

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP
Dallas County Administration – 411 Elm Street, Allen Clemson Courtroom, 1st Floor, Dallas Texas
May 25, 2022 10:00-11:30am

AGENDA

COVID-19 is hard on all of us but especially hard on our low-income and homeless populations. Even though we are all doing business differently than before there is value in being able to communicate during these unpredictable times. Thank you for all you are doing and please stay safe.

The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group, with diverse representation, will formulate recommendations on the creation of housing and housing related support services designed to safely divert members of special populations in crisis away from frequent utilization of expensive and sometimes unnecessary inpatient stays, emergency department visits and incarceration.

Success will be measured in placement of consumers in housing and the decreased utilization of higher levels of care (hospitals and emergency care visits) and reduced incarceration in the Dallas County Jail. The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group is committed to a data driven decision-making process with a focus on data supported outcomes.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Reports

a. Governance – Commissioner Theresa Daniel

- Approval of April 27, 2022 minutes
- Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness
- Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee
- Federal & State legislative environment

b. Presentation- DART Update Presentation, Dawn Dorman, Community Relations Representative Government and Community Relations

c. Resources – services, programs, people, funds

- Shelter Discussions
- NTBHA
- Housing Navigator / Homeless Jail Dashboard/St Jude Center
- Housing Authority Report- DHA/DCHA
- ARPA funds Update

d. Projects and Industry Updates

- Coordinated Access System/MDHA Update
- Pretrial Diversion and MH screening
- CitySquare Report (The Cottages/Fuse Project /A Way Home Housing)
- Dallas Connector
- Homeward Bound, Crisis Residential & Respite Services
- Metro Dallas Youth Committee update
- Family Housing
- Mattingly Report

3. Next Meeting: June 22, 2022

Dallas County Administration, 411 Elm Street, 1st Floor, Dallas Texas 75202

April 27, 2022 Minutes

Mission Statement: The Dallas County BH Housing Work Group, with diverse representation, will formulate recommendations on the creation of housing and housing related support services designed to safely divert members of special populations in crisis away from frequent utilization of expensive and sometimes unnecessary inpatient stays, emergency department visits and incarceration.

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ATTENDEES: Thomas Lewis, Dallas County HHS; Jim Mattingly, Luma; Janie Metzinger, NTBHA; Ikenna Mogbo, Metrocare Services; Eric McCarty, NTBHA; Doug Denton, Homeward Bound; Joli Robinson, MDHA; Kimberly Onofre, Sharing Life; Charlene Randolph, DCCJ; Laura Edmonds, DCCJ; Sarah Masih, Salvation Army; Lisa Marshall, City Citizen Homeless Commission; Tom Edwards, Mesquite ISD; Blake Fetterman, Salvation Army; Steve Abbott, American Red Cross; Sandy Rollins, Texas Tenants Union; Madeline Reedy, CitySquare; Leah Williams, MDHA; Yordanos Melake, DCCJ; Luis Moreno, Prism Health; Gilbert Cifuentes, Prism Health of North Texas; Dr. Theresa Daniel, Commissioner; Erin Moore, Dallas County; Erica McDaniel, Dallas County; Martha Rodriguez, Dallas County; Blanca Gonzalez, Dallas County; Tzeggabhran Kidane, Dallas County

Dr. Daniel opened the meeting and introduced all first-time attendees.

CALL TO ORDER: The minutes were approved without changes.

GOVERNANCE

Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness:

Dallas Area Partnership meeting was held April 7, 2022. Healthy discussions continue for the conditions and status of creating more housing. Efforts keep going to build new housing, remodel existing housing and for people to stay in current housing. Projects are in various stages of development, and we will continue to report on their progress.

Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee: Erin Moore, Commissioner Daniel's Office

The Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee was held. General discussion was held about COVID numbers and hepatitis in the homeless population. There was also discussion about resolving mitigating factors of having to spread out shelter residents due to COVID and having less shelter space. The efforts continue for the alternative model of a community first village establishment here in Dallas County.

