

Human Services

of Faribault & Martin Counties

QUARTERLY REPORT OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020



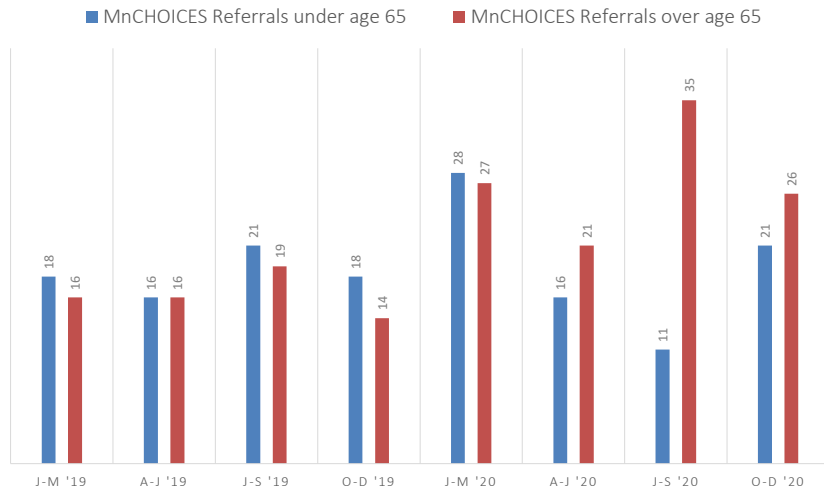
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS



Goal I.A.

All residents will safely live within the community and be free to participate at their highest functional level.

MNCHOICES REFERRALS

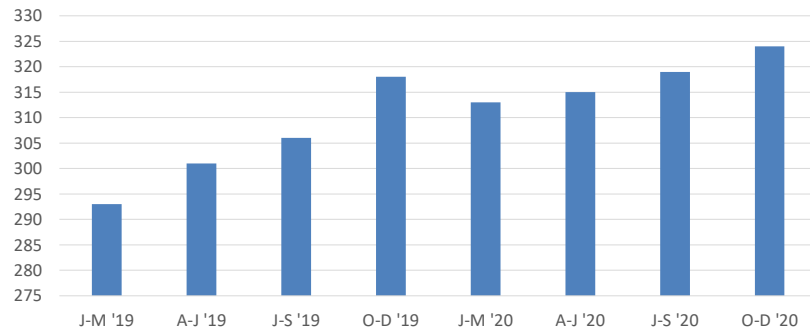


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- There were 21 new MnCHOICES referrals for the under 65 population and 26 new MnCHOICES referrals for 65+ population in Quarter 4.
- Faribault County Developmental Disabilities had three new referrals for MnCHOICES. All accepted the assessment and were completed within timelines for 100%
- Martin County had six new referrals. All accepted the assessment and were completed within timelines for 100%
- The DD unit completed 78 MnCHOICES this quarter.
- One of the local providers is relocating a corporate adult foster care from Sherburne to Fairmont. Our unit has some males in their early twenties that are either recently graduated or will be graduating that will potentially make great roommates for each other. Case Managers are working hard to inform families and guardians of the opportunity and trying to facilitate tours either in person or virtually.

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Developmental Disabilities Case Management

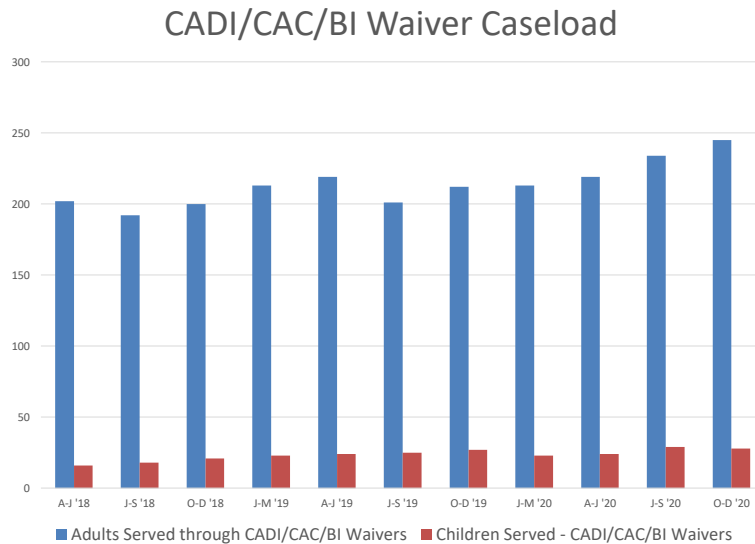


Developmental Disabilities	J-M '20	A-J '20	J-S '20	O-D '20
Children with Disabilities Referred for Services	7	2	5	8
Number Determined Eligible	6	1	5	8
Percent of Eligibility Children Offered Case Management - Goal 100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
"New" Teenagers Referred for Rule 185 Services	5	1	1	1

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Case managers try to help problem solve issues parents are having with their special needs children being home more due to the pandemic and distance learning. Some children did remain in school most of the time, but some did not. Parents are trying to juggle having their kids home more, jobs, other siblings, etc. Routines have been disrupted for these kids who usually thrive on routine, so many more behaviors are being displayed.

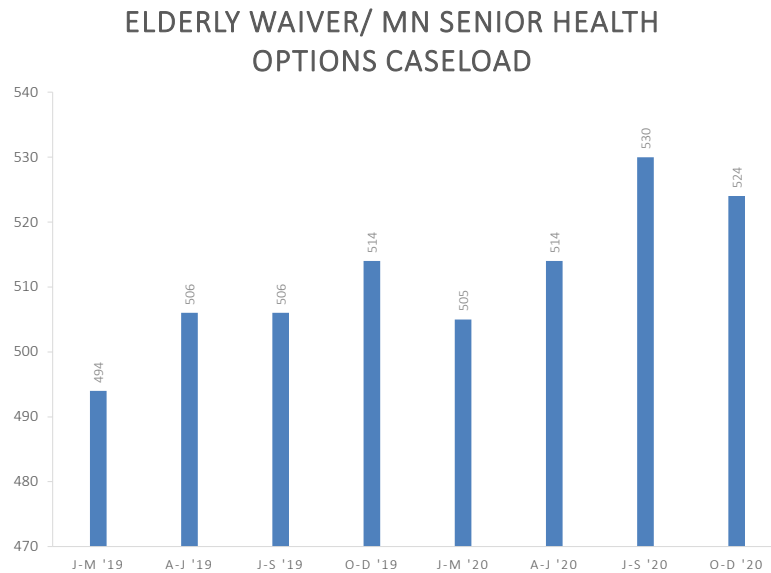
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- Faribault County had 11 new referrals for MnCHOICES, 8 accepted the assessment and were completed within timelines, 2 declined the assessment, and 1 was ineligible for the service. Martin County had 10 new referrals for MnCHOICES, 6 accepted the assessment and were completed within timelines, 1 declined the assessment, and 3 were ineligible for the service. The Unit performed 84 MnCHOICES this quarter.
- Situation with a very medically fragile young man hospitalized for wound care and it took strong efforts and collaboration by Child Protection, Licensing and the CADI case manager to arrange for a respite placement that could meet his medical needs while a more permanent living arrangement is located.

