

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Dallas County Administration – 500 Elm Street, Customer Excellence Training Room 7.Y17, 7th Floor, Dallas Texas

April 23, 2025, 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 February 26, 2025, minutes
- Homeless Advisory Committee Meeting
- Federal & State legislative environment

b. Resources – services, programs, people, funds

- Shelter Discussions
- NTBHA
- Housing Navigator / Homeless Jail Dashboard/St Jude Center
- Housing Authority Report- DHA/DCHA
- Metrocare Services
- AIDS Services of Dallas (ASD)

c. Projects and Industry Updates

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

3. Next Meeting May 28, 2025

Dallas County Administration, 500 Elm Street, 7th Floor, Dallas Texas 75202

February 26, 2025 Minutes

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: Commissioner Theresa Daniel, Dallas County; Latoya Jenkins, Dallas County; Tzeggabhran Kidane, Dallas County; Kimberly Rawls, DCCJ; Ikenna Mogbo, Metrocare; Kendall Brown, Family Gateway; Tasha Derby, DCHA; Cathy Jackson, DCHA; Traswell Livingston III, ASD; Kelvin Brown, Homepoint; Larry Gordon, Downtown Dallas, Inc.; Rachel Robert-Picketts, Catholic Charities; Andrea Batarse, Dallas Habitat; Lorenzo Pablo, World Relief Texas; Garrett Peterson, International Rescue Committee

Dr. Daniel opened the meeting by having the members at the table to introduce themselves.

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner and the committee approved the minutes from the December 4th meeting.

GOVERNANCE

Homeless Advisory Committee: Commissioner Theresa Daniel, Dallas County

The Homeless Advisory Committee meeting was held on February 17th and the eviction data report is in the packet. Commissioner reported that there are more evictions being filed, but Ikenna Mogbo noted that the eviction cases are still less than they would be before Covid, with some courts are open to the advocacy of the tenant now. He states that even though the eviction data does not look good, it is still better than it was five years ago. Commissioner Daniel noted that the number of cases filed has steadily increased and is trending up noting that rental assistance is also a contributing factor, and people are getting the assistance because a lot more money is available now. Traswell Livingston stated that in the near future, it may be of some significance to look at root causes and issues of eviction and homelessness and if resources will be available for those causes and diversion.

Federal and State Legislative Update:

There was discussion of the federal administration changes and how it is affecting the current state of affairs and how lives are being impacted by the decisions being made. Commissioner then shifted the meeting to hear from the guests who represented refugee services.

Presentation

Refugee Services: Garret Pearson, International Rescue Committee, Lorenzo Pablo, World Relief Texas and Rachel Robert Pickett, Catholic Charities

Who are the organizations and what are the issues?

Garrett Pearson reported that they are here to provide warnings for the months ahead. Collectively, they have resettled different populations including allied refugees from Afghanistan, Burma, Syria and other countries. They also assist about 1,000 protected status clients from Venezuela, Cuba, and Haiti. The organizations provide federal support for the first three months, and they provide employment services. They also offer 12 months of rental assistance that is not being paid out right now possibly creating housing instability for these clients. Currently, that aid has been taken away by the federal government with the Administration defying the federal judgement. This leaves anywhere from 600 to 1,000 people in Dallas County affected by this change.

Lorenzo Pablo stated that the people who were coming into the United States were expecting these assimilation processes in order to get them self-sufficient as soon as possible. When the funding was cut, these processes were immediately halted, the organizations were affected immediately, and no other funding is available to help them. Commissioner Daniel

asked what happens to the clients when the funding is cut. Lorenzo answered that some were diverted to other programs, some would be put into other programs after their 90 day assimilation process, and they called up the community to help out. Rachel Robert-Pickett acknowledged that there is still a huge gap and Catholic Charities is in the process of trying to piece something together for about 5,000 clients but this process is not sustainable. Lorenzo Pablo stated that his organization is assisting around 4,000 DFW clients on average, which has been the standard for the last four years. Current landlords are being paid as of now but, may not be in the near future. Garrett Pearson stated that their organization has almost emptied out their reserves to pay rent, but he has about 130 families that are attempting to pay their March rent. Rachel Robert-Pickett stated that they have about 50 families they are working with. She stated that they do look at each family situation to determine severity of need to assess who gets the assistance first. Rachel also states they are working to get the people working, but there is a process to do that, and it takes time.