Federal and State Legislative Update: Janie Metzinger, NTBHA

Janie Metzinger reported both Senate and House interim charges have been released. The House interim charges have one related to workforce housing and one related to victim of crimes needing housing. There will be more information reported as new developments become available.

RESOURCES

Shelter Discussions:

Sarah Masih, Salvation Army, reported general shelter updates. Salvation Army specifically is in the process of reevaluating some of their COVID policies to create greater access to those seeking shelter. They have an upcoming meeting to discuss bi-weekly COVID testing and masking. There are some program updates with on-site medical and recuperative care in partnership with Parkland Hospital in which they're planning to start sometime in May 2022.

NTBHA: Eric McCarty

Eric McCarty reported no new updates on project TBRA at this time. They have a new contract with HHSC to provide COVID rental assistance. This grant funding can help pay up to four months of rent and utilities with qualifying conditions. Further information can be found on their website: NTBHA.org and click services tab to access the link.

Housing Navigator: Kimberly Rawls, Dallas County

Report was provided to the group in the meeting packet.

Homeless Jail Dashboard: Kimberly Rawls, Dallas County

Report was provided to the group in the meeting packet.

Housing Authority Report: Thomas Lewis / Brooke Etie

Thomas Lewis, Dallas County HHS, reported emergency housing vouchers are moving along and have met their goal of 124 vouchers. There are 41 presently leased up, 39 currently searching and 44 vouchers that remain open. This work has been made possible with case management services by MDHA which have been a great help.

PROJECTS AND INDUSTRY UPDATES

Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute: Ron Stretcher

Report available at next meeting.

CARES Act/ARPA Funds: Hector Faulk, Dallas County

Commissioner Daniel reported plans are being finalized for how funds will be distributed and there will be a complete report available within the next few weeks.

Coordinated Access System: Joli Robinson, MDHA

Joli Robinson reported there are no major updates at this time. They are working heavily on encampments and have a project management plan in place. Analysis for pit count data is in the process of being finalized and the State of Homelessness Address is scheduled for May 13, 2022, where this information will be shared. Conversations continue with the City of Dallas and Dallas County about potential permanent supportive housing projects and initiatives that are in the pipeline while getting to a great place of understanding on a timeline for when, where, and services.

Pretrial Diversion and Mental Health Screening: Laura Edmonds, Dallas County

Laura Edmonds reported that the mental health pretrial process continues to go well. They have been working closely with the FUSE project to get individuals released and connected with community care and services. They continue to work with United Way on continued funding. All bed vacancies that were available at St. Jude are now full. The search for more grant opportunities remains for homeless individuals involved with criminal justice system.

CitySquare: Madeline Reedy, CitySquare

Madeline Reedy reported their quarterly report was submitted. They used key performance indicators in support of housing program and data collected. The report consists of information on the cottages, community life, a way home housing, destination homes; youth housing program including transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing. Various funding for housing navigation and street outreach along with homeless outreach team initiatives are also included in the report. There is a project overview about each program and why they were selected as supportive housing covering the stability and number of individuals housed this first quarter.

Dallas Connector: Daniel Roby, Austin Street

Report available at next meeting.

Homeward Bound: Doug Denton, Homeward Bound

Doug Denton reported crisis residential is running at about ninety percent full with three beds available at this time. The Dallas County Deflection Center is moving along. Although they encountered a small plumbing problem, it will not delay opening. They are unpacking and arranging furniture, staff onboarding, and orientation began getting everyone trained. Ribbon cutting is still set for May 20, 2022, at 11am with invitations being sent out this week.

Metro Dallas Youth Committee: Leah Williams reporting; Metro Dallas Youth Committee

Leah Williams, MDHA reported first meeting being held last week with her as the lead facilitator. The meeting went well, and discussions included moving forward with collecting data and beginning the work recreating the youth action board. Monthly meetings will be held as they continue working with other organizations while restarting voices of the youth to help influence decision making moving forward. There will be more information reported as updates become available.

Family Housing: Ellen Magnis, Family Gateway

Report was provided to the group in the meeting packet.