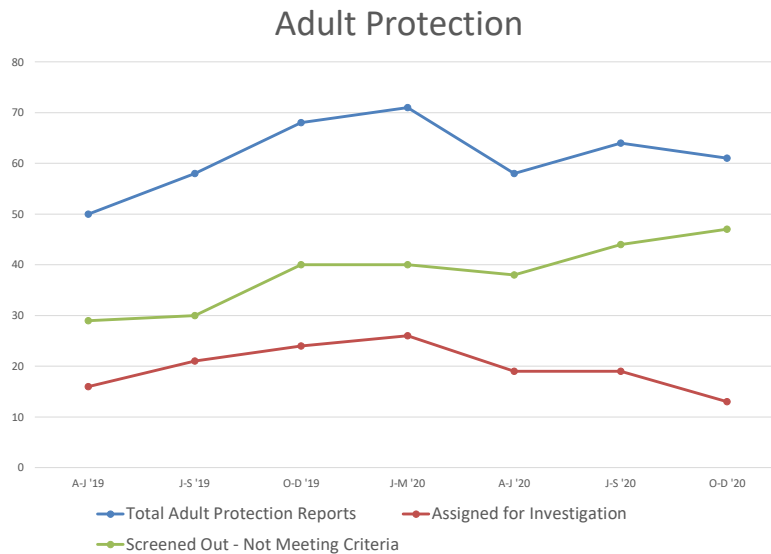
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The EW/MSHO unit ended the quarter with 524 clients. Staff continue to take approximately 30 new referrals from the community each quarter. Even with staff pulled into pandemic response, the team continues to completed 100% of MnCHOICES within 20 calendar days from receipt of the referral.

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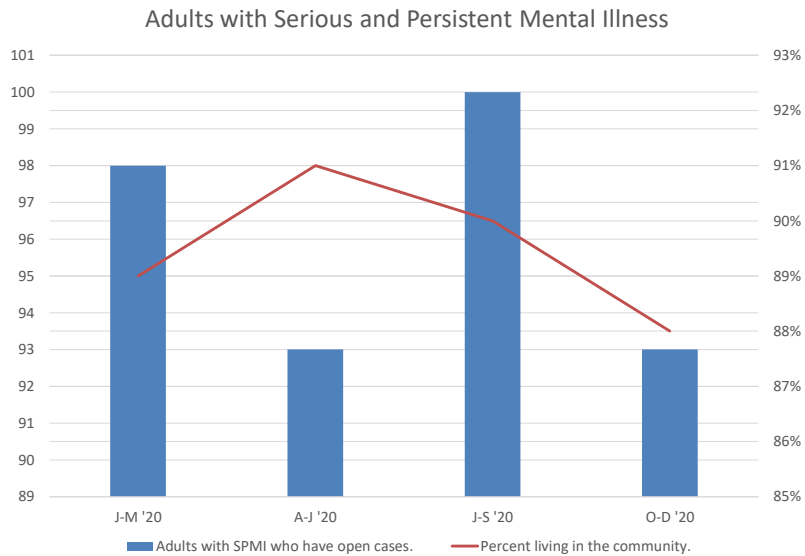
While the number of reports screened in is lower, the reports this past quarter tended to be very complicated. Why are they so complicated? The pandemic has made it very difficult to try and get services needed for individuals. Adult Protection staff are working with the Ombudsman and other community agencies regarding some significant concerns at one Assisted Living Facility in one of our counties.

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- Reports often include allegations of criminal activities such as financial exploitation, which then require adult protection workers to collaborate with law enforcement in their criminal investigation of the matter.
- Reports often include individuals with complex medical conditions which require collaboration with medical providers, care providers and the individual's families, in order to come together with a safe and appropriate plan.
- Reports often include referral for guardian and conservator services which require immediate attention, intensive completion of court documents, and time consuming coordination and ongoing involvement for this process.
- Situations reported frequently involve self-neglect which often includes hoarding behaviors or other inability to keep the living environment to a minimal standard for health and safety. These situations are especially difficult with individuals who have the capacity to decide to live under these conditions and choose to. Also difficult are the situations where individuals in this situation are agreeable to assistance but the resources to assist them are scarce.
- All of these situations are certainly more difficult to navigate and assist individuals with the DHS guidelines for COVID requiring that we minimize in-person visits and assistance. Many circumstances would be impossible to adequately assess without an in-person visit and rapport building with individuals becomes even more difficult with minimal contact. Often times rapport building is the best way to gain the trust of an individual in order for them to cooperate and allow any kind of necessary intervention.

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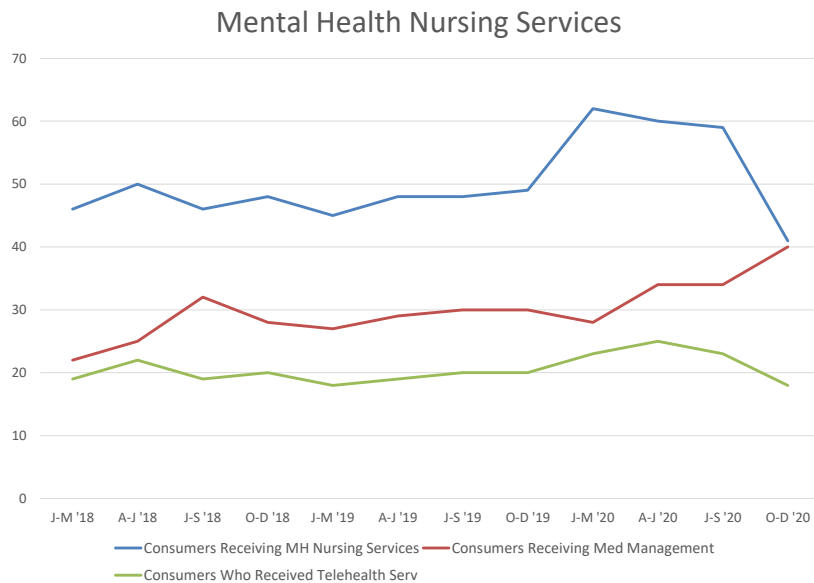
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We have seen an increase in higher acuity clients and/or clients on commitments needing longer term hospitalization or intensive residential treatment setting (IRTS) placement. Staff have struggled to stay in contact with many clients via Zoom or phone and many cases have closed as a result. There have been several significant success stories of clients moving into a less-restrictive setting or into their own apartments/homes after long periods of supported living environments.

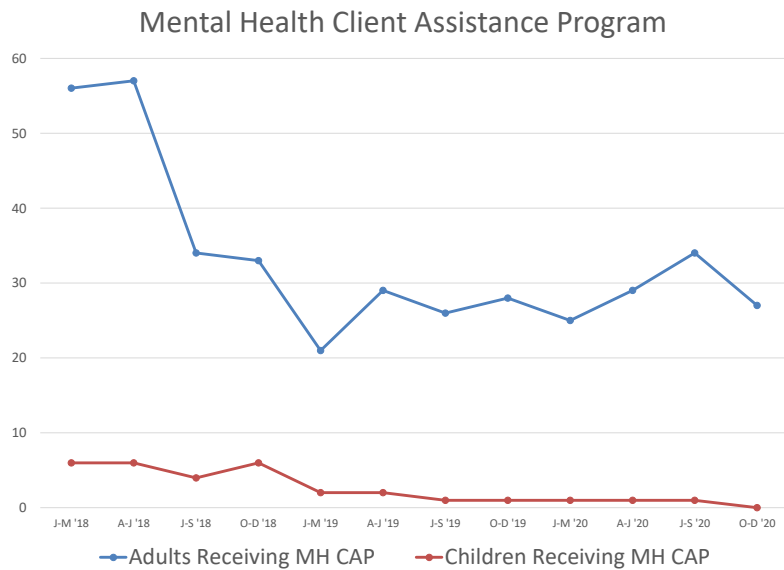
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Mental Health nurses have both been assigned a large number of new referrals and have worked to close clients who no longer needed nursing services. Many clients have been maintaining in the community due to the assistance of the mental health nurses and there haven't been significant ups and downs. Nurses have begun preparing to possibly be pulled into vaccine clinics and supervisors have helped develop a plan as to how to help manage their caseload if this happens.