How are the organizations in this current situation?

Each of the organizations represented stated that most of the funding they received was government funding and they relied heavily on those funds because they were readily available, and sustainable. Rachel stated that their program utilizes \$2 million dollars a month to fund their program. She also stated that once the executive order was given, all reimbursement funds were stopped. Although that letter was later rescinded, their funds were still not released. Mr. Lorenzo stated that two things happened, 1. the stop work order was not rescinded, which allows the organizations to fund clients for the first 90 days, and 2, the lift on the admissions for the refugee programs was not rescinded either. They are also not getting back payments from the fiscal year's budget that were given in October. Resettlement agencies are also not receiving funding from the state either. State funding for World Relief Texas stopped in October 2024, and the state is not able to get any funds from the federal government. Ikenna Mogbo remarked that if you delay the nonprofit agencies long enough, they will eventually go away. He also remarked that this is just the beginning and if the federal government does the same to housing and homelessness services, then those organizations will be gone. Kelvin Brown stated that this impacts their services as well and will cause a spiral of homelessness within the city and county that homeless and housing organizations are not ready for.

What type of assistance are the organizations seeking?

Rachel stated that many of the landlords and apartment complexes are now starting to want payment as they have been patient and flexible but are now looking for payment from these tenants. Rachel stated they are being proactive and asking for a moratorium on evictions for refugee clients. She states they are seeing other places in Texas asking for the same action. She reported that this will impact about 16,000 people in the area, as there are two other organizations that are doing the same work but were not represented at the meeting. Kimberly Rawls asked if the landlords gave them a specific date that they need payment to which Rachel answered they were proactive beforehand and they reached out to them giving them a timeframe for extensions. She said that they may be able to fund some of the most vulnerable clients, but not all. Commissioner commented that if the federal government had not rescinded the letter, Dallas County would need to investigate Dallas County's projects to get a gauge of how these orders affect our current projects in process.

What happens if assistance is not available?

There was conversation surrounding what happens if the funding is not available and the refugees are now homeless with some suggesting that deportation may eventually happen. The refugee organizations stated that the clients coming into their programs are not undocumented and they are on the path to become citizens which is how they gained their federal funding. Garrett Pearson added context to the conversation by saying every other state that works for the same protected status clients has had their funding reinstated. Texas is the only state that has either had their funding blocked or not received their funding. Most of the other border states have had their funding reinstated. Garrett stated that this is due to the resettlement organizations having a coordinated effort working with their state and local governments and the state of Texas does not work with the resettlement agencies here. He stated this is why they have come to the city and county for assistance. They would like the cities and counties to advocate on behalf of the organizations to make the case that the issue is bigger than one industry and it impacts the whole. Lorenzo Pablo stated that Texas has opted out of the state refugee program and the state funds are funneled through a designated third party nonprofit organization. Texas is the largest state to take in international refugees. Texas is not the only state to have opted out of it, but Texas is the only state not receiving funding. Traswell Livingston asked how much funding the organizations need. Total funding between the organizations totaled \$75 million between the three organizations.

Are there other possible solutions?

Traswell Livingston also asked if there was a corporate partner that is hiring a lot of the refugees for the labor force. She stated that they mostly occupy spaces in the service, hotel, the DFW airport, and more recently construction industries. Traswell stated that these issues impact the ecosystem of a person and if everyone understands that, it may open up some

other avenues that may not have been previously thought of or talked about. Kelvin Brown pointed out that if the refugees are out on the street, that is 16,000 people that are homeless. The homeless system is not set up for that. Ikenna Mogbo asked what it is that the organizations are wanting to which, Rachel stated they are asking for an eviction moratorium for at least two months to hold off evictions and she also stated that she is asking for advocacy for their organization. She stated that this is a community issue, and it impacts many other facets of life. Commissioner stated that this does impact most other facets of community including the impact on the county jail. Kimberly Rawls stated that this situation impacts the jail population and also it may increase the numbers of those with suspected mental health flags, the overall book-ins and the homeless book-ins. Kimberly also stated that many of the grants they apply are for reentry housing. Many programs have been removed as well, so they are losing funding also. Rachel also asked about rapid rehousing vouchers and in speaking with community partners, they mentioned that those vouchers may also be an option to assist in this issue.