Mattingly Report: Jim Mattingly

Jim Mattingly provided a report to the group in the meeting packet but wanted to point out the number of units absorbed this quarter is down dramatically from last year by 50%. The number of units absorbed nationally is 14,000 which is the lowest in the past five years. Rental rates have increased significantly at 3.2% for the quarter and up 17.7% for the year. Increases are likely to continue increasing for the rest of the year, however, people moving in will see much higher rates than people as well as those who are renewing their rental agreements. Delinquent rent has begun trending upward partially due to there not being as much rental assistance and individuals not pursuing rental assistance due to the wait times for court. This year there is an expectant delivery of about 25,000 apartment units that will hopefully satisfy the demand.

Updates

Laura Edmonds commented regarding the Connector that Edd Eason has been helping fill-in this week with driving the Connector van used for jail releases and thanks to him for his continued service despite his recent retirement.

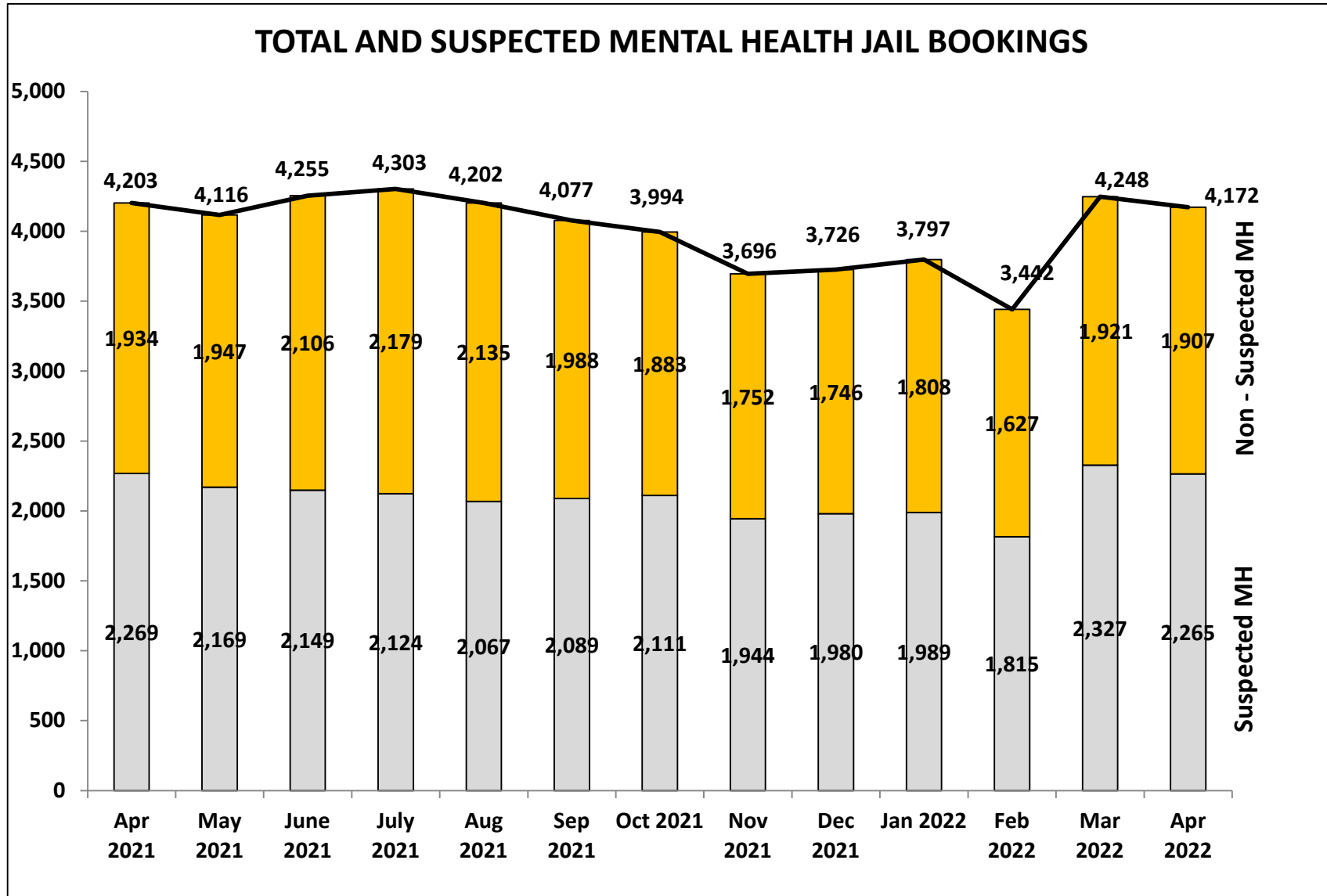
Commissioner Daniel noted as transitioning of in-person meetings begin taking place, workgroup members will be notified with location before the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55am with words of maintaining the efforts by Dr. Daniel.

