

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Dallas County Administration – 500 Elm Street, Customer Excellence Training Room 7.Y17, 7th Floor, Dallas Texas
February 28, 2024, 10:00-11:30am

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 January 24, 2024 minutes
- Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness
- Dallas County Citizen Committee
- Federal & State legislative environment

b. Presentation – Dallas County Veterans Department, James Henderson, Director & Lavette Domineck, Lead Assistant Veteran Services Office

c. Resources – services, programs, people, funds

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

d. Projects and Industry Updates

- Housing Forward updates
- Pretrial Diversion and MH screening
- Dallas Connector
- Homeward Bound, Crisis Residential & Respite Services
- Youth Housing
- Family Housing
- Mattingly Report

3. Next Meeting March 27, 2024

Mission Statement: The Dallas County Behavioral Health Housing Work Group (DCBHWG), 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 DCBHWG is committed to a data driven decision-making process with a focus on data supported outcomes.

ATTENDEES: Dr. Theresa Daniel, Dallas County Commissioner; Erin Moore, Dallas County; Laura Edmonds, DCCJ; Latoya Jenkins, Dallas County; Charlene Randolph, DCCJ; Ikenna Mogbo, Metrocare; Tzegabrhan Kidane, Dallas County; Jim Mattingly, LumaCorp, Inc.; Doug Denton, Homeward Bound; Thomas Lewis, Dallas County HHS; Eric McCarty, NTBHA; Tom Ervin, Dallas County; Charles Reed, Dallas County; Larry Gordon, Downtown Dallas Inc., Karina Solis, Prism Health; Renee Arnold, Dallas County

Dr. Daniel opened the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.

CALL TO ORDER: The minutes were approved with no changes.

GOVERNANCE

Dallas Area Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness: Commissioner Theresa Daniel, Dallas County
Commissioner Daniel reported that the Partnership met this month, and they are reviewing the bylaws to determine if committees and groups of interests are duplicating services and efforts throughout the area. They are also focused on the cost and impact of homelessness and the effects it has on the community.

Dallas County Homeless Advisory Committee: Erin Moore, Dallas County

The Homeless Advisory committee met this month and discussed the trends of Covid, RSV, and flu and their impacts on the shelter communities. A sustainability plan for the eviction prevention program is being discussed due to the impending end of the ARP funding. They also discussed the recent area inclement weather and how Dallas County could assist in those efforts. There are active conversations about the Community First Village development that Dallas County has purchased land for. The county has two of the three pieces of property and is currently in the process of acquiring the third piece of land. It is being discussed that two pieces of the property are slated to be used for various types of housing and the third is to be utilized for tiny homes

Federal and State Legislative Update: Janie Metzinger, NTBHA

Janie Metzinger was unavailable for the meeting and a report will be provided at the next meeting.

RESOURCES

Shelter Discussions: Daniel Roby, Austin Street Shelter

Daniel Roby was unavailable for the meeting and will provide a report for the next meeting. Larry Gordon was able to provide an inclement weather update. He reported that around 2100 people used the inclement weather shelters between Austin Street, Uptown, and the Fair Park locations. It was estimated that the Fair Park location housed around 1600 people. Ikenna Mogbo stated that some of his clients reported that it was well organized and coordinated.

NTBHA: Eric McCarty, NTBHA

Eric McCarty reported that the TBRA (Tenant Based Rental Assistance) had \$2.1 million available statewide on November 22 and as of January 2024, the fund now has \$14,000 remaining. He stated he was able to secure funding for 16 households of which 8 are in the unit approval phase and are actively looking for housing. The COVID 19 supplemental grant is still available for those families and individuals that have a mental health or substance abuse diagnosis. A sustainability plan is a requirement for those seeking to acquire this grant.

Housing Navigator: Laura Edmonds, Dallas County

Laura Edmonds stated that the report is in the packet. The FUSE partners have resumed meetings and are currently working on the structure of the program. NTBHA is currently funding one of the Housing Navigators at Austin Street. The department is also working to see how they can join the Fuse referrals of those exiting the jail to other shelters with NTBHA's Critical Time Intervention Team. The shelters with these teams offer wrap-around services and the criminal justice department is hopeful this will aid in keeping those individuals at the shelters. Representatives from the District Attorney's and the Public Defender's Office are now on the partner calls, and they are looking forward to more collaboration from the court programs.