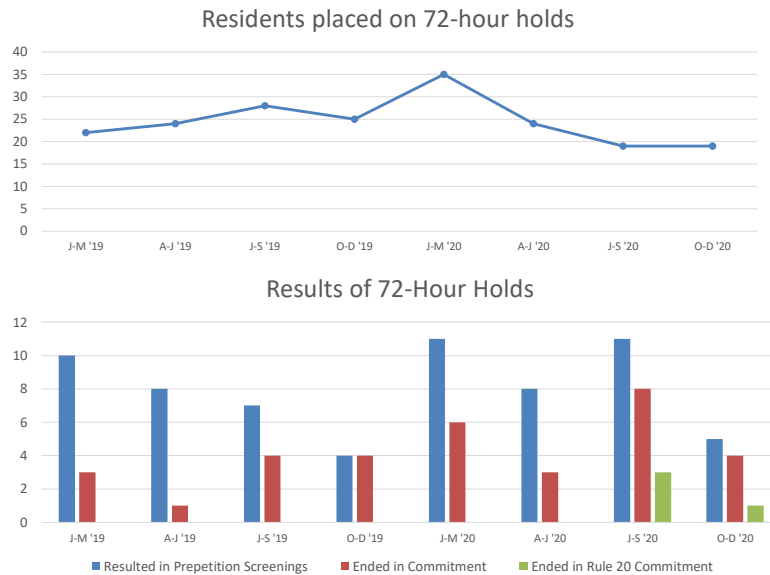
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27 adults and no children used Mental Health Client Assistance Program (MHCAP) services this quarter. Our agency has grant funding to assist local farmers with mental health concerns. Some of these funds have been set aside for use specifically for farmers to access mental health services in a program modeled almost identically after MHCAP. One farmer utilized this grant funding for mental health services in this quarter. Case managers and mental health staff regularly work with mental health and other service providers in the region to provide comprehensive supportive services to youth and adults.

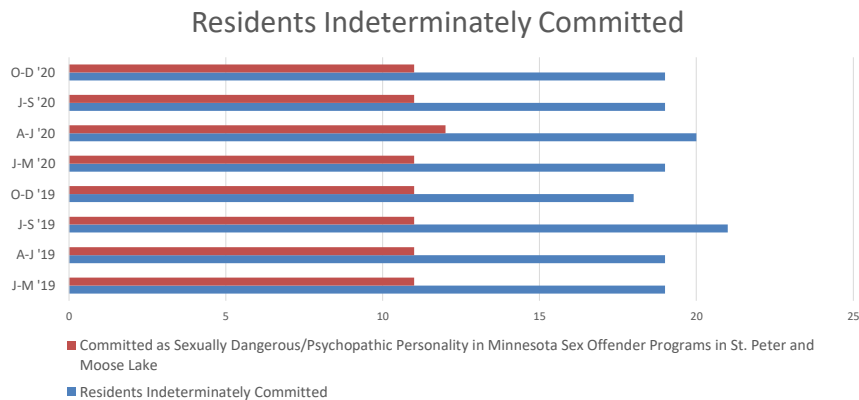
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Of the four commitments, one received a Stay and three received a full commitment. One full commitment was the result of a Rule 20. We have one significant bill for a client who was deemed DNMC (does not meet criteria) at Anoka that was appealed and denied.

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4th Quarter Costs:

Faribault Mn Sex Offender Prog – \$14,462.40

Faribault Mn State Hospital – \$10,787.10

Martin Mn Sex Offender Prog – \$30,732.60

Martin Mn State Hospital – \$29,116.40

Martin Forensic Nursing Home – \$15,658.40

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One MI&D (mentally ill and dangerous) client in the hospital will likely be transitioning to the community soon. Another MI&D client who is on a provisional discharge will be voluntarily returning to the hospital to stabilize after a recent decline. This client had been stable for several years prior to this. There is one petition for a new client to be committed to MSOP in the works. We currently have one bill for a Faribault client who was deemed DNMC in October through November for \$47,474. This was appealed and denied. We also have a bill for a Martin County client for \$26,111 who was in a CARE facility and insurance denied the charges. This is being looked into.

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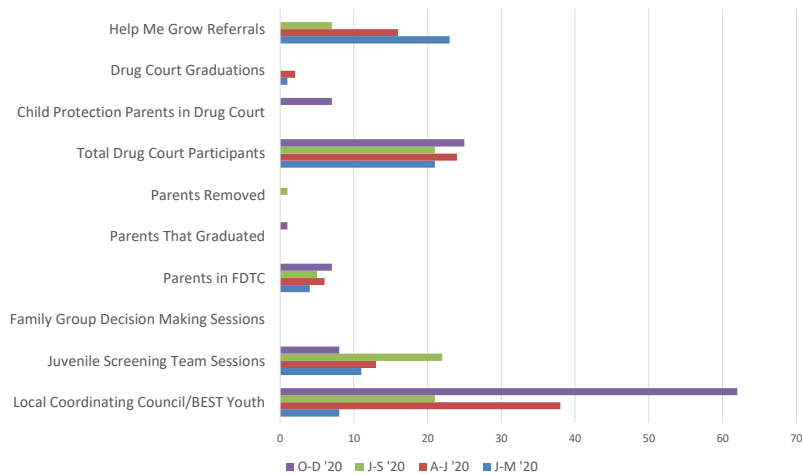
Goal I.B.

High risk juveniles and adults will develop into productive, law abiding members of the community.

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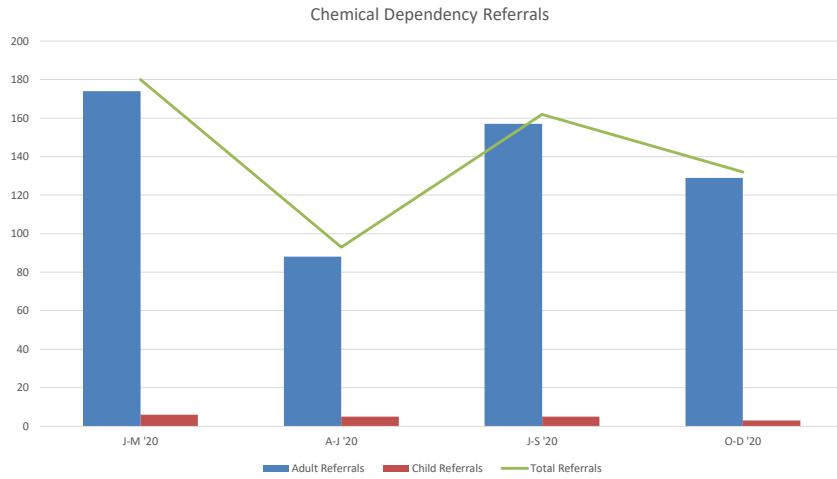
Community Resources Utilized to Assist Juveniles and Adults



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We had one parent graduate from Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) in December of 2020. Her child protection case opened in July of 2019. She was extremely dependent on her family for financial support with no ambition to be independent. Her interactions with her child were minimal. Permanency planning was in progress due to significant concerns about her ability to maintain sobriety and keep her child safe. Child Protection staff and FDTC staff worked closely with her to support and encourage her. She was able to obtain full time employment, independent housing, a driver's license, etc. Custody of her child was returned to her and her case was closed.