There was discussion about sending some of the refugees to other states, but it was pointed out that many people don't have the means, knowledge or familial connection to move to another place. The resettlement agencies are in a predicament that they planned for, but they were not ready for the reimbursements that are not being paid. So far, their staff and workforce has had to be furloughed and let go due to these issues. They said that food insecurity is not an issue, and their clients do have food. Andrea Batarse asked if they received the last of their refugees coming in and each organization answered yes. They are currently not taking any more refugees. Rachel Robert-Pickett stated that in order to get individual philanthropy and assistance, they have to exhaust all local and state government resources to receive their resources. Commissioner stated that she would like to put together a proposal of what can be done by each organization and see what can be done.

Traswell Livingston announced that his organization was approved for an affordable housing project in the redevelopment of the Braniff hotel. They are redeveloping it as permanent support housing and will RFP the service provision as they are just the operators of the property. They will have 48 units at the property. They are also looking at the nursing facility on Meadow and 75 to possibly turn it into permanent supportive housing as well.

Commissioner Daniel encouraged everyone to continue to pay attention and stay fighting to save the world.

Next Meeting: To be determined



DALLAS EVICTION ADVOCACY CENTER (DEAC)

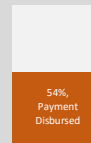
ADVANCING LEGAL SUPPORT TO INDIGENT RESIDENTS FACING WRONGFUL EVICTION

WRONGFUL EVICTION PREVENTION PROGRAM (WEPP) - DATA ANALYSIS REPORT

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAR 2025

Description	For Mar 2025	Cumulative (from Nov 2024)	% (Mar 2025)
Total Eviction Cases Filed (from Nov 2024)	3,063	16,368	18.7%
Total Represented Cases	476	2,386	19.9%
Total Eviction Prevention Completed	303	1,430	21.2%
Funds Obligated	\$1,300,000		
Payment Disbursed to DEAC	\$100,000	\$700,000	14.3%

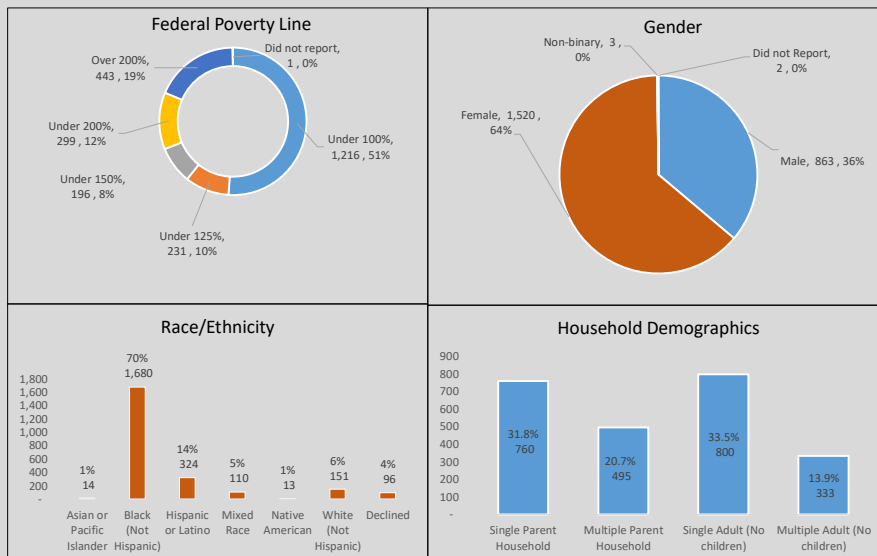
Disbursed
V/s
Obligated



Cases (Lost and Won)