Next Meeting: May 25, 2022

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Apr 2022 Homeless Report Snapshot



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Breakdown and Avg LOS - Mar 2022 to Apr 2022

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Mar 2022	Suspected MH	2,327	55%	% of total bookings [4,248]
	Homeless	380	9%	% of total bookings [4,248]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	278	73%	% of total homeless [380]

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Apr 2022	Suspected MH	2,265	54%	% of total bookings [4,172]
	Homeless	363	9%	% of total bookings [4,172]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	280	77%	% of total homeless [363]

Month/Yr	Avg LOS Total Bookings [days]	Avg LOS Homeless Bookings [days]
Mar 2022	6	9
Apr 2022	6	9

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Primary Offense Categories - Mar 2022 to Apr 2022

Offense Categories	Mar 2022 total	Mar 2022 %	Apr 2022 total	Apr 2022 %
Arson	2	0.5%	2	0.6%
Assaultive	43	11.3%	39	10.7%
Burglary	18	4.7%	15	4.1%
Criminal Mischief	11	2.9%	8	2.2%
Criminal Trespass	60	15.8%	55	15.2%
Drug/Alcohol	85	22.4%	85	23.4%
Evading	11	2.9%	9	2.5%
False Info/Fail to Identify	8	2.1%	12	3.3%
Fraud	3	0.8%	5	1.4%
HOLDS	54	14.2%	49	13.5%
Murder	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Other	34	8.9%	26	7.2%
Prostitution	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Resist	8	2.1%	6	1.7%
Robbery	8	2.1%	11	3.0%
Sexual Offense	5	1.3%	6	1.7%
Theft	26	6.8%	23	6.3%
UUMV	3	0.8%	12	3.3%
TOTAL	380	100.0%	363	100.0%

HOLDS: Citation/Tickets, Insufficient Bonds/Insufficient Bond Warrants, External Holds (Transfer to another county), and Parole Violations

Other: Offense categories with one or two charge occurrences of monthly bookin totals (i.e. Terrorist Threats, Child Endangerment, Stalking, etc.)

UUMV: Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle (i.e. Joyriding)



Dallas County Criminal Justice (DCCJ) Housing Navigator May 2022 Report

St. Jude Project

- The St. Jude staff may have one vacancy soon. I will keep everyone posted.

FUSE Project

April 2022 Jail FUSE Data

Total Clients Triaged for FUSE			372
Referral Source			
Jail FUSE Navigator Triage	336	NTBHA Living Room Referral	2
Defense Attorney Referral	3	Shelter/Street FUSE Navigator Referral	18
Another Referral Source	8	Pretrial Referral	5
Client Triage/Referral Outcomes			
Released to Another Program or Agency	11	Referral Banned from Shelter	0
Client Refused to be interviewed or Participate or Interview attempt	7	Client didn't qualify for FUSE	115
Immigration Hold	3	Client report not being Homeless	1
Released (i.e. Posted Bond)	75	Qualified referred by Shelters/Street Outreach	18
FUSE bond denied	4		
Pending Client Referrals			
Waiting on info, Waiting on Bond to Post, and pending attorney response	124	In Quarantine/Medical/Interview Pending	0
Total Released from Jail to FUSE			14
Austin Street Center	5	The Bridge	4
Salvation Army	5	Referred by Street Outreach	10
Other	0	No Response	0
Austin Street Center	2	The Bridge	1
Salvation Army	1	Other	4
No Response	0	Client Abscond/Did Not Connect	6
Housed or placed on the Housing Priority List or Info sent to MDHA			2

Housing Services for Homeless Criminal Justice-Involved Clients (HSH-CJC) Grant

- Working on a funding opportunity with the CJD Executive Staff and awaiting permission to apply.