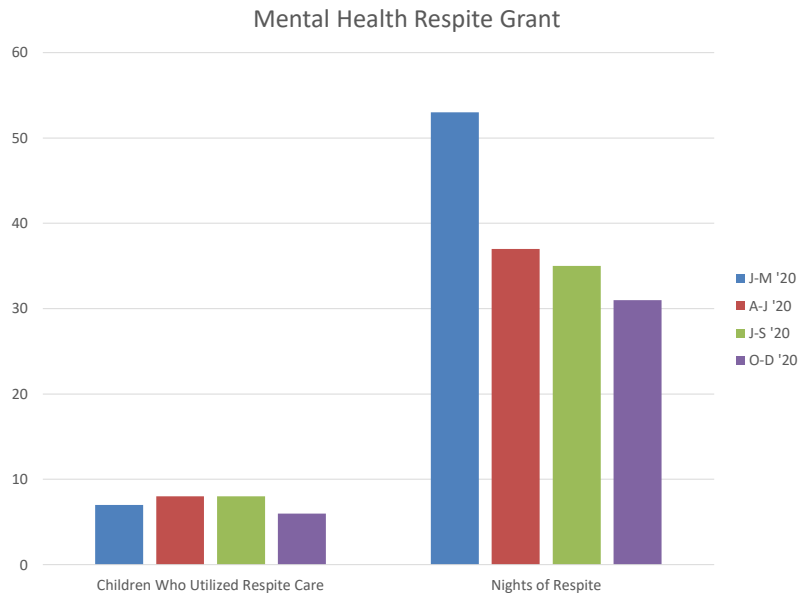
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100% of high risk youth and adults received chemical dependency evaluations within 30 days of a court, self, or agency referral. CD Assessors either participated in or led three pre-petition screenings.

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Adult and Children’s Mental Health Case Managers consistently encourage and assist clients with getting involved in their communities by volunteering, taking classes, attending events, etc. In this quarter, state respite grant funds were used for CMH clients to purchase supplies for volleyball, a bicycle, basketball shoes, and to cover the cost of overnight respite stays with licensed and unlicensed providers. As always, the purpose of these funds is to reduce stress levels in the home to prevent the need for placement or hospitalization. The flexibility with the use of these grant funds was extended through this quarter as well as most in person activities and events continue to be canceled. The respite grant was used for a total of 31 nights of the home for six children, all of which was with licensed providers.

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

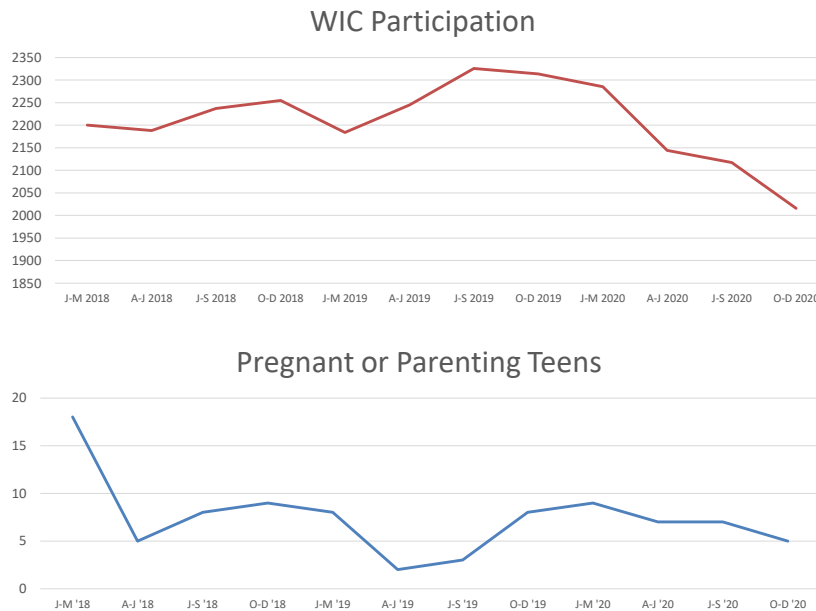


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Goal II.A.

Families will have healthy pregnancies, deliveries, and parenting so all children will grow and develop to their full potential. Help parents prevent overweight in their children by influencing their health-related knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. Increase the duration of breastfeeding among Minnesota WIC participants.

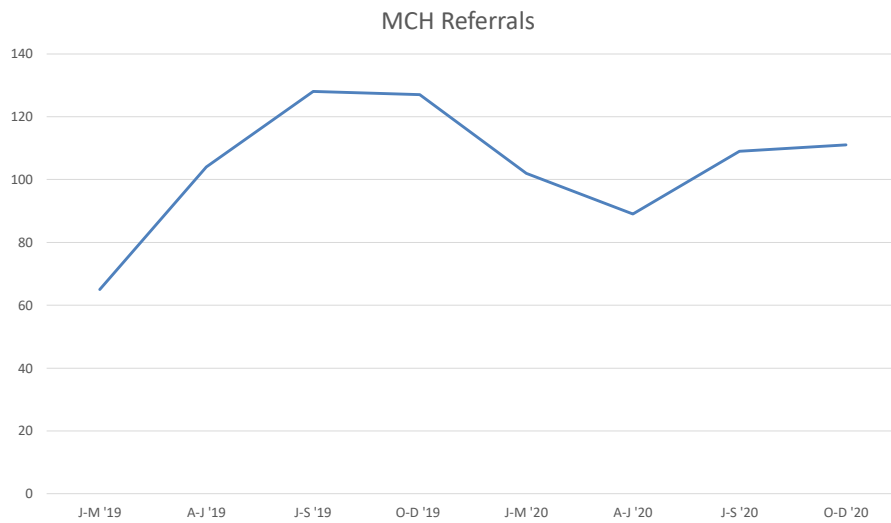
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The agency services 2,016 clients during Quarter 4 2020. WIC participation has dwindled throughout the pandemic. WIC services are offered virtually, and will be until the Public Health Emergency at the Federal level is declared over. We served 5 pregnant or parenting teens in WIC this quarter.

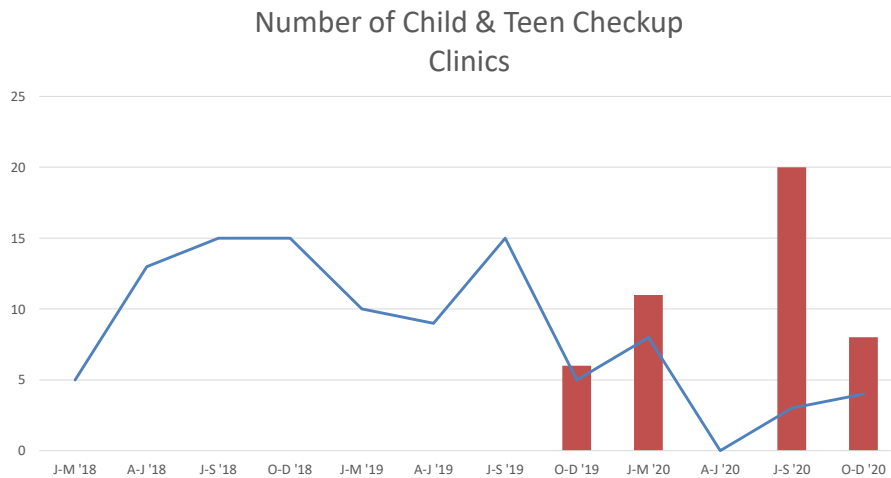
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This quarter we received 111 referrals for pregnant and postpartum women.

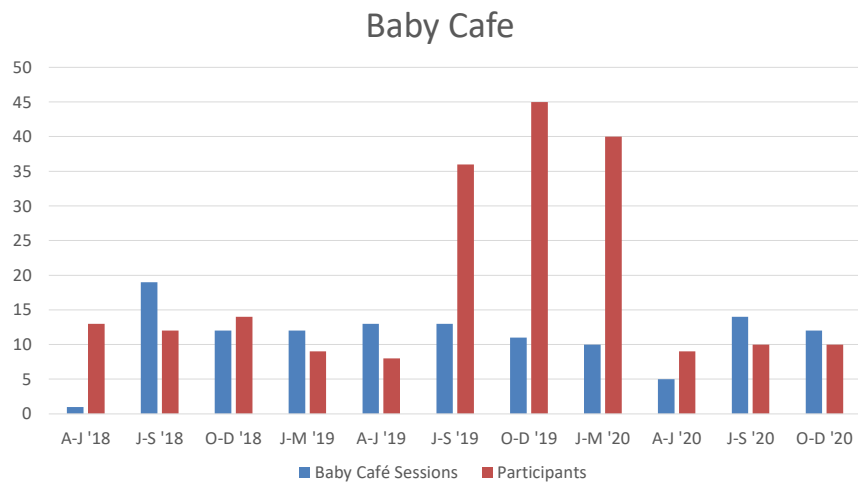
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C&TC clinics had resumed, however when COVID-19 numbers surged, this service was put on hold. We were able to offer four Child & Teen check-up clinics servings a total of eight children prior to suspending services.

