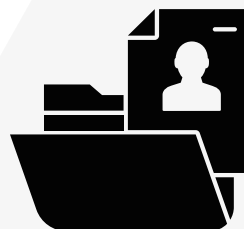
79

adults

18+ years of age were served
at the shelter



**END HOMELESSNESS
BECAUSE EVERY
FAMILY DESERVES
A HOME.**



2,288+

case management
sessions provided

our volunteers

We are honored to recognize our volunteers who make this work possible! They make a difference in the lives of families experiencing homelessness!

A special thank you goes out to these individuals and groups who consistently give their time to Dakota Woodlands:

2024 Individuals

Abbie Farley
Abby Ames
Adam Burnett
Alexandra
Kapperman
Allison Sour
Alyssa Heitkamp
Anna Zimmerman
Annie Swanholm
Ava Anderson
Bruce Bodolson
Cady Pagel
Chris Fitzgerald
Cynthia Carlson
Dorothy Ogundbe
Ella Doyle
Elon Getachew
Emily Burnett
Emma Mensche
Gary Hargreaves
Gretchen King
Hailey LaCount
Hannah Rae
Schneider
Heather Lentz
Isabelle Springer
Jack Fredrickson

Jane Greiger
Jasmine Rytting
Jenny Casper
Jesse Graber
Jon Kjome
Kate Box
Kate Walsh
Kathy Hayden
Kendra Larson
Kim Harris
Knox Fredrickson
Larry Reeves
Luke Swanson
Lynnae Weiland
Mahlet Baraki
Maren Kinsella
Maribeth Swalve
Maya Roth
Michael Benson
Nora Commers
Patty Tanji
Pinky Seeman
Piper Larson
Rod Ewert
Roxy Dobbs
Sam Carlson
Savannah Bear
Sawyer Grather

Susan Markes
Suzanne Bodolson
Thekta Adare
Tim Wells
Travis Marsh
Veda Mahaffery
Yom Adare

2024 Groups

Church of Risen Savior
St.Thomas Becket
Catholic Church
FCCLA
Prince of Peace Lutheran
Church
Hosanna Church
Cintas
Heritage Christian
School
Visitation High School
Cabi Clothing
US Bank
Boy Scouts of America
Affinity Plus
Fairview Health Clinic
CHS
DFL
AVHS

Project Miracle
EHS Robotics
Associate Bank
Moms Demand Action
Apple Valley High
School Theater
St.Thomas Becket
Project Miracle
Associate Bank

2598+

**Volunteer Hours
Provided**



Want to volunteer?

Activities for Families
Donation Pick-ups
Front Desk Support
Kitchen Support
Maintenance & Repairs
Pantry Support

Resident Store
Teach Classes
Tutoring
Landscape
Community Events
Special Projects

our donors

We are honored to recognize our donors who support our mission!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those whose support makes it possible to continue the work to support families experiencing homelessness in our community.

\$10,000+

Believe in Minnesota PAC
Ecolab Foundation
Otto Bremer Trust
Thomson Reuters Corporate
Giving

\$5,000-\$9,999

All Saints Lutheran Church
Christine Fitzgerald
CHS, INC
Eagan Lions Club Gambling
H. & E. and Helen Warren
Foundation
Jenni Lawrence
Johnson & Johnson
Open Your Heart to The Hungry
& Homeless
Smith-Dewey Family
Foundation
Sweet Harvest Foods
The Casey Albert T. O'Neil
Foundation

\$2,500-\$4,999

Brian & Laura Beuning
Daniel Driessen
David & Sarah Iverson
Tim and Kelly Keegan

\$1,000-\$2,499

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Andrew and Sherry Anderson
Ann Lloyd
Apple Valley High School
Beth Connaughty
Brandon Smith
Brian & Melissa Henning
Darci & Peter Kaul
Douglas & Nancy Schmid
Douglas Bakker

Eagan Community Foundation
Easter Lutheran Church
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James Delgreco
John & Susan Dyke
Joseph and Joanne Rusche
Leslie Malmquist
Marc & Jane Matsoff
Margaret Rivers Fund
Mary Kaul-Hottinger
Matthew & Ann Blaser
Michele & Richard Nozel
Midwest Maintenance & Mechanical
Mike and Laurie
Larson
Patricia & Paul Gust
Paul and Beth Kovach
Paul Olson
Teresa Fraher
Troy Harms
U.S. Bank Foundation

\$500-\$999

Alex and Joyce Tava
Amanda Rosemark
Amy Hedquist
Auto Owners Insurance
Barbara Harper
Carol & Steve Broback
David Logan
Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies
Auxiliary 2212
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Katherine Guthrie
Kathy and Eric Larson
Larry & Faith McCaghy
Mark Strohmayr
Michael Harrell
Michael Vallafskey
Microsoft Matching Program
Mike & Liz Grosso

Moira Webster-Larranaga
Patrick Harris
Paul & Brenda Fischer
Paul Zenner
Steve and Mary Melcher
Ted and Katie Plunkett
Tina Krahn

\$250-\$499

Blue Cross Blue Shield
Brent Krchnavy
Charles Allen
Diane Bruno
Gretta Hanson
Joe and Sandy Martin
Kate Nordquist
Kevin & Valerie Wagoner
Lisa & Tim Stienkeoway
Mary Ann Choy and Steve Johnson
Minnesota Valley Masonic Lodge #6
Paul and Deb Stoll
Richard & Catherine Bland
Shannon Caneff
Stephen & Lucy Rose
Steve Zweber
Thomas & Pam Halpern
Tim Agen
Timothy & Barbara Callister
Todd & Mary Hall
United Parcel Service
Valentina Stone
Woodland Elementary

219+

**Donors during
2024!**

Together, we empower families on their journey to independence.

\$100-\$249

Allan Cloutier
 Anita Indrelie
 Ann Craxton
 Ben Vickers
 Carol Blackburn
 Charities Aid Foundation of America
 Colleen & Chris Dolan
 Craig Larson
 David & Kristi Kuhnau
 Deb Aschenbrener
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 Elenor Lee-Lehmann
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 Sue Fitzgerald
 Susan Clark
 Susan Markes
 T Rex Cookie
 Tara Fink
 Taryn Tangen
 Thomas and Arlene Becker
 Tom & Sandy Hamel
 Unity South Twin Cities
 Vaughn Kavlie
 Weston Taney

\$99 and below

3M Foundation
 Angie Biltz
 Ann and Randy Bailey
 Bernard Bauman
 Beth Iseminger
 Boy Scouts of America Troop # 458
 Bradley and Ashley Schulzetenberg
 Christina Dunn
 Christine Lockwood
 Christopher & Becky Moody
 Christos Jensen
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 Kathleen Hayden
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 Sandra Diestler
 Sara Clough
 Sara Eddy
 Tami Abbas
 Teresa Redmond
 Thomas & Kathryn Matchinsky
 Thomas Klein and Klein
 Tonya & Matthew Foucault
 United Health Group
 Walmart - Eagan



Gifts listed were received between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024.
 We take every measure to ensure that all donors are listed correctly and regret any inaccuracies in this list. If you discover an error, please contact us at 651-456-9110.

Want to donate? www.dakotawoodlands.org/donate



thank
you!

contact us

Dakota Woodlands Inc.

3430 Wescott Woodlands
Eagan, MN 55123

P: (651)456-9110

E: Info@dakotawoodlands.org
www.dakotawoodlands.org



@dakotawoodlands

