



Health & Human Services Agenda Request

3A
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: February 25, 2025

Title of Item: Region V+ Efforts to Decrease Unneeded Acute Hospital Stays

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
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Submitted by: Paula Arimborgo	Department: H&HS
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Presenter (Name and Title): Mike Willie, Regional Transition Administrator, Sourcewell	Estimated Time Needed: 20 min
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Summary of Issue:
 A presentation of Region V+ efforts to decrease unneeded acute hospital stays.

Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:

Recommended Action/Motion:

Financial Impact:
 Is there a cost associated with this request? Yes No
 What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$
 Is this budgeted? Yes No *Please Explain:*

The background of the slide is a nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, with numerous illuminated buildings and a highway interchange in the foreground. A large, semi-transparent orange shape is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the main text.

Region V+ efforts to decrease unneeded acute hospital stays

Collaboration and Innovation

02/25/25

Partnership with the Adult Mental Health Initiative

- 1996 legislation created regional partnerships to pilot innovative projects, which evolved to 19 AMHIs
- Aitkin County joined the counties in Region 5
- Sourcewell and Region V+ AMHI partnership:
 - AMHI and Region V+ Crisis Services Coordinator
 - Regional Transition Administrator
 - Regional Mental Health Coordinator



- 1 of 9 service cooperatives created in the 1970s
- Tasked with helping schools, cities, counties, and other local public agencies meet their goals
- We offer a wide range of solutions:
 - Shared services – childcare and adult foster care licensing, zoning
 - Public safety – training and funding opportunities
 - School support – district strategy and planning, career and college readiness programs, student academic programming and more



Does Not Meet Criteria

- 2016 MN legislation: counties are liable for 100% of the cost of care for all individuals served in the Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center (AMRTC) and the Community Behavioral Health Hospitals (CBHHs) deemed clinically appropriate for discharge.
 - Those individuals are given the status of Does Not Meet Criteria (DNMC) for further hospitalization.
- 2017: AMHI began discussions with Sourcewell to develop a position to better serve DNMC individuals.

Goals of the Regional Transition Administrator

Primary goal

- Reduction in DNMC days by taking the person's individual needs into account

Secondary goals

- Assist case managers
- Serve as a liaison with DC&T (Direct Care and Treatment) and placement providers
- Facilitate AMH (Adult Mental Health) case manager networking and skill development