Commissioner Daniel observed that the FUSE numbers had decreased. Ms. Edmonds responded that the holidays and the old model that was being utilized impacted the numbers. She stated once they begin functioning under the new program structure, there should be some change of impact.

Charlene Randolph commented that the team is doing a great job of bringing all stakeholders to the table to gain their insight. She also stated that they are always looking for new funding sources that may become available and Kim is currently looking at those to expand the housing initiative.

Catholic Charities St. Jude: Laura Edmonds, Dallas County

An update on the St. Jude openings will be provided at the next meeting, but it is believed that if a vacancy exists, it is only one opening. Charlene Randolph reported that Dallas County has 13 spots at the Webb Chapel and Forest location. Thomas Lewis reported that Dallas County Housing has about 40 slots at the same location. He commended the relationship between Catholic Charities and Dallas County Housing Authority.

Commissioner Daniel noted that St. Jude will be opening a third housing program through the Catholic Charities Housing Initiative, the Vantage Point, this spring. There is also some discussion of Catholic Charities expanding their facility on Coit by potentially building a five-story facility in the parking lot.

Homeless Jail Dashboard: Kimberly Rawls, Dallas County

Kimberly Rawls was not available for the meeting and an update will be provided at the next meeting

Housing Authority Report: Thomas Lewis, Dallas County HHS

Thomas Lewis reported on the partnership Dallas Housing Authority has with Housing Forward. They have allocated 100 housing choice vouchers for permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals. They received their first referral group of five and are looking to establish the contracts within this month. 15 more individuals have been referred and they are hoping to have vouchers in hand for them by the end of the month. He expects that by the end of the year the housing authority will have met their contractual obligation and will have all 100 vouchers used and those individuals housed. Ikenna Mogbo noted that since receiving the unsheltered grant from HUD, it has been slow getting the individuals through the process and housed. He believes that because this grant is new, the execution of getting the partners and all entities involved seems to be the challenge.

In response to agencies worrying that they are duplicating services, Mr. Thomas believes that although many work in the area of homelessness, each agency provides their own unique attributes and brings different expertise to the service area.

CARES Act/ARPA Funds: Charles Reed, Dallas County

Charles Reed reported that the obligation deadline for the ARPA funding is coming up at the end of this year. Dallas County has obligated all of the funding except for the broadband investment project. The county is still working with the contracted non-profits whose contracts go through until the end of 2024. The county is wrapping up its ARPA funding and looking at what will happen in the next couple of years as it relates to the funding. The county will go through the right sizing process of the nonprofit's budget for the next 90 days to determine if any savings are available.

PROJECTS AND INDUSTRY UPDATES

Housing Forward updates: David Gruber, Housing Forward

David Gruber provided a report that is available in the packet.

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

Laura Edmonds reported that the Criminal Justice department assisted with 41 facilitated jail releases in the month of January. The 1622 project is completing about 1,200 assessments a month. The department continues to facilitate assessments for first time felony offenders who are eligible for the pre-trial diversion program with 88 assessments being completed in December.

Dallas Connector: Daniel Roby, Austin Street

Daniel Roby was unavailable for the meeting and a report will be provided at the next meeting. Larry Gordon reported that the Connector worked really well picking up at multiple locations during inclement weather days.

Homeward Bound: Doug Denton, Homeward Bound

Doug Denton reported that the crisis residential center stays at capacity level. The Deflection Center has ended the three-year Department of Justice grant that was the catalyst funding for their security, Clinical Director, and evaluation. The Criminal Justice department had a meeting on Monday and reported that of those individuals that had law enforcement involvement, over 70% received services provided. NTBHA reported that 80% of those engaged in the Deflection Center had a mental health provider follow up within 7-14 days. With the end of the funding from the Department of Justice, they are now able to expand their access. Work is being done with NTBHA's MCOT (Mobile Crisis Outreach Team) in which NTBHA's team works with the DPD dispatch center intercepting calls and deploying the MCOT team to diversion issues. In doing this, it has aided in the Deflection Center receiving clients. The newest partner with the Deflection Center is DART. They have a new care team assessing issues on the trains and at the bus and train stops to identify potential clients that may need the assistance provided by the Deflection Center. They are also in the process of recruiting overnight staff and in doing so, they are contracting off-duty police officers with mental health training to work the overnight hours. The officers are working in conjunction with staff to be at the facility from 11:00 pm-7:00 am. This is in response to the beta testing of the 24/7 presence at the facility. Currently, they are in conversations with a DPD lieutenant to come up with a work around to divert more people from the jail.