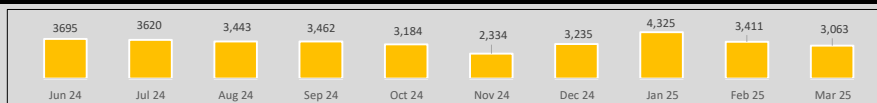
JP Court	Cases for Mar 2025					Cumulative cases (from Nov 2025)					Cumulative Cases
	Eviction Cases Filed	Represented Cases	Tenant Won	Tenant Lost	Win Rate (Rep. cases)	Eviction Cases Filed	Represented Cases	Tenant Won	Tenant Lost	Win Rate (Rep. cases)	
JP 1-1	588	119	79	40	66%	3,094	635	406	229	64%	Tenant Won, 1430
JP 1-2	247	42	19	23	45%	1,140	164	77	87	47%	
JP 2-1	249	0	0	0		1,714	68	40	28	59%	
JP 2-2	163	56	33	23	59%	1,453	330	169	161	51%	
JP 3-1	440	31	27	4	87%	1,752	180	135	45	75%	
JP 3-2	246	0	0	0		1,652	0	0	0		
JP 4-1	378	61	41	20	67%	1,673	290	181	109	62%	
JP 4-2	209	25	17	8	68%	1,012	38	29	9	76%	
JP 5-1	351	86	48	38	56%	1,936	396	233	163	59%	
JP 5-2	192	56	39	17	70%	942	285	160	125	56%	
Total	3,063	476	303	173	64%	16,368	2,386	1,430	956	60%	Tenant Lost, 956

Cumulative Represented Cases (from Nov 2024)



Eviction Cases Filed in Dallas County for the month of Mar 2025

(Source: CPAL)



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Sources: CPAL (record level data), DEAC & DC



Dallas County Criminal Justice (DCCJ) Housing Navigator April 2025 Report

FUSE Data

FUSE DATA FY 2023-2024

12 MONTH



Category Item	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb			
Total Clients Screened for FUSE	120	171	107	134	164	209	195	84	94	127			
Referral Source													
Jail FUSE Navigator Screening	0	3	0	0	42	29	20	22	8	1			
Pretrial Referral	15	13	23	26	12	12	17	15	12	12			
Defense Attorney Referral	11	21	14	33	22	27	6	6	3	7			
Shelter/Parkland Hospital Street FUSE Navigator Referral	7	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
NTBHA Living Room Referral	4	4	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	10			
Dallas Deflection Center	40	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Probation/CSCD	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other Referral Source (Adapt, Community Partners, etc.)	40	115	63	73	88	141	149	41	71	97			
Interview Outcomes													
Client Refused to be interviewed or Participate	5	1	2	1	7	3	3	5	2	2			
Client reported not being Unsheltered	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1			
Unavailable to Interview	25	0	10	1	2	0	0	0	0	0			
Pending Interview	0	0	0	8	16	27	20	0	0	0			
Other Outcome Categories (*See Below)	72	145	74	107	125	158	158	67	73	103			
Total Released from Jail to FUSE	15	22	19	17	13	21	14	12	17	22			
Shelter Connection Rate													
Austin Street Center	3	4	3	8	4	12	5	6	3	5			
The Bridge	5	5	2	6	7	6	7	4	4	4			
Salvation Army	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	5	2			
Other Local Shelter, Boarding Homes, & Shelter Ref's	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1			
No Response	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Left Before Entering Program/Did Not Connect	4	10	11	11	10	10	7	6	5	10			
Housed	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0			
Housing Priority List, Info sent to Housing Forward, or Reunited w/Family	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			

* Other Categories: Released to Another Program or Agency, Boarding Home Placement, Referral Banned from Shelter, Client didn't qualify for FUSE, Immigration Hold, Released (i.e. Posted Bond), Referred by Shelters/Street Outreach, FUSE bond denied, Waiting on info, Sex Offender, Not in AIS, Waiting on Bond to Post, and Pending attorney response & etc.

St. Jude Project

2920 Forest Ln, Dallas, TX 75234 | 104 Units | Dallas County has 13 allocated beds | Housing is for Seniors +55 years old

- All the vacancies are full.

