



GREEN LAKE COUNTY

571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI 54941

Original Post Date: 3/4/2026

Amended Post Date:

The following documents are included in the packet for the Health & Human Services Committee Meeting on March 9th, 2026:

1) Agenda

2) Minutes: 1/12/2026

3) Annual Reports

- Health & Human Services
- VSO



GREEN LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Samantha Stobbe
County Clerk

Office: 920-294-4005
FAX: 920-294-4009

Health & Human Services Committee Meeting Notice

Date: Monday, March 9th, 2026 Time: 5:00 PM
The Green Lake County Government