Dallas Connector Project (DCP) Dallas County Client Utilization – Transport to the NTBHA LR from the Jail and or the LR to the FUSE Shelters

April 2022	
Total Client Activity	
Transported by the Connector	14

The NTBHA Livingroom (LR) Staff conducted jail releases for individuals going to the Livingroom and Austin Street's report would contain the April 2022 jail data.

2022 State of Homelessness

in Dallas and Collin Counties

at a glance!

4410

individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2022

31%  69%
Unsheltered Sheltered


 **Decreases in homelessness overall**

 **Veteran Homelessness: 314**
26% decrease since 2019

 **Chronic Homelessness: 1029**
93% increase since 2019 while permanent supportive housing stock increased by only 5%.

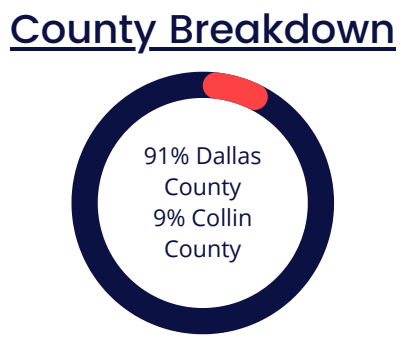
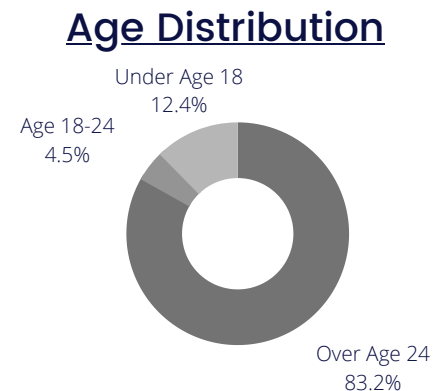
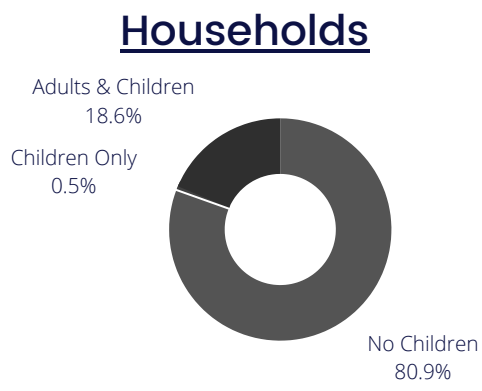
 **Family Homelessness: 814**
20% decrease since 2019 through proven diversion efforts and federal prevention assistance

Race Breakdown




- 54% Black or African American
- 38% White
- 1.2% Asian
- 1.3% American Indian
- 0.3% Pacific Islander
- 4.7% Multiple Races

Black households make up just **18% of the general population** but 54% of the homeless population.

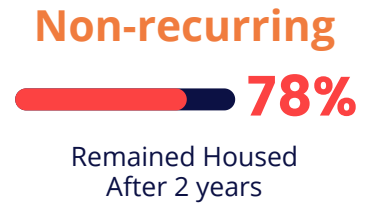


Gender Breakdown



- 33.6% Female
- 65.7% Male
- 0.7% Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'

Homeless Services System Performance in FY 2021



Family Gateway - Access Point Report: Period Ending April 2022

Family Gateway is the MDHA-designated Access Point for families with children experiencing or near homelessness for the Continuum of Care. This report contains:

Call Center Volume – We operate a 24 x 7 call center for families in crisis to answer the MDHA Homeless Crisis Helpline (1-888-411-6802 - option 3 for families with children). This is staffed by our team from 7 AM – 7 PM, with answering service providing pre-screening and triage to shelter (and activation of crisis team and shelter security for incoming) from 7 PM – 7 AM.