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

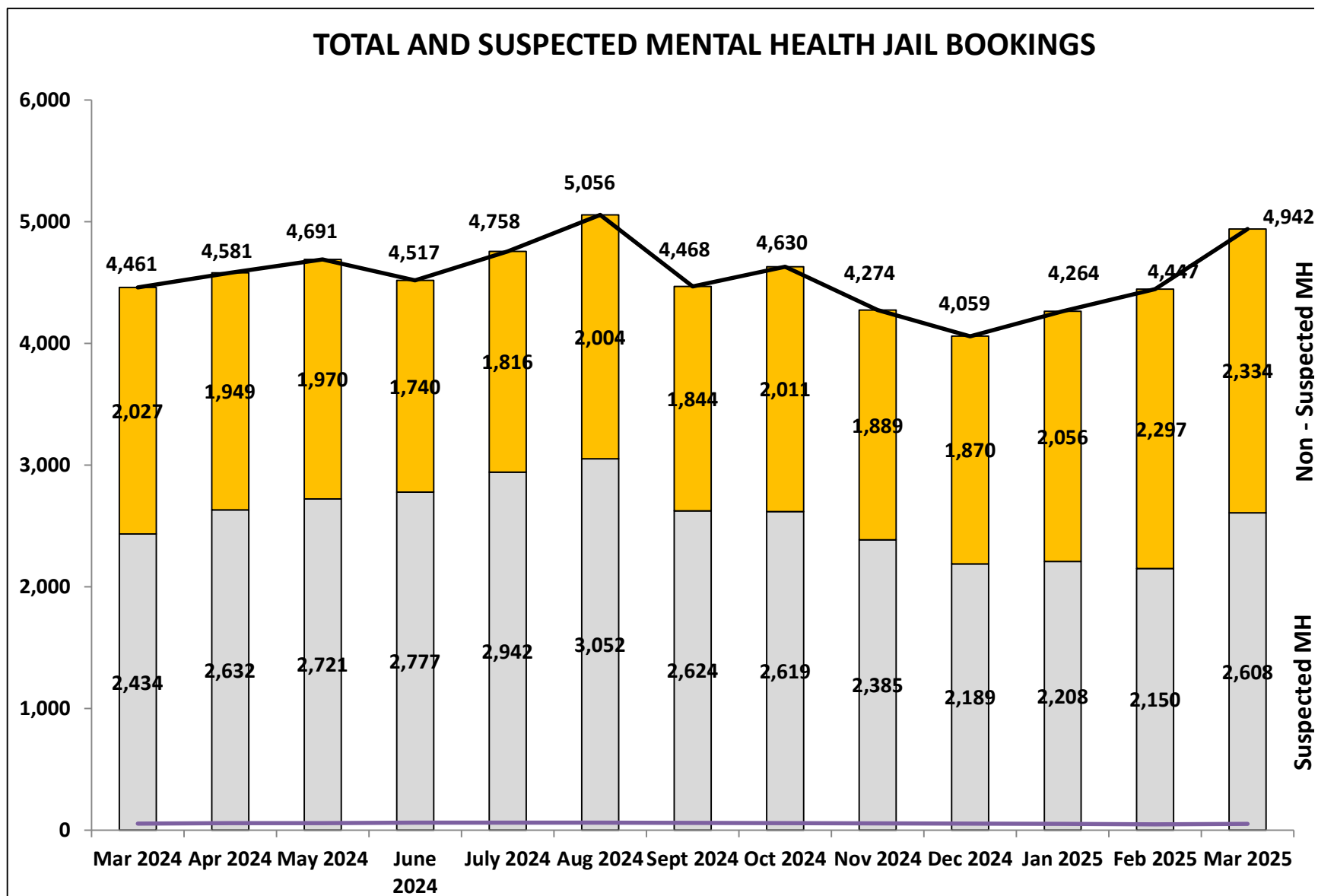
- We are working with the Purchasing department toward next steps of completing the Procurement Process.

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 March 2025 jail data.