Youth Housing: Josh Cogan, Youth 180

Josh Cogan provided a report that is available in the meeting packet.

Family Housing: Ellen Magnis, Family Gateway

Ellen Magnis provided a report that is available in the meeting packet. Commissioner Daniel observed that the family impacted by homelessness numbers have plateaued from 2023 to 2024. Ikenna Mogbo reported that he believes the reason for the plateau may be that more people have been diverted from long term supportive housing.

Mattingly Report: Jim Mattingly, Lumacorp

Jim Mattingly stated that his report is in the packet. In 2023 the market saw a lot of new multi-family apartments delivered. 32,000 apartments were delivered and of those only 8,000 were occupied. According to the ALN Apartment database, 39,000 apartments will be delivered in 2024 with an average of 13,000 apartments per quarter. It is also projected that next year will be more of the same, more units being delivered than those being occupied. As a result of this, rental rates are expected to decrease. Newly built apartments are vacant due to this stress in the market. The average rental rates for new properties range from \$980 to \$1600.

There are 330 properties in the DFW area that are designated as affordable housing properties, and their occupancy is at 91%. In a year or more, there will be a drop off of new construction properties due to factors such as increased interest rates, declining rental rates, and increased costs. There was discussion of whether private and public funding could collaborate to buy some of the available properties and work together to make more affordable housing. Commissioner Daniel stated that Dallas County is engaged in those conversations with 20 projects already in the works.

The meeting was adjourned with words of motivation by staying engaged and informed by Dr. Daniel.

Next Meeting: February 28, 2024



Dallas County Criminal Justice (DCCJ) Housing Navigator January 2024 Report

December 2023 Jail FUSE Data		Total Clients Triaged for FUSE		75
Referral Source				
Jail FUSE Navigator Triage	21	NTBHA Living Room Referral		0
Defense Attorney Referral	7	Shelter/Street FUSE Navigator Referral		4
Another Referral Source	0	Pretrial Referral		19
Deflection Center	24			
Client Triage/Referral Outcomes				
Released to Another Program or Agency	53	Referral Banned from Shelter		0
Client Refused to be interviewed or Participate or Interview attempt	1	Client didn't qualify for FUSE		2
Immigration Hold	0	Client report not being Unsheltered		1
Released (i.e., Posted Bond)	4	Qualified referred by Shelters/Street Outreach		4
FUSE bond denied	0			
Pending Client Referrals				
Waiting on info, Waiting on Bond to Post, and pending attorney response	3	In Quarantine/Medical/Interview Pending		0
Total Released from Jail to FUSE				7
Shelter Assignment				
Austin Street Center	0	The Bridge		3
Salvation Army	4	Referred by Shelters/Street Outreach		4
Other	0	No Response		0
Shelter Connection Rate				
Austin Street Center	0	The Bridge		1
Salvation Army	4	Other		0
No Response	0	Client Abscond/Did Not Connect		2
Housed				1
Placed on Housing Priority List or Info sent to Housing Forward				1

January 2024 Jail FUSE Data		Total Clients Triaged for FUSE		136
Referral Source				
Jail FUSE Navigator Triage	18	NTBHA Living Room Referral		0
Defense Attorney Referral	5	Shelter/Street FUSE Navigator Referral		5
Another Referral Source	0	Pretrial Referral		30
Deflection Center	78			
Client Triage/Referral Outcomes				
Released to Another Program or Agency	88	Referral Banned from Shelter		0
Client Refused to be interviewed or Participate or Interview attempt	2	Client didn't qualify for FUSE		3
Immigration Hold	0	Client report not being Unsheltered		2
Released (i.e., Posted Bond)	10	Qualified referred by Shelters/Street Outreach		5
FUSE bond denied	1			
Pending Client Referrals				
Waiting on info, Waiting on Bond to Post, and pending attorney response	5	In Quarantine/Medical/Interview Pending		1
Total Released from Jail to FUSE				19
Shelter Assignment				
Austin Street Center	2	The Bridge		12
Salvation Army	5	Referred by Shelters/Street Outreach		3
Other	0	No Response		0
Shelter Connection Rate				
Austin Street Center	1	The Bridge		2
Salvation Army	5	Other		0
No Response	0	Client Abscond/Did Not Connect		11
Housed				2
Placed on Housing Priority List or Info sent to Housing Forward				2



St. Jude Project

2920 Forest Ln, Dallas, TX 75234	104 Units	Dallas County has 13 allocated beds	Housing is for Seniors +55 years old
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- We are working to full one bed available.

