











Annual Report 2022

A Dedicated Community of Support

Sarah came to Dakota Woodlands with her three children when she learned she could no longer stay with her sister in their apartment. Her sister's landlord learned Sarah was staying there and threatened to evict her if Sarah and her children didn't leave.

A string of events left Sarah without a job, without a reliable vehicle, and filled with feelings of hopelessness and despair. That's when she found her way to Dakota Woodlands.

When she first arrived, she was stressed, anxious, and overwhelmed. She felt like she didn't even know where to begin to put her life back together. Step by step, Sarah worked with Dakota Woodlands staff to make a list of goals – no matter how small – and work towards accomplishing them. She took classes that help with her job search, creating a budget, and even started looking at furthering her education. She got healthcare benefits for herself and her children and was able to get connected to resources to fix her car so she could get to appointments and interviews.

Even more than gaining access to resources and learning new skills, Sarah was able to build her self-confidence and become an advocate for herself and her children. Sarah shared with us that the staff and volunteers she worked with at Dakota Woodlands gave her strength and courage to thrive in her new home – and in life.

Everyone in the world needs to know that someone has their back. Dakota Woodlands makes that a reality for homeless families in Dakota County every year. We know that with your help, we can create pathways to independence for families in crisis. **Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many families, just like Sarah's!**

Jennifer Harrison, MA, CFRE Executive Director

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Financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

\$362,794 26,726 17,997 19,747 782,194 1,020,801 \$2,240,809
\$35,109 32,487 5,000 \$72,596
\$2,168,213
\$2,168,213
\$2,240,809
\$739,077 906,727 155,361 (148,994) 10,097 \$1,662,268
\$1,181,944 147,613 120,729 \$1,450,286 \$211,982

Programs & Services

Upon their arrival to Dakota Woodlands, families are greeted and welcomed by our compassionate staff, who are ready to help families every step of the way at Dakota Woodlands. Our staff support families throughout their journey to a stable future. Families that participate in the Dakota Woodlands program are welcome to stay with us long as they need to. Our staff work in unison with our families, helping them to reach their goals of having a safe home to move into, economic stability, healthcare, and family well-being.

Removing Barriers. Dakota Woodlands' staff assist families with removing barriers that prevent them from moving into affordable housing. These barriers can include: evictions and unlawful detainers, money owed to utilities, childcare needs, transportation needs, chemical dependency (treatment), untreated mental health needs, criminal backgrounds, health insurance, anger management, and outstanding warrants.

Making connections. Our staff connect families with services that help sustain independence after leaving Dakota Woodlands. Examples of those connections are with: therapists, treatment facilities, doctors/dentists, PSOP services, ARHMS workers, identifying local food shelves and other basic needs resources, helping solve transportation needs, continued education, and jobs.

24/7 Support. Dakota Woodlands' staff provide families with social opportunities, transportation, arrangements for meetings, medical appointments, social services, and remind clients to take medications that are self-administered.

Educational Programming. Dakota Woodlands' staff and volunteers help to provide specialized trainings to help families build confidence and gain life skills that help maintain stability and independence. These classes include: financial literacy, personalized employment development, parenting skills, computer proficiency, personal wellness, and understanding how to maintain and sustain housing.



Volunteers

We are so thankful for all of our volunteers who make this work possible! Your time and talents make a difference in the lives of homeless families!

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

Individuals

Jamie Agorua Mike Anderson

Kate Box

Bruce Brodelson Suzanne Brodelson

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Jenny Casper

Vicky Do Michelle Eibner

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raccy rangi

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Lakoda Will

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Volunteer Groups:

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Eastview High School

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Visitation High School

Total Volunteer Hours: **3,605**



Volunteer Opportunties

Activites for Families
Donation pick-ups
Front desk
Kitchen
Maintenance
Pantry help
Resident Store
Teach classes
Tutoring

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Alicia Zagel



Thank You!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those whose support makes it possible to continue the work to support homeless families in our community. Gifts listed were received between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022. 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 651-289-8982.