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

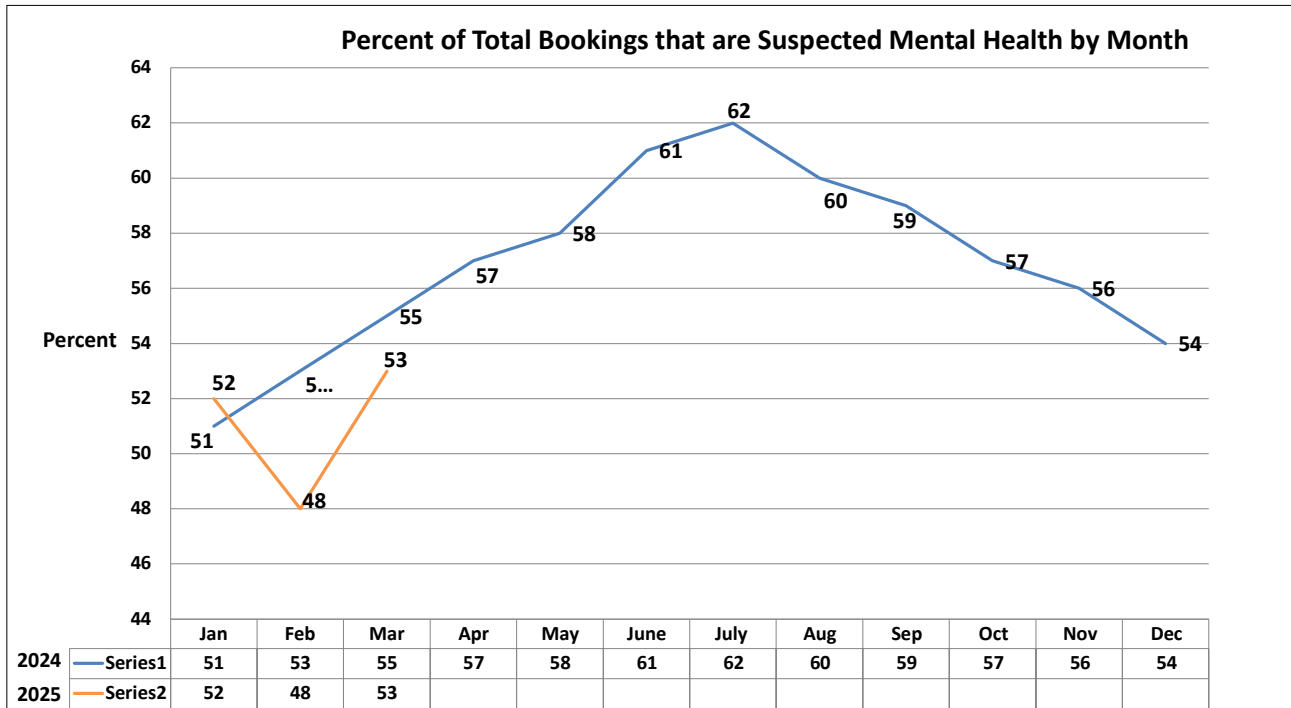
MAR 2025 Homeless Report Snapshot



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Month-to-Month Category Total Differences

Months	Total Monthly Bookins	Total Suspected MH Bookins
Feb 2025 to Mar 2025	4447 to 4942- Increase 495	2208 to 2608 - Increase 400



DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Breakdown and Avg LOS - Feb 2025 to Mar 2025

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Feb 2025	Suspected MH	2,150	48%	% of total bookings [4447]
	Homeless	521	12%	% of total bookings [4447]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	357	69%	% of total homeless [521]

Month/Yr	Category	Total Bookings	Percent	Percent Note
Mar 2025	Suspected MH	2,608	53%	% of total bookings [4942]
	Homeless	692	14%	% of total bookings [4942]
	Homeless w/Suspected MH flag	508	73%	% of total homeless [692]

Month/Yr	Avg LOS Total Bookings [days]	Avg LOS Homeless Bookings [days]
Feb 2025	7	9
Mar 2025	6	9

Monthly Unsheltered Expense

1. Count of Mar 2025 Unsheltered Bookins = 692 (692 of 4942 = 14% of total Mar Bookins)
2. ALOS for all Mar unsheltered 692 bookins as of 4/8/25 = 14 (14*\$88.47(Daily Jail Bed rate) = \$1238.58 per Individual)
3. As of 4/8/2025, Total number of Unsheltered Releases = 361
4. Average Length of Stay (ALOS) for the 361 releases = 7 (7*\$88.47(Daily Jail Bed rate) = \$619.29 per Individual)

Below are the top 6 offense categories for the 692 Unsheltered

Offenses	Count of BookinNo
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	114
POSS CS PG 1/1-B <1G	82
Holds	55
THEFT PROP >=\$100<\$750	22
POSS CS PG 1/1-B >=1G<4G	21
THEFT PROP <\$2,500 2/MORE PREV CONV	19