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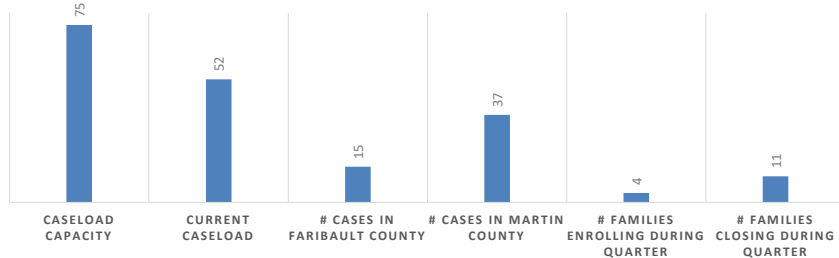


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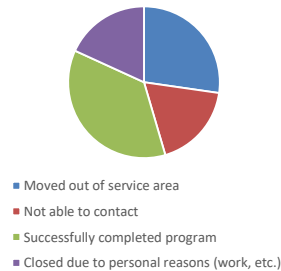
This quarter we held 14 virtual Baby Café Sessions serving 10 women. We worked with a client this quarter who had a goal of breastfeeding her second child, but felt it was not possible while also caring for her first child. The client's home visitor recommended attending Baby Café where the mother was able to access resources and support to help her achieve her goal. Upon returning to work, the home visitor and Baby Café staff supported client to create a plan to manage breastfeeding. The baby is now 5 months old and is exclusively breastfed.

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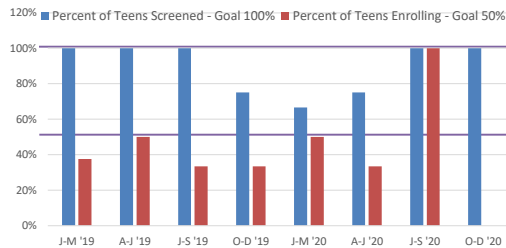
HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICA CASELOAD



Reasons for Closures



Teens Enrollment in HFA



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- As of December 30, 2020 we had a caseload of 52 families, which is 69% of our target caseload size of 75 families. HF staff have been pulled into pandemic response. We also have a staff vacancy due to a resignation that we are working to fill, therefore the adjusted caseload capacity is 60. With this adjustment we are at 86% of our caseload capacity.
- 15 cases are families in Faribault county and 37 families are located in Martin County.
- We had 4 families enroll during the quarter. We continue to gain a majority of our referrals from our WIC program.
- We closed 11 families to services. Reasons for closures included, unable to contact (2), client moving out of service area (3), personal reasons (2) and successful completion of the program (4).
- Our agency has been informed our accreditation site visit will take place in 2022.

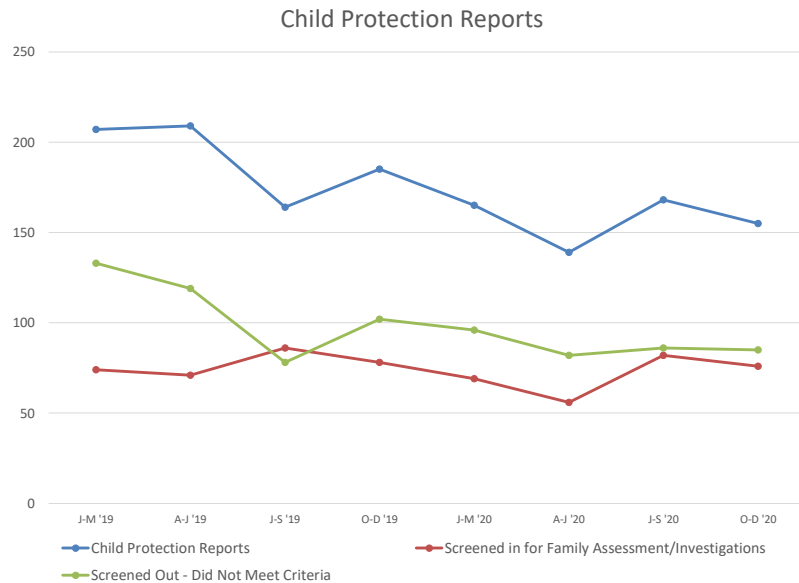
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Goal II.B.

Children will be raised in a healthy,
happy, safe, permanent family
environment.

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Child Protection/Relative Foster Care Data

- 100% of children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report were NOT victims of repeat maltreatment.
- 13.8% (4 of 29) of children who entered foster care two years ago re-entered foster care within 12 months.
- 45.5% of children who entered foster care in the last 12-month period were discharged to permanency within 12 months (55 children).
- During the last quarter of 2020, five (5) children entered foster care due to meth use by parent/caretaker. This was down significantly from first quarter with thirty-three (33) children.
- During the last quarter, children spent 24,089 days in family foster care settings; 17,901 or 74.3% of those days were spent with relatives.
- During the quarter, children in placement experienced an average of 2.87 moves; down from 7.3 moves in first quarter.
- We continue to struggle to get children who go into placement in for required physical health exams within 30 days.

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- There are 25 children that discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering care. 30 children did not achieve permanency in that time frame: 2 children were placed into residential treatment due to their mental health; a TPR occurred on a sibling group of 3 (the parent filed an appeal and we are currently waiting for the written decision. They are currently placed in the pre-adoptive home.); the adoption of a sibling group of 4 was finalized this quarter with another sibling that will be adopted by another relative, adoptions for 2 children were finalized; 2 children are each currently in their perspective pre-adoptive homes awaiting finalization of their adoptions; Kinship Northstar Assistance is being finalized for one child, and a sibling group of 4; 2 are placements with CMH; a sibling group of 4 has a trial scheduled in the permanency file; in a sibling group of 3 one child is in residential treatment through probation for perpetrating on his siblings and the 2 siblings are in their pre-adoptive home awaiting finalization of adoption; one child was on a trial home visit; and a transfer of custody to the agency occurred for one child until the age of 18.
- There are 9 children who entered foster care this quarter. A sibling group of 2 due to sexual abuse; a sibling groups of 2 and two other child due to parents use of methamphetamine; a sibling group of 2 due to physical abuse; and one child due to parents alcohol use.

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Child Protection Team	<u>J-M '20</u>	<u>A-J '20</u>	<u>J-S '20</u>	<u>O'D '20</u>
Number of Team Meetings Held - Faribault	2	2	2	3
Average Attendance - Faribault	24	25	25	26
Number of Team Meetings Held - Martin	3	2	2	3
Average Attendance - Martin	31	23	23	29

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The Martin County Multi-Disciplinary Team has revised their agenda to include updates on CP cases and each case manager reviews their current case load as well. This format was recently found to be very helpful in Faribault County with additional resources and agencies available for comment and recommendations. Each county had all three meetings this past quarter. We are also in the process of expanding membership to these critical meetings so that there is a good representation of other child and family serving agencies.

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School Social Worker	<u>J-M '20</u>	<u>A-J '20</u>	<u>J-S '20</u>	<u>O-D '20</u>
Number of School Social Workers reporting	14 of 15	14 of 15	14 of 15	15
Number of open cases at end of quarter	478	397	393%	492
Number of cases closed for completion of program	10	70	27	10
For students, percent of identified problems reduced or eliminated at closure	97%	93.6%	100%	100%
Number of cases closed during quarter of last year	18	90	31	12
Number of cases NOT ACTIVE 12 months later	18	90	31	12
Percent NOT ACTIVE	100%	100%	100%	100%

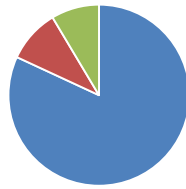
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We continue to see a high percentage (100%) of children who have successfully completed the School Social Worker Program who are not active with Child Protective Services (within the next 12 months). The goal is that through early intervention, problems for the child or within the family can be addressed so that the child stays out of the formal CP system.