Pre-Screening Results – Every caller/walk-in/website inquirer receives the same pre-screening questions to help us determine the urgency of need so that the appropriate intervention can be matched. Non-urgent callers receive a Resource Packet to connect them to community resources. Those not residing in Dallas or Collin County are directed to 211 for services. Urgent families needing same day care are directed (or brought by Uber at our expense) to the Family Gateway Resource Center for a deeper assessment that includes a Diversion conversation. Diversion in this context means diverting a family from shelter by connecting them to a less intensive and less-expensive intervention, such as landlord mediation for payment plans and removal of late fees for eviction prevention, connection to eviction prevention resources, transportation (bus/train) to confirmed placement with extended family willing to take the family in, deposit + short term rental assistance, etc. If a family requires emergency shelter, we triage them to the appropriate family shelter in our community after confirming placement, to include:

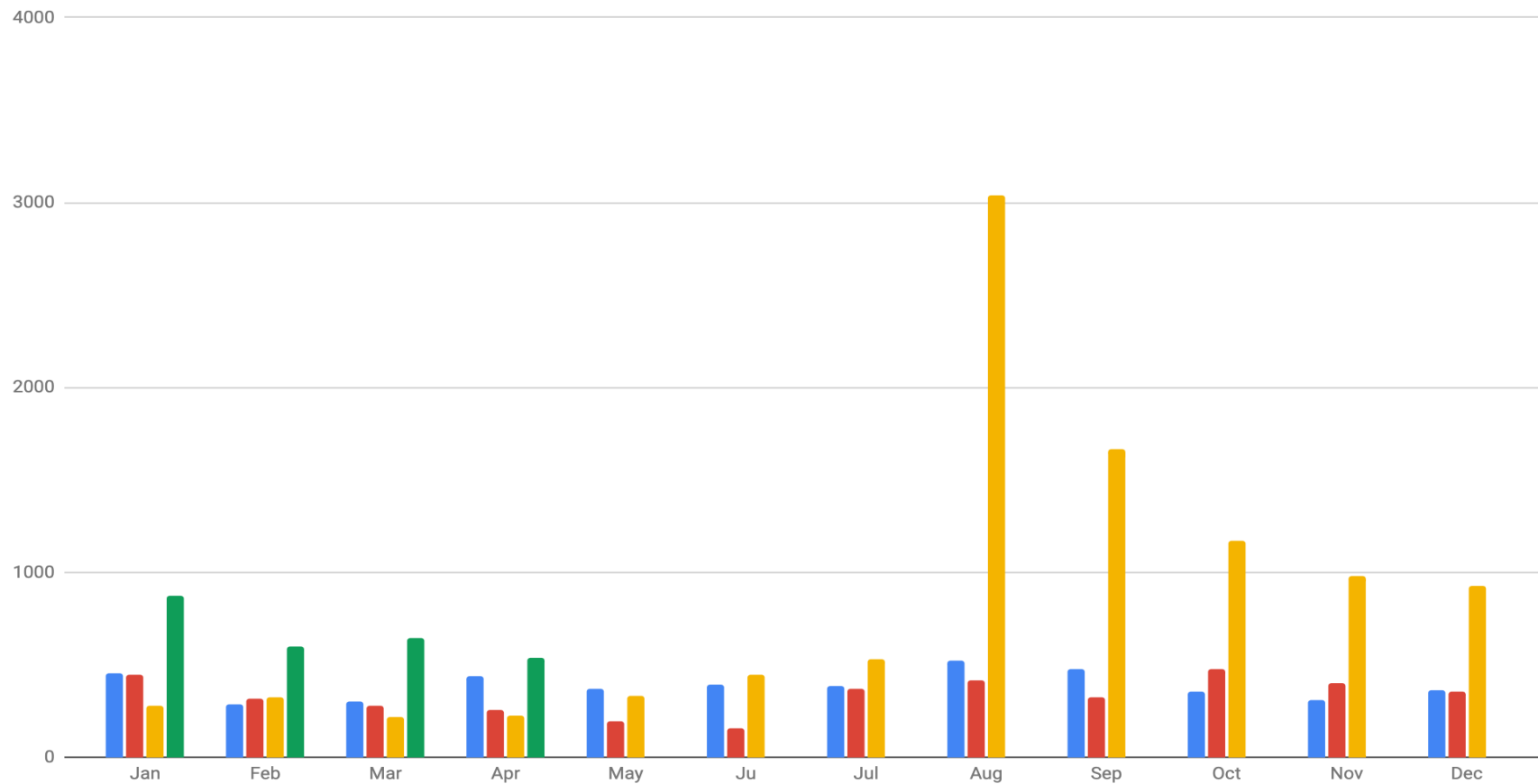
- **Family Gateway @ The Salvation Army** – New integrated family shelter targeting large families (since most are two room “suites” that share a bathroom. 14 large rooms (up to 50 beds). Families placed by Family Gateway; embedded Family Gateway Case Manager on site coupled with Case Aides and other professionals on site at The Salvation Army.
- **Union Gospel Mission Center of Hope** – Single mothers with children; no boys over 12; no prior history of domestic violence or mental illness; requires IDs for all adults and birth certificates for all children (or proof that these have been applied for). Recently re-opened for intake for new families with negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of entry; require proof that any prescribed medications have been taken consistently for 2 weeks prior to entry. Families are referred to this location and must have interview with UGM staff to determine if appropriate to place. This is not same day access but can sometimes get placed in a number of days or weeks.
- **Dallas Life** – Single parents or married couples with kids (if marriage can be proven); requires IDs for all adults and birth certificates for all children (or proof that these have been applied for), immunization records for all children and proof that medications have been taken consistently for 2 weeks prior to entry. Require COVID-19 vaccine for entry or within short stay.
- **Family Gateway** – All types of families with children, including unmarried and married couples (opposite or same sex) with children, single parents with children, tri-generational or skipped generation families (such as grandparents raising grandkids), etc. No age restrictions on boys. At least one child needs to be under 18. Exceptions: medically or developmentally dependent children over the age of 18. Will accept pregnant women with no other children if maternity shelter cannot be secured. May enter without IDs and birth certificates. Locations downtown and far north Dallas in addition to inside The Salvation Army, as mentioned above.