DALLAS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING WORK GROUP

Homeless Primary Offense Categories - Feb 2025 to Mar 2025

Offense Categories	Feb 2025 total	Feb 2025 %	Mar 2025 total	Mar 2025 %	MTD
Arson	1	0.2%	1	0.1%	
Assaultive	47	9.0%	68	9.8%	21 Increased
Burglary	21	4.0%	24	3.5%	
Criminal Mischief	8	1.5%	21	3.0%	13 Increased
Criminal Trespass	105	20.2%	129	18.6%	24 Increased
Drug/Alcohol	136	26.1%	164	23.7%	28 Increased
Evading	22	4.2%	17	2.5%	
False Info/Fail to Identify	22	4.2%	30	4.3%	
Fraud	9	1.7%	15	2.2%	
HOLDS	35	6.7%	62	9.0%	27 Increased
Murder	2	0.4%	1	0.1%	
Other	35	6.7%	56	8.1%	21 Increased
Prostitution	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	
Resist	6	1.2%	9	1.3%	
Robbery	8	1.5%	13	1.9%	
Sexual Offense	6	1.2%	15	2.2%	
Theft	40	7.7%	54	7.8%	14 Increased
UUMV	17	3.3%	13	1.9%	
TOTAL	521	100.0%	692	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

DALLAS COUNTY DEFLECTION CENTER

	2024-2025	24-Sep	24-Oct	24-Nov	24-Dec	25-Jan	25-Feb	25-Mar	TOTAL
TOTAL TRIAGED	32	38	51	65	65	65	65	88	404
<i>Referral Source</i>									
Dallas PD									0
SC Div	2			2	3		3	2	12
SW Div	4	1	1						6
SE Div					1		1		2
NC Div	1			2					3
NE Div	1	1	2	2					6
NW Div		1			1	1		1	4
CEN Div				1	1	3	2	1	8
Right Care		1	3	2	1			1	8
Dallas Marshal - CDC								1	1
College Campus PD									0
Great SW Coalition	1							1	2
SE Coalition	1				1				2
MCOT/CTI/Walk In	10	14	27	41	48	31	42		213
Garland PD		2	1			1			4
Irving PD		3	1						4
DART PD	11	14	11	13	11	12	21		93
Rapid Response						15	18		33
Parkland-Baylor PD	1	1					1		3
TRIAGE OUTCOME	32	38	51	65	65	65	65	98	
Psych Crisis Residential			3			6	3	2	14
Detox-Withdrawal Mgmt								2	2
Living Room-NTBHA*	2	5	7			2			16
CMHP Services									0
ACT Team									0
OTHER SUD Services	2	2	7	6	7	7	7	11	42
Shelter									0
Austin Street	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	13
Bridge	3	2	4	5	2	3	5		24
Salvation Army			1	1	4		3		9
Union Gospel Mission		1		1	3				5
Other		4		3	1		4		12
Home-Family-Friends	12	11	11	22	10	23	37		126
Boarding Home/PSH	2	2	1	2	4	7	1		19
Higher Level of Care									0
Behavioral Health	2		4	2	8	5	3		24
Physical Health	2	2	3	3	4	1	7		22
Veterans Administration			1						1
APOWW or Arrest			1						1
LEA Maintained Custody				1					1
Still in Service	4	3	2	12	12	10	12		55
Refused Services	1	5	5	6	1	3	7		28
TOTAL TRIAGED									414
ALOS 11.5 Days, 18 Same Day Discharges with 7 Refusing Services									