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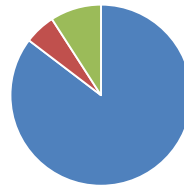
OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT, October-December 2020

of Kids



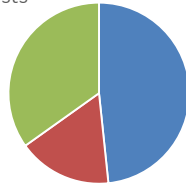
■ Children & Family ■ Court Services ■ Mental Health

of Days



■ Children & Family ■ Court Services ■ Mental Health

Costs

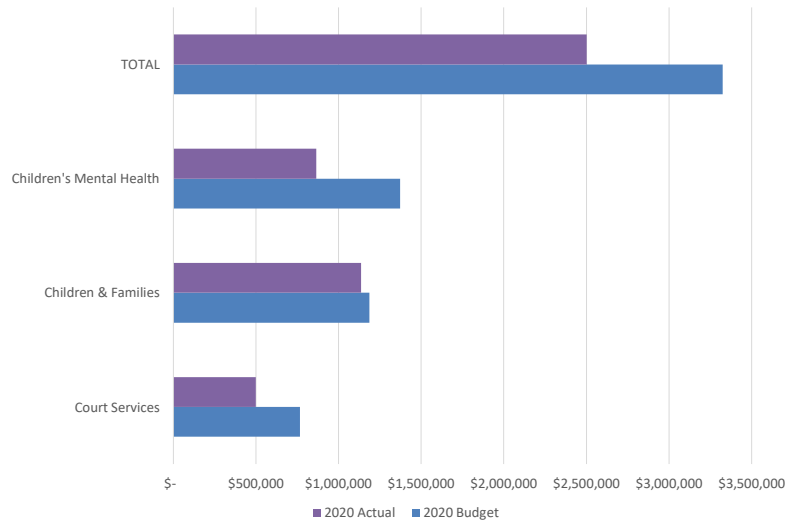


■ Children & Family ■ Court Services ■ Mental Health

October-December 2020	# of Kids	# of Days	Costs
Children & Family	106	7,115	\$ 356,607
Court Services	11	374	\$ 100,838
Mental Health	8	624	\$ 258,193
TOTAL	125	8,113	\$ 715,638

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Out of Home Placement Costs



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OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT BY COUNTY

	3rd Qrt 2019	4th Qrt 2019	1st Qrt 2020	2nd Qrt 2020	3rd Qrt 2020	4th Qrt 2020
FARIBAULT COUNTY						
TOTAL FARIBAULT COUNTY						
# of Kids	37	30	40	43	48	45
# of Days	2,285	2,291	2,871	3,538	2,761	2,132
Cost	215,461	226,415	275,628	269,091	225,371	258,672
MARTIN COUNTY						
TOTAL MARTIN COUNTY						
# of Kids	39	37	50	56	57	80
# of Days	2,315	3,169	3,899	4,703	4,906	5,981
Cost	210,995	292,816	329,379	346,592	339,347	456,966
TOTAL BI-COUNTY						
# of Kids	76	67	90	99	105	125
# of Days	4,600	5,460	6,770	8,241	7,667	8,113
Cost	\$ 426,456	\$ 519,231	\$ 605,007	\$ 615,683	\$ 564,718	\$ 715,638 ⁵⁹

Licensing



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Licensing

Child Care Licensing data for our fourth quarter remains stagnant. The number of day cares remained the same in both of our counties. In relation to our foster homes one relative foster home transitioned to a county foster home in this quarter. And, finally, the number of relative foster homes will fluctuate based on child protection need.

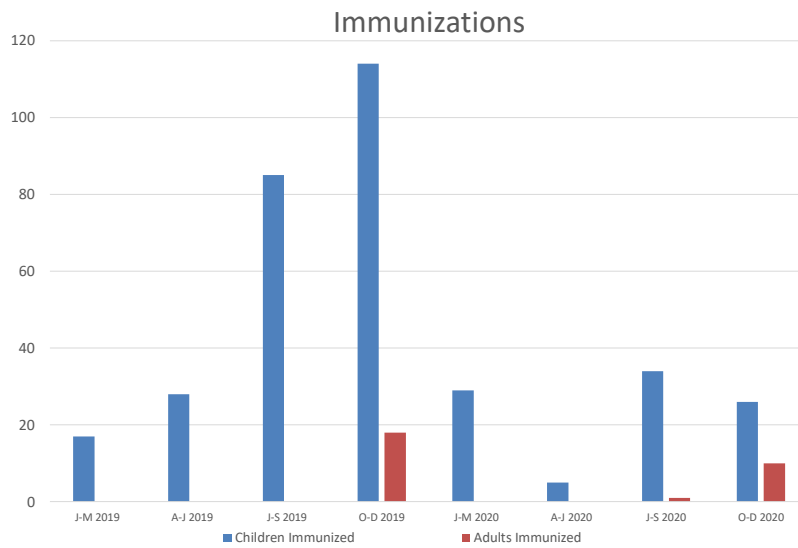
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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY



Goal III.A.

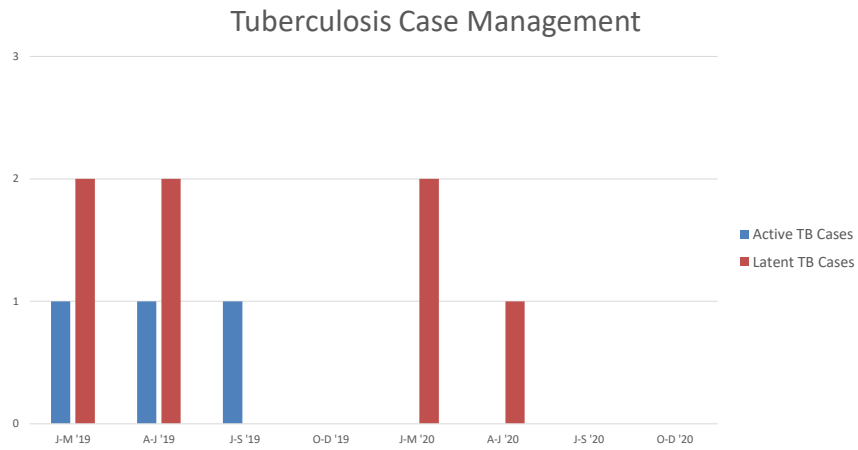
Residents and visitors are protected from acute communicable diseases and other health threats including unintentional injury.



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This quarter 26 children and 10 adults received routine immunizations through our immunization program.

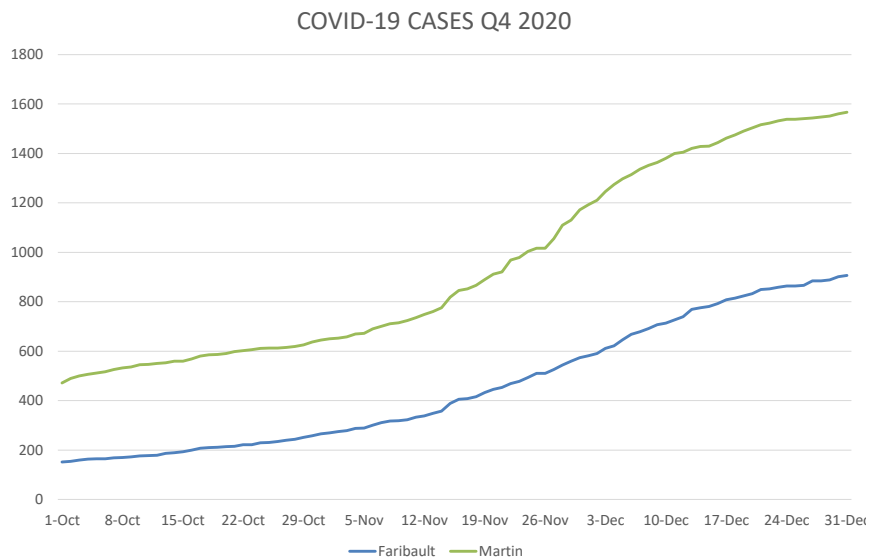
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No cases of TB noted in this quarter.