Hotel overflow – When all family shelters are full or when there is a mismatch of family type to an open shelter room, we overflow into a hotel setting.

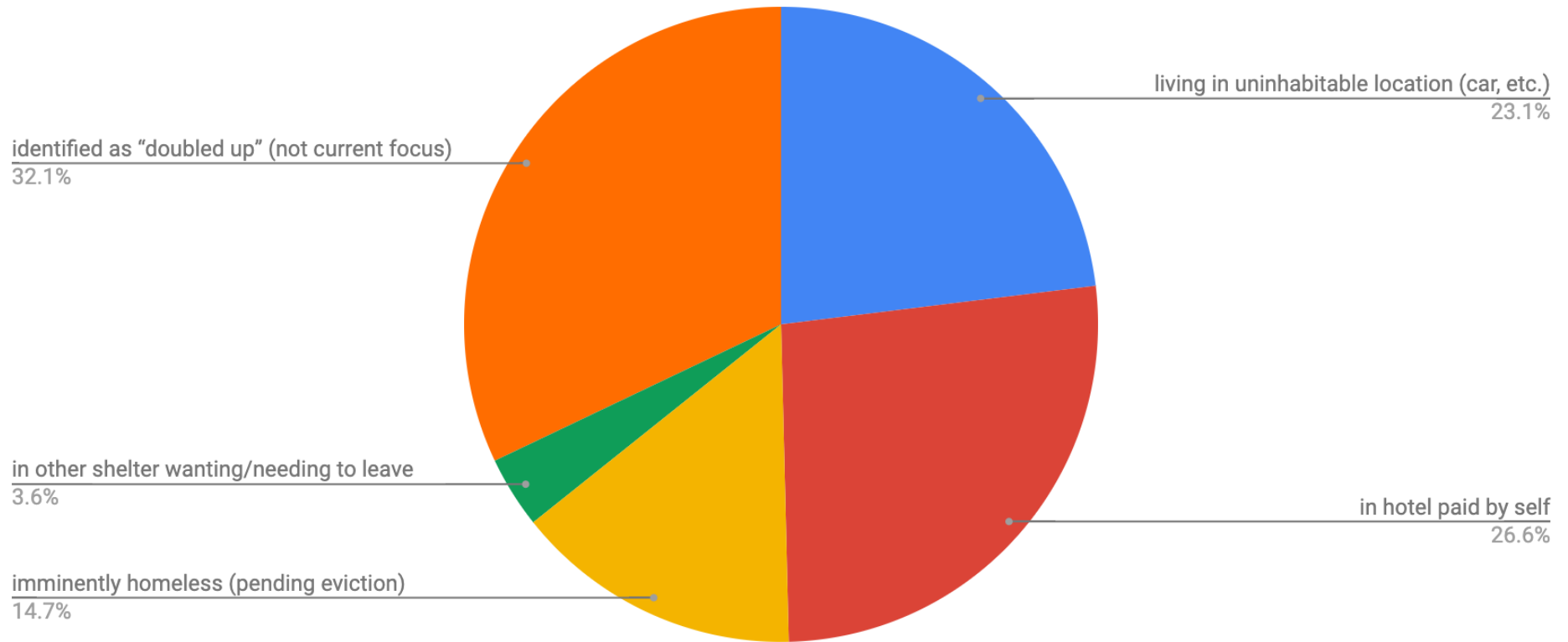
Call Center Volume – Note call suppression while stimulus/extra unemployment and eviction bans in place during 2020; call volume to start 2021 is lower than normal as eviction bans are extended and new stimulus and unemployment funding is in place; we saw call volume shift in May 2021 as benefits expire and eviction bans lift. Aug 3000+ calls due to announcement of PHAs of availability of Emergency Housing Vouchers.

Blue: 2019 – pre-pandemic
Red: 2020
Yellow: 2021
Green: 2022

Note: Most of the excess call volume in 2021/2022 is directly related to Public Housing Authorities' communication to those on their waiting lists (required by HUD) to alert them to the availability of Emergency Housing Vouchers.



Triage Data from Callers– To Determine Urgency of Response



- % of callers being evicted is highest in 2 years.

Hotel Overflow # of Families Served in this Setting in a Given Month

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019	23	1	2	0	1	1	16	46	23	25	45	81
2020	80	47	53	49	38	33	58	63	56	77	63	68
2021	68	51	59	58	52	84	39	66	119	100	56	52
2022	50	36	21	9								

As of the end of May 2022, we have 50 families (capacity 50) at Family Gateway North (the former Candlewood Suites), 34 families (capacity 35) at Family Gateway Downtown, and 12 families (capacity 14) at Family Gateway @ The Salvation Army. We have **6 families** in a hotel awaiting shelter whose family size is a mismatch for available shelter space. In April 18 families were provided with eviction prevention support with Dallas Rental Assistance Collaborative (DRAC funding); another 13 were provided with prevention support outside of DRAC.

The number of new families who could not be diverted in April 2022 and who required shelter = 55.

Key Federal Metrics	Benchmark	Overall 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	March 2022	April 2022
Average length of stay in shelter (days)	30	61	83	81	93	81
Shelter utilization as compared to 100% capacity	100%	110%	115%	120%	100%	100%
% of those who exited from shelter who moved to + housing	65%	90%	98%	76%	83%	77%
% of families in housing with increased income	20%	57%	57%	57%	48%	53%
% who exit our housing to a destination other than homelessness	77%	99%	73%	97%	100%	99%