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

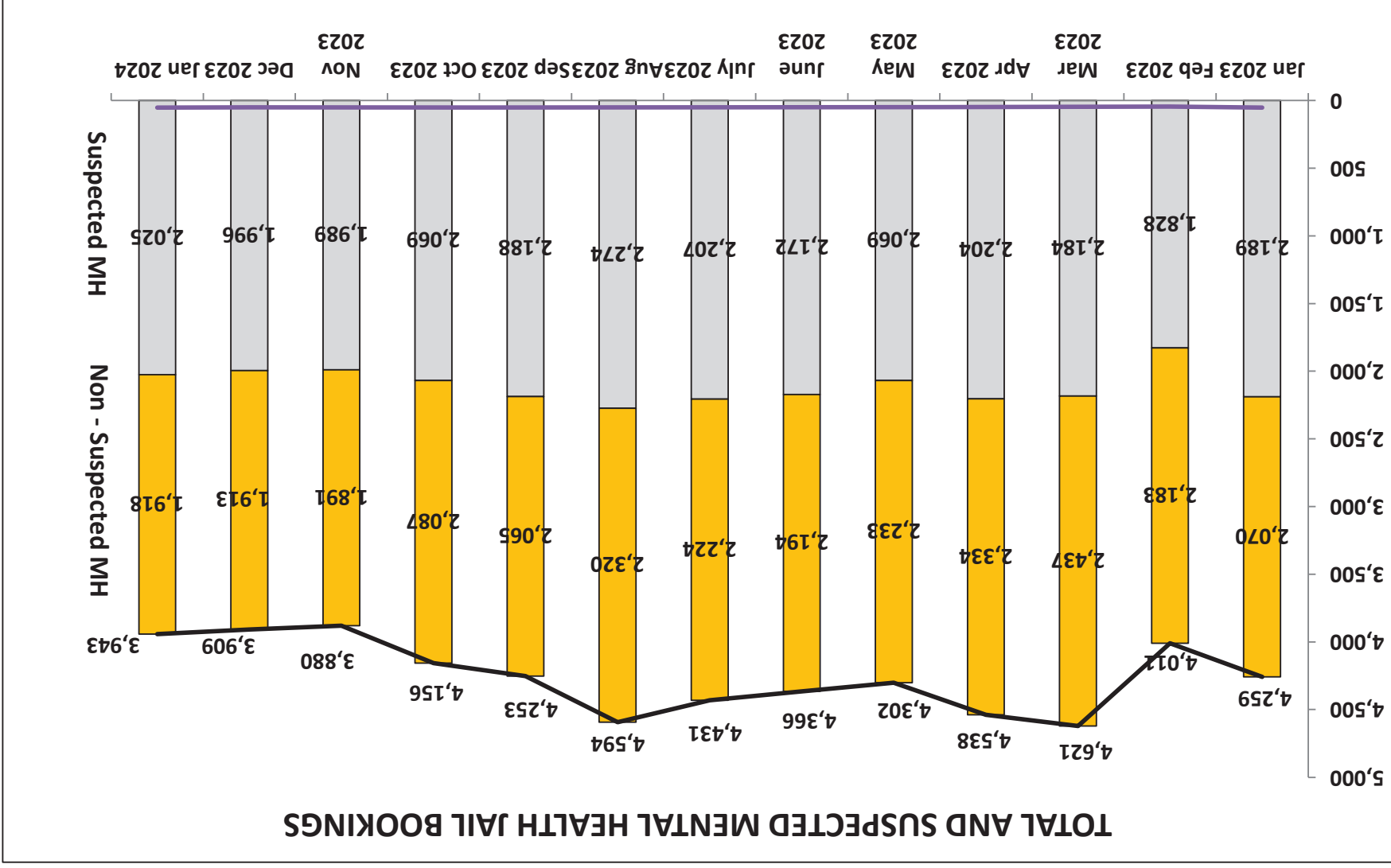
- I am continuing to work with the Council of State Governments (CSG) to complete the final draft of the last deliverable to submit to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).
- I updated the final corrections that the Tech Team added and will meet with them this Thursday, 2/29/2024, to discuss any further changes.
- After the final draft has been approved by the BJA, the Criminal Justice Department (CJD) can finalize the procurement bidding process with the Dallas County Procurement department.
- Hopefully, it will be finalized and sent in March 2024.