April 2025 Update

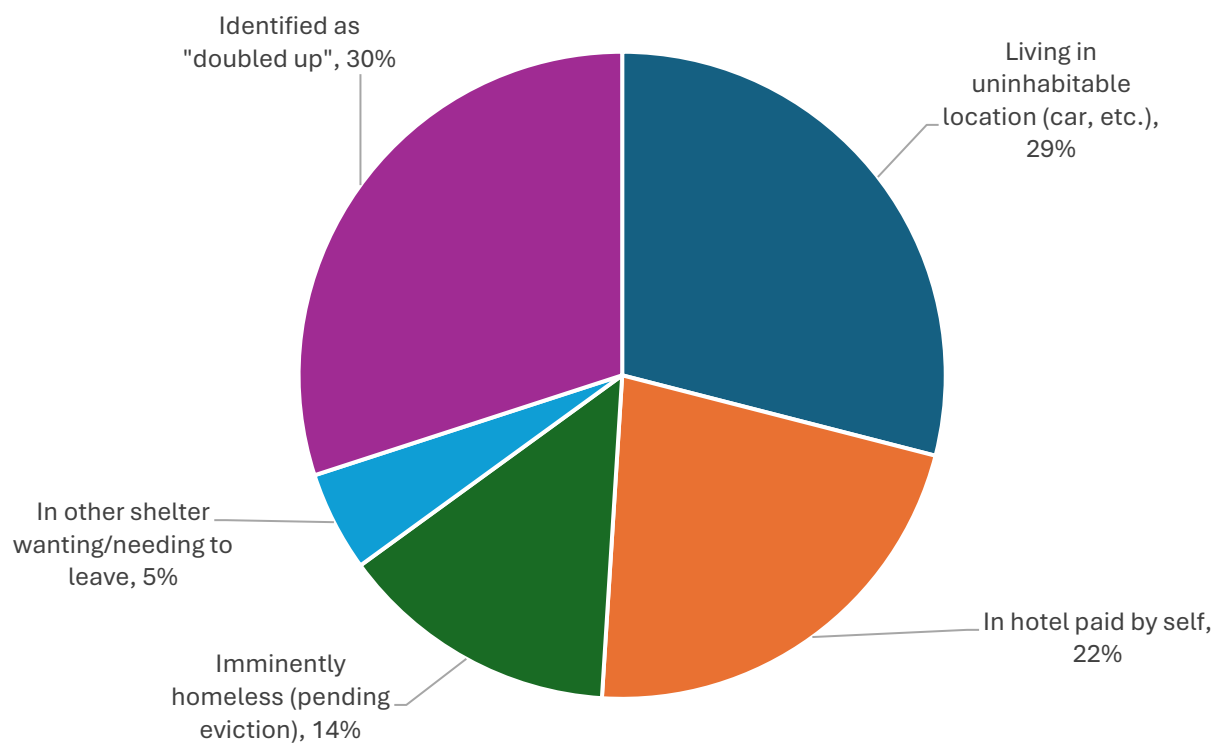


*Empowering children & families
affected by homelessness*

Data Update:

	2025 Q1
Pre-screenings completed	1,366
Eligible pre-screenings	954
Required Shelter	112 families
Diverted	397 families
Served Across All Programs (diversion, shelter/overflow, supportive housing)	626 families

Access Point Data 2025 Q1
(n = 1,258)



State Legislative Updates:

- Senate Bill 2623 was introduced in March and up for hearing in front of the Education Committee the first week of April. In its original form, the bill called for closure of any homeless service provider within 1.5 miles of a school safety zone, giving them 7 days to close or have a \$50K/day fine.
- We went with colleagues from the Texas Homeless Network, Metrocare, AIDS Services of Dallas, and Housing Forward to the State Capitol for the hearing.
- Ellen worked with Senator Nathan Johnson and Councilmember Cara Mendelsohn and members of the whole team worked with Senator Royce West's staff and Senator Creighton's staff to amend and fine tune the language.
- A revised Bill is in play that:
 - Reduces the fine to \$5K per day and gives 30 days to adapt.
 - Reduces the radius of operating from 1.5 miles to 1,500 feet.
 - Revises the safety zone definition from being applicable to public, private, charter, schools of higher education, day care centers and parks with playgrounds to Public K-12 schools and schools of higher education only.
 - Includes a way to ask for an exception and puts a nonprofit representative on the Task Force.
 - Excludes only emergency shelters that are done in case of a declared emergency.
- We are keeping our eye on House Bill 4726 which mimics much of this language but includes a restriction for being 1,000 feet from a residential area, which would mean our Family Gateway North shelter (adjacent to an apartment complex) could not operate. Currently, this bill does not have a hearing scheduled.
- Many thanks to Housing Forward and partners across the CoC for rallying the troops to educate and advocate!