Reducing Does not Meet Criteria Days

Concerted, collaborative effort across the region

RTA position is prominent but not the only tool used

Increased attendance at team meetings for individuals in state hospitals

County meetings around individuals in state hospitals

High levels of communication with hospital social workers

Early discharge planning and early MNChoices referrals

Concerted effort to engage clients and providers to plan for client success

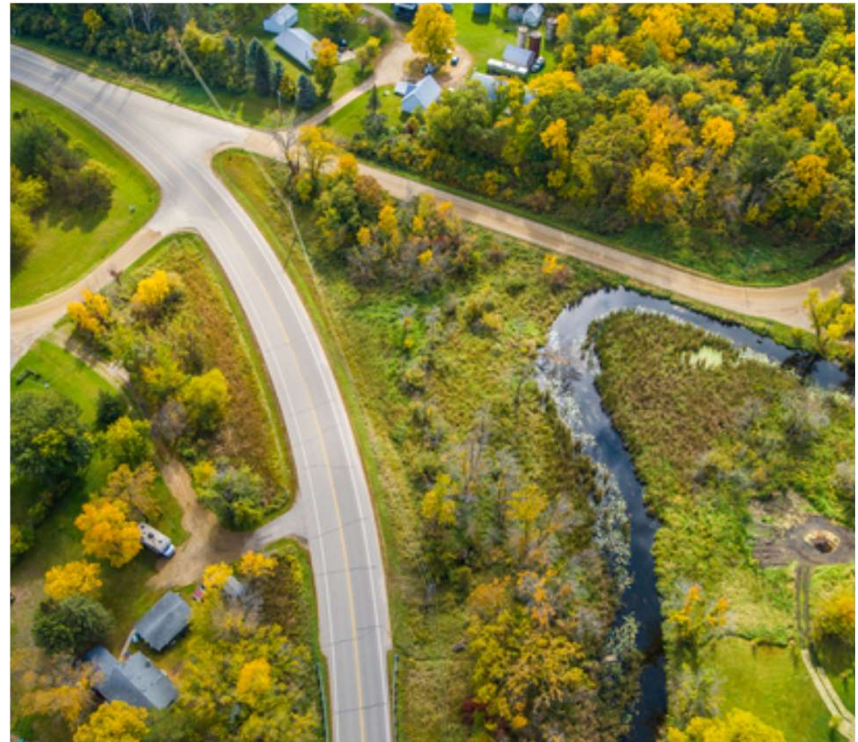
LOTS of referrals

Assisting case managers

- Supports a high level of service from case managers to all their clients, especially clients not in state hospitals
- Targeted conversations with clients about their wishes
- Discussion with case managers about strategies for interventions
- Commitment logistics assistance
- Regional knowledge provides for a level of specialization that normally wouldn't be available for the counties in Region 5+

Liaison with DC&T

- Single contact point
- Gain knowledge and experience with each individual Direct Care and Treatment (DC&T) site
- Prioritization of DC&T cases
- Develop relationships with DC&T staff
- Develop experience and knowledge of DC&T protocols and operating procedures



Liaison with placement providers

- Preferred contact for each individual provider
- Maintain updated individualized forms for each provider
- Develop relationships with select providers
- Help providers with challenges in transitioning in new placements
- Facilitate discussion to address barriers to placement



AMH case manager networking

- Facilitate a bi-monthly meeting with AMH case managers
- Recruit presenters or facilitate panel discussions on topics for AMH case manager skill and knowledge development
- Provide networking opportunities for AMH case managers