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

The NTBHA Livingroom (LR) Staff conducted jail releases for individuals going to the Livingroom and Austin Street's report would contain the January 2024 jail data.

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

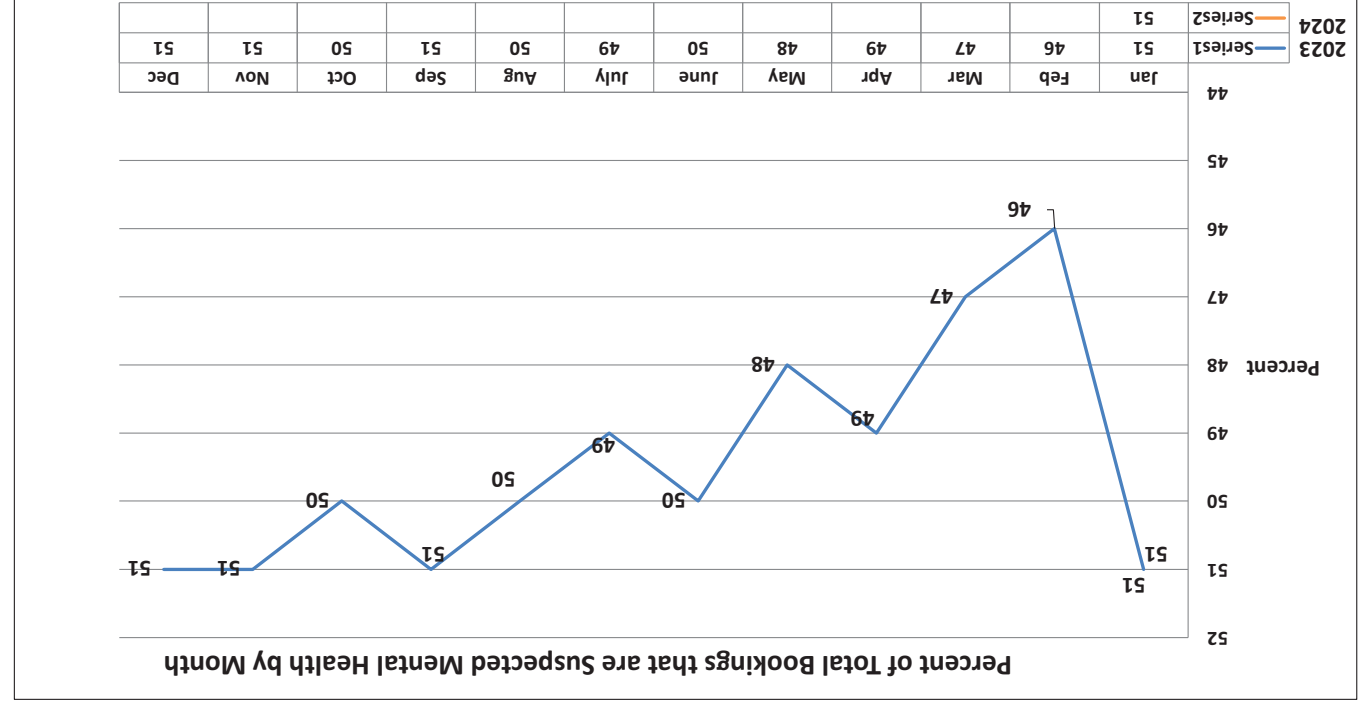
JAN 2024 Homeless Report Snapshot



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Month-to-Month Category Total Differences

Months	Total Monthly Bookings	Total Suspected MH Bookings
Dec 2023 TO Jan 2024	3909 to 3943 - Increase 34	1996 to 2025 - Increase 29



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Breakdown and Avg LOS - Dec 2023 to Jan 2024

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Dec 2023	Suspected MH	1,996	51%	% of total bookings [3909]
	Homeless	428	11%	% of total bookings [3909]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	332	78%	% of total homeless [428]

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Jan 2024	Suspected MH	2,025	51%	% of total bookings [3943]
	Homeless	490	12%	% of total bookings [3943]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	359	73%	% of total homeless [490]

