Basic Needs
Dakota Woodlands (DW) offers a safe and friendly environment for clients to transition from being homeless to finding sustainable and independent housing. Clients staying at DW receive nutritious meals, private bedrooms, personal care products, seasonal clothing, and an opportunity to learn life building skills through an educational curriculum.

Supportive Services at the Shelter
Encouragement and person centered care is at the forefront of Dakota Woodlands supportive services. DW is part of a specialized care team that partners with Dakota county, connecting clients to needed services, resources, and finding permanent housing.

During a client’s stay, DW provides supportive service that includes transportation, arranging for meetings and appointments, arranging for medical and social services, reminding clients to take medications that are self-administered, and providing social opportunities. DW takes it a step further by improving the client’s odds of not reentering homelessness by offering an educational program that teaches life skills to include financial literacy, personalized employment development, sustaining housing, parenting, and computer literacy.

Through this program of education and coaching, DW empowers clients to sustain independence and overall wellbeing. As a client journeys through the program, credits are earned and may be exchanged for household items for their new home. After a client meets all requirements of the curriculum, they will graduate receiving beneficial rewards and a program diploma for their accomplishment. Clients may also take the opportunity to enroll in elective classes outside of the core offerings and take part in fun activities for the whole family to enjoy. DW is dedicated to embracing family values and provides childcare to make it easier for clients to participate and to fulfill the social and educational part of the program.

After graduating, DW offers internal work opportunities for clients to learn "real job" skills earning a possible work reference for future employment and earn credit for the in-house DW store. The store consists of items which include household goods, small kitchen appliances, personal and baby care items, bedding, towels, toys, and much more. The DW store is very popular with clients and is proven to be a great resource. Work assignments include general maintenance and dining room duties, childcare and projects that work alongside staff.

Continued Support after Leaving the Shelter
When a family leaves the shelter, DW makes every attempt to keep in touch. DW introduces them to community connections that will continue to assist them in their recovery and including them in family activities such as picnics, community arts, and school functions.

DW provides transportation for these activities and admission fees. Former clients are also assisted with emergency needs such as diapers, formula, small loans, and other time sensitive items that without the assistance could lead them back into homelessness.

Dakota Woodlands Financial Statement as of December 31, 2019
Statement of Financial Position
Assets
Cash and cash equivalents $1,010,086
Accounts receivable 35,998
Property and equipment (net) 876,766
Other assets 15,340
Total assets $1,938,090
Liabilities
Accounts payable 10,980
Accrued liability 23,663
Long term debt 0
Total liabilities $34,643
Net Assets
Unrestricted $1,903,447
Total net assets $1,903,447
Total liabilities and net assets $1,938,090
Statement of Activities
Revenue
Fundraising 283,384
Government Contracts 736,052
In-kind Revenue 92,942
Investment Income (Loss) 95,603
Other revenue 920
Total support and revenue $1,208,901
Uses of Resources
Program 1,030,992
Management & general 105,118
Development & fundraising 86,266
Total expenses $1,224,376
Change in Net Assets ($15,475)

Dakota Woodlands is dedicated to providing effective services to the most vulnerable in our society. We thank those who have joined us in making it possible to move over 221 people out of homelessness and into more stable lives during 2019. We trust our community will step up to the challenge to make it possible for us to continue our work. Our promise is that we will be good stewards of the community’s investment and together we will help create stable futures for our homeless neighbors.

Beth Bieren
Our gratitude goes to these and all donors who gave to Dakota Woodlands in 2019.