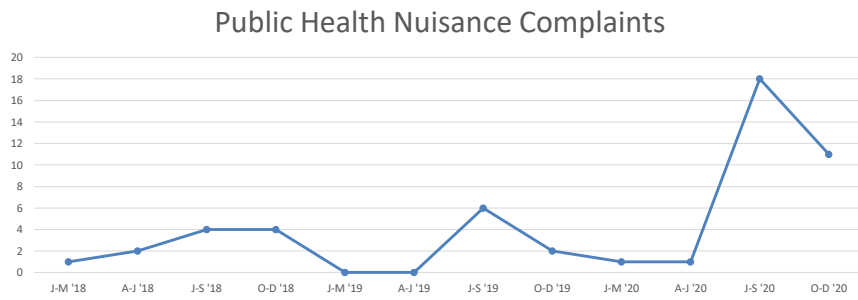
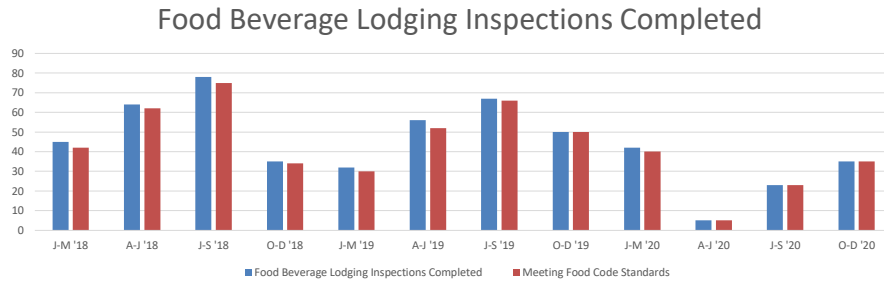
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- In Faribault County we have experienced a surge of positive COVID-19 cases. We started the quarter with 152 cases on October 1, 2020 and ended the quarter with 907 cases on December 31, 2020.
- A similar surge in cases occurred in Martin County. We started the quarter with a total of 472 cases on October 1 and ended the quarter at 1567 cases on December 31, 2020.
- Immunization for COVID-19 started the last week of December, 2020. Data will be shared routinely in subsequent quarterly reports.

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Our Sanitarian completed 35 inspections in food, beverage, lodging and pool establishments this quarter. Of those, none required follow-up inspections. We had 11 public health nuisance complaints responded to this quarter, due to non-compliance of COVID-19 Executive Orders.

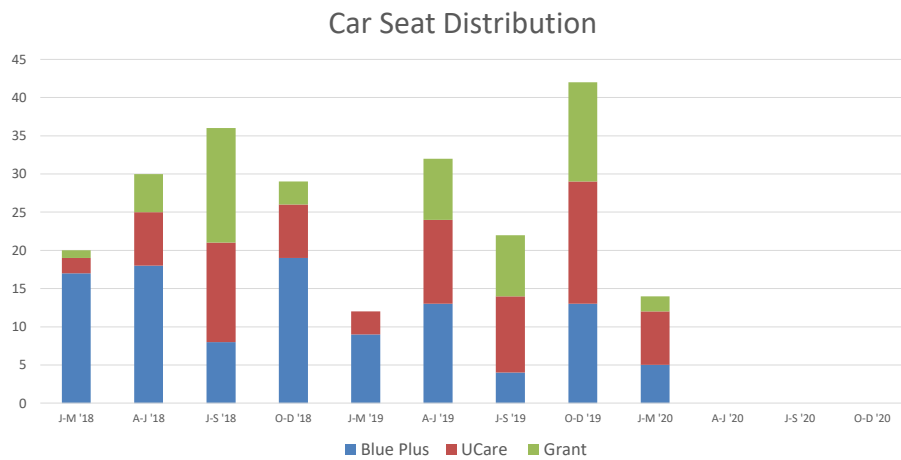
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Statewide Health Improvement Partnership

- MDH has allowed SHIP funding to be used for pandemic response work so our full time SHIP Coordinator has been actively support response efforts. Examples of duties include:
 - Partnering with area schools to maintain relationships, provide covid-19 data and resources, complete contact investigation and tracing and providing information pertaining to schools, mental well-being resources, active classrooms and healthy eating resources during virtual learning.
 - Acting as Planning Chief in the Incident Command response – working on planning for large scale vaccination events utilize area school buildings.
- SHIP Activities:
 - GHEC has provided teachers and classrooms with mindfulness tools to use throughout the school day to help teach students how to manage strong emotions and positive coping skills combined with mindful movement.
 - Fairmont Elementary established 2 staff calming rooms to be used for staff to practice mental well-being strategies.
 - SHIP staff surveyed local educators around vaccine interest, and also included a mental well-being coping question- about half of staff surveyed stated they are not coping well. SHIP staff are continuing to encourage staff calming spaces and policies to encourage staff use; along with resources to share with staff.
 - SHIP staff are continuing to promote strategy areas with worksites, but having some challenges getting worksites to respond. A lot of work is on hold, but staff are continuing to maintain communication through resource sharing and focusing on mental well-being resources, as that seems to be the greatest need at this point in the pandemic.
 - Tobacco prevention efforts are continuing virtually, through MCSAP, and the city council to promote passing flavor policies to bolster current state T21 legislation. Staff have attended 3 MCSAP meetings, and 1 city council meeting during quarter 4.

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This quarter we distributed no car seats to families. We held no car seat classes during the quarter. We were able to make referrals to the South Central Emergency Management System (EMS) Car Seat Coordinator to provide this service.

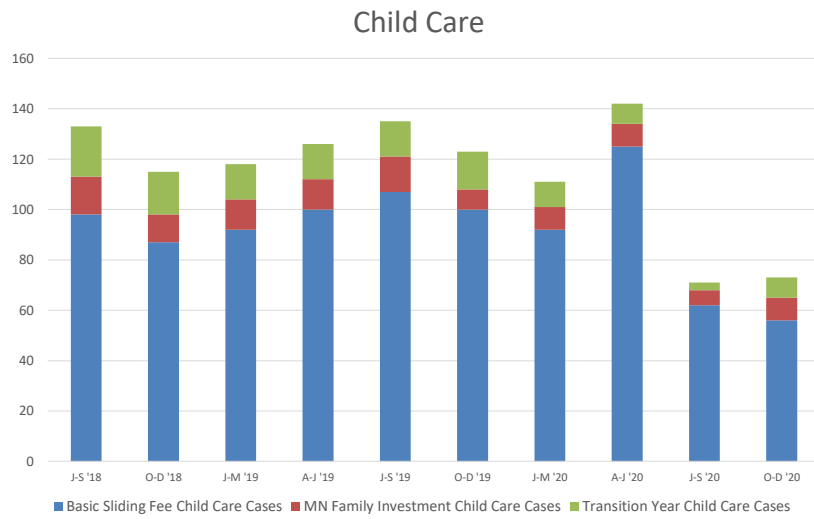
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Goal III.B.

Residents will be financially secure
while also maintaining family
stability.