Month/Yr	Avg LOS Total Bookings [days]	Avg LOS Homeless Bookings [days]
Dec 2023	7	10
Jan 2024	7	10

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Primary Offense Categories - Dec 2023 to Jan 2024

Offense Categories	Dec 2023 total	Dec 2023 %	Jan 2024 total	Dec 2023 %	MTD
Arson	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	
Assaultive	48	11.2%	34	6.9%	14 Decreased
Burglary	18	4.2%	30	6.1%	12 Increased
Criminal Mischief	7	1.6%	9	1.8%	
Criminal Trespass	78	18.2%	90	18.4%	12 Increased
Drug/Alcohol	82	19.2%	90	18.4%	12 Increased
Evading	16	3.7%	22	4.5%	
False Info/Fail to Identify	24	5.6%	28	5.7%	
Fraud	4	0.9%	7	1.4%	
HOLDS	41	9.6%	62	12.7%	21 Increased
Murder	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	
Other	25	5.8%	36	7.3%	11 Increased
Prostitution	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	
Resist	5	1.2%	6	1.2%	
Robbery	7	1.6%	10	2.0%	
Sexual Offense	9	2.1%	12	2.4%	
Theft	41	9.6%	33	6.7%	
UUMV	21	4.9%	19	3.9%	
TOTAL	428	100.0%	490	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)

Month-to-Month Category Total Differences = MTD by +/- 10 bookins



DCHHS

Dallas County Health and Human Services

Healthy People Healthy Communities
Health and Social Equity



PHILIP HUANG, MD, MPH
DIRECTOR

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

100-Allocated From the Housing Choice
Voucher Program

85-Open Vouchers

5-Homeless Leased Up

10-Searching

Next scheduled Briefing:

February 27, 2024



DALLAS COUNTY DEFLECTION CENTER

2023-24	23-Sep	23-Oct	23-Nov	23-Dec	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	24-Jul	24-Aug	TOTAL
TOTAL TRIAGED	24	41	25	32	56	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	181
Referral Source													
Dallas PD													0
SC Div	1	2	2	3	3								11
SW Div	2	3			1	2							8
SE Div	2	1	1	1	2								7
NC Div	1	2	1										4
NE Div	1	1	1		1								4
NW Div		1		1									2
CEN Div	1	4		2	5								12
Right Care	1												1
Dallas Marshal - CDC													0
College Campus PD	1												1
Great SW Coalition				2	1								3
SE Coalition	2	3		1	3								9
NTBHA MCOT/CTI	5	11	9	10	19								54
Garland PD				2	1								3
Irving PD	2	3											5
DART PD	3	8	11	9	20	1							52
Parkland-Baylor PD	2	2		1									5
TRIAGE OUTCOME	24	41	25	32	56	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Psych Crisis Residential	1			1									2
Detox-Withdrawal Mgmt													0
Living Room-NTBHA*		9			2	1							12
CMHP Services					1								1
ACT Team	3	0		2	1								6
OTHER SUD Services	2	3			1								6
Shelter													
Austin Street			2		2								4
Bridge	1	1		1	1								4
Salvation Army		1	1		1								3
Union Gospel Mission		1											1
Other		1			1								2
Home-Family-Friends	3	4	6	8	15	1							37
Boarding Home/PSH	2	2	3	2	3								12
Higher Level of Care													
Behavioral Health	1	2	1	2	4								10
Physical Health	1	4	2	5	6								18
Veterans Administration	2												2
APOWW or Arrest					1								1
LEA Maintained Custody	3			1	2								6
Still in Service		3	5	4	10								22
Refused Services	5	10	5	6	5	1							32

Youth Homelessness Update

Josh Cogan

Housing Work group Meeting

2/28/2024

1. Rep. Watson Coleman (NJ-12) led a letter to HUD Secretary Fudge requesting information regarding efforts to reduce evictions among Black renters, women, and children - See press release here : <https://watsoncoleman.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/rep-watson-coleman-leads-47-members-of-congress-in-letter-to-hud-secretary-fudge-requesting-information-on-efforts-to-reduce-evictions-among-vulnerable-groups>

2. Rep. Tlaib (MI-12) introduced a bill to address youth homelessness through direct cash assistance - See press release (with link to bill text at the bottom of the release) here <https://tlaib.house.gov/posts/tlaib-introduces-bill-to-address-youth-homelessness>