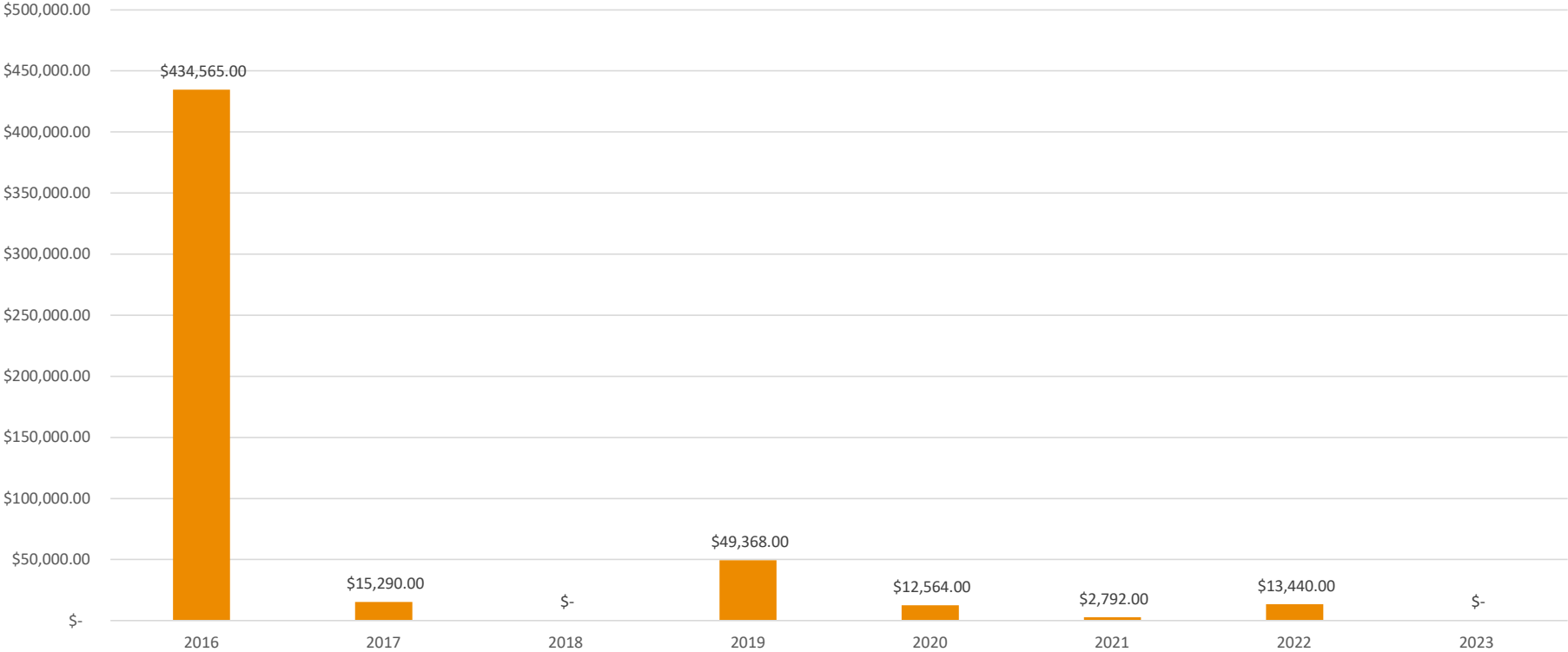


Results

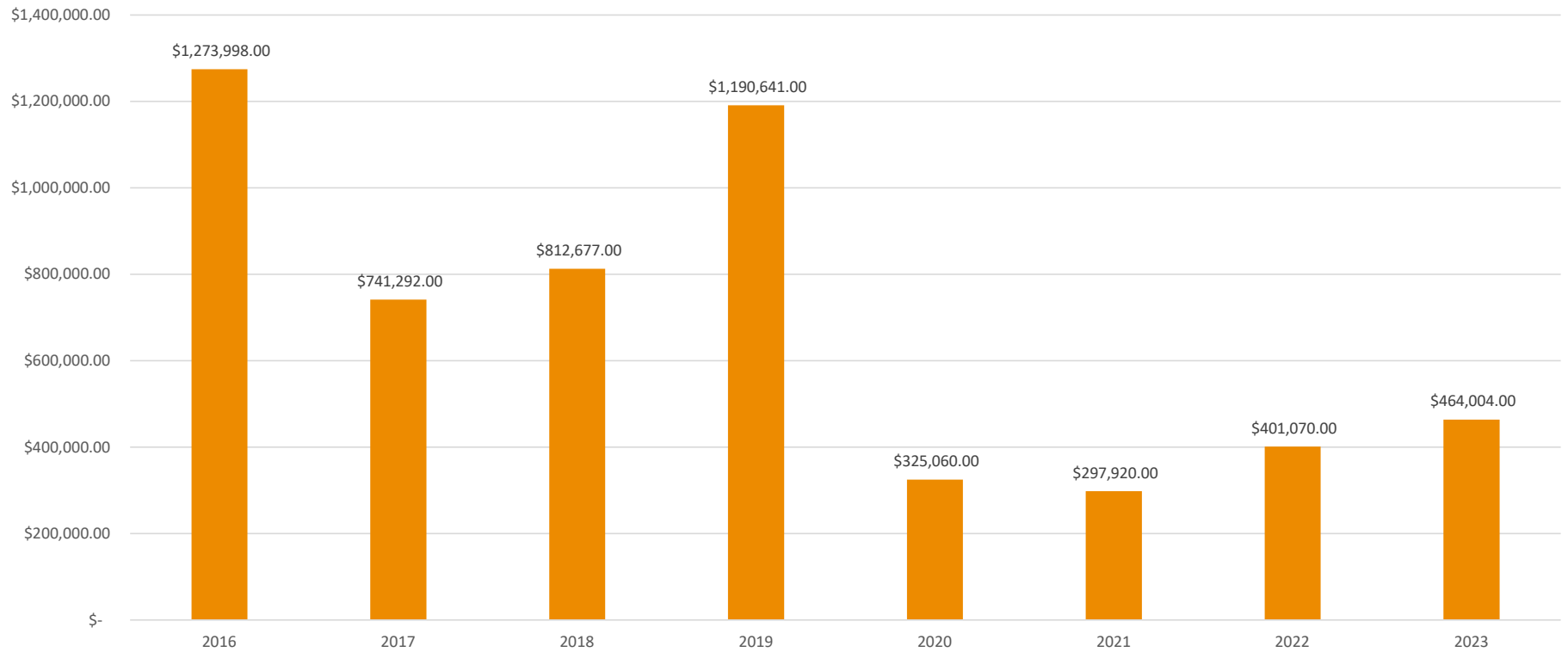
- About \$2.5 million decrease in DNMC costs since 2019
- Reduction in case manager stress
- Relationship development with DC&T
- Longevity in placements
- Cross county case manager networking



DNMC costs to Aitkin County



DNMC costs to Region V+



Placement successes

Explaining placement settings with clients and spending time discussing different options with clients