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For 2020 we ended up spending 72% of our allocation – the goal is 90%

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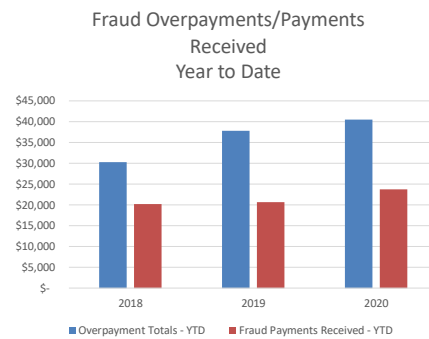
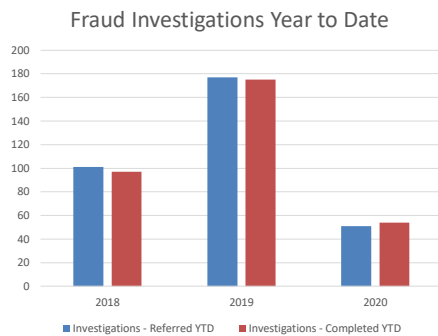
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Financial Assistance Statistics	J-M '20	A-J '20	J-S '20	O-D '20
Referrals to SNAP Employment and Training who are enrolled.	8 of 68 or 12%	1 of 14 or 7%	1 of 7 or 14%	1 of 3 or 33%
Total SNAP, cash assistance, and health care application processed - Faribault.	197	132	103	177
Total SNAP, cash assistance, and health care application processed - Martin.	264	225	247	321

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- Saw an increase in applications, so even with the waivers still in place and renewals not happening, the economic effects of COVID-19 are showing up in our caseload numbers.

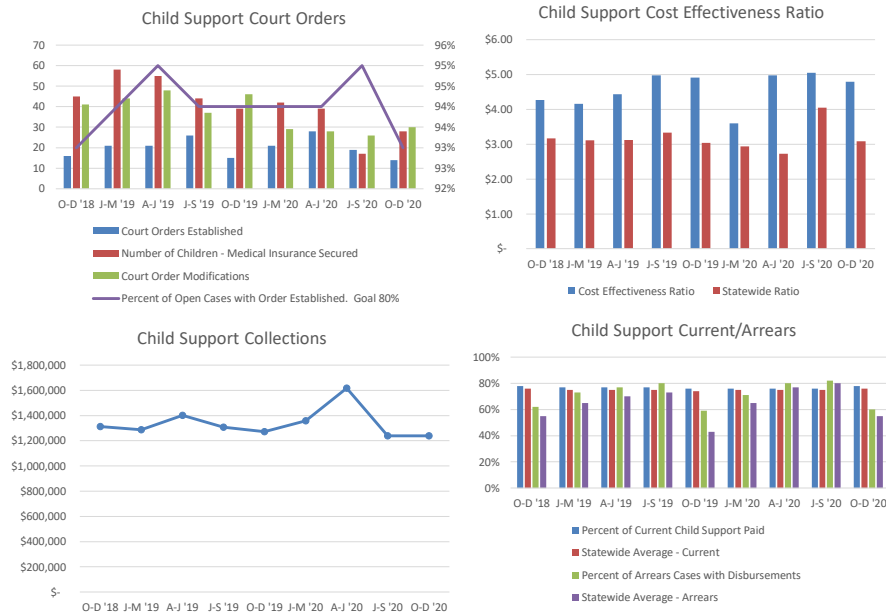
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Fraud referrals remain very low for the period due to the COVID waivers remaining in place and clients not having to report changes for many programs.

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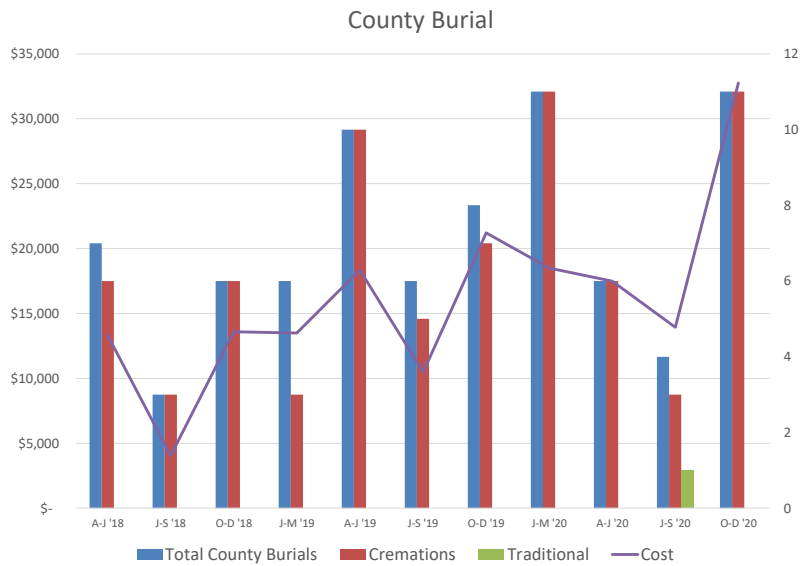
88

Child Support collections of current child support paid saw an increase in the last quarter of 2020.

Arrears appear to have a large decrease in collections but this is not a good reflection of what is actually taking place. October starts a new fiscal year and the amount accumulates over time.

While Child Support is able to establish new orders they are still unable to do enforcement due to the State of Emergency remaining in place.

89



90

For 2020 total, we paid for 32 burials, all but one cremations, at a cost of \$82,680. This compared to 30 burials in 2019, all cremations, at a cost of \$63,551.

91

**EXCEPTIONAL
PROBLEMS/ISSUES/ACTIVITIES &
SPECIAL PROJECT REPORTING**



92

93

COVID-19 Impacts

- Agency lobby continues to be closed – clients are able to come in for scheduled appointments – working well.
- A majority of staff are still working remotely most days.
- Staff continue to be innovative in finding ways to complete job duties.

94

COVID-19 Impacts

- Able to secure funding from
 - \$26,000 MDH grant to support vaccine efforts.

95

Behavioral Health

As the pandemic has carried on, the clubhouse was able to stay open for the most part as we continued to follow our safety restrictions. During this time, we had 35 unduplicated members attend clubhouse activities. As in the past, more would like to attend but are limiting their time outside their homes in hopes of avoiding Covid-19.

Staff contacted many additional clubhouse members outside of the clubhouse while doing deliveries for those who were not able to come in. One set of deliveries was delivering zip-up hooded sweatshirts (with clubhouse logo), which were provided by the clubhouse free of charge for any interested clubhouse member. Free 10-County t-shirts were also provided during this time by the SCCBI (pictured below). Another delivery was for care packages / gift bags that were assembled and then delivered before and around Christmas. Members were very appreciative of these items. Grocery pick-up and delivery was also provided to two members without transportation.

96

Behavioral Health

Clubhouse activities this quarter were still limited due to safety protocols and Governor's orders. Activities did include general open time and mall walking, as well as outdoor activities such as walking group at Cedar Creek Park and meeting at Center Creek Orchard, with social distancing and safety always in mind. Lastly, we held a member-led craft project via Zoom in which members were shown how to create a Christmas wreath with paracord.

Staff created a training slideshow as part of the virtual AWSM, which included a detailed overview of the clubhouse, pictures, and testimonials from a few members.

Still no 10-County events but coordinator meetings are still held regularly via Zoom.

97



Business Office

- COVID-19 reporting and grant/funds tracking has been very busy.

100

101

Community Health

COVID-19 Response:

- Our staff completed over 1,000 case investigations and contact tracing since June 1, 2021.
- Continue offering weekly meeting with all school partners to navigate COVID-19 Safe Learning Plan and plan for immunizations.
- Partnership with local long-term care facilities to support testing and vaccination of staff and residents.
- Vaccine planning – vaccine distribution to local public health started last week of December 2021. Public Health charged with vaccinating partners as part of 1A. Next group includes 65+, educators and childcare partners.
- Huge volume of communications work – fielding public inquiries, questions and complaints for EO non-compliance.

102