Matching placement providers with clients

Providing options for the clients to choose from

Researching new placements in areas clients identify to be a preference

Finding specialized placements for individual clients

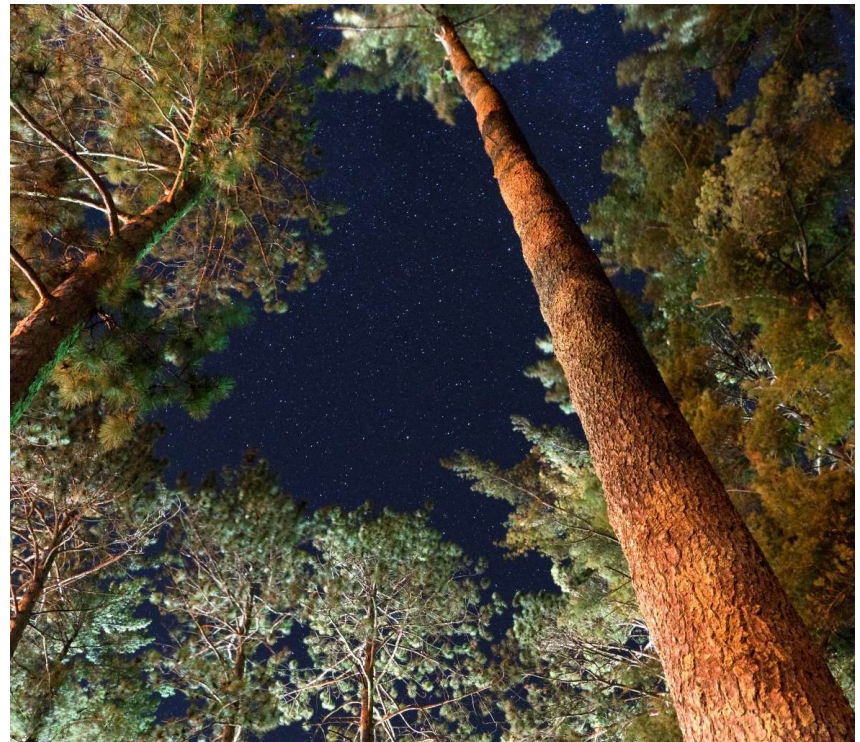
Possible individual placement developments for clients

Knowledge and experience with MSOCS when that is needed

Capacity to submit multiple referrals

Relationships built

- In a 2023 DHS report to the legislature Region 5+'s efforts were called out as having a positive impact on decreasing DNMC days
- DHS partners call us to request resource information
- Community partners let us know about open beds
- Identify community partners willing to collaborate for new developments and creative approaches to serving people
- Partnering with EDs to address ER boards



Ongoing work

- Region V+ has made significant structural changes in how we work with individuals in DC&T sites since 2019
 - Hiring the RTA position
 - Increase in staff/supervisor time dedicated to individuals at DC&T sites
 - Inter-agency/Intra-agency meetings to ensure county/state processes don't disrupt discharge
- Changes have resulted in overall reduction in unneeded hospital stays
- Even with those changes, counties in Region V+ still carry a historical and ongoing burden from DNMC billing



“The RTS has found resources and providers that I would not have had the time to research and locate that have been positive experiences. The RTS has created collaboration opportunities with providers and case managers as well as brought together teams to ensure ongoing support. The role has been a saving grace for a busy case manager!” -- AMH Case Manager

“You also take a huge amount of stress off of me, and save me invaluable amount of time to do my other work, because you contact providers and complete the referral paperwork. Placements are found faster having this position, as more referrals can be made when that is the focus, as I could never make the amount of referrals that you do, or know of all the referral options throughout the State like you do.” -- **AMH Case Manager**

“The RTS role is of great value. This role has provided trainings, collaboration with other regional social workers. This position is an asset when needing additional assistance with finding housing/placement.”

-- **AMH Case Manager**

“The RTS role is vital in assisting me to find appropriate placement for my clients. Completing ROIs, sending information to potential providers, and all the follow-up that is involved in finding services and homes for clients takes a lot of time. However, with the assistance of a Regional Transition Specialist, it alleviates stress and provides more time for other tasks that need my attention.”

-- **AMH Case Manager**

“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”

- Henry Ford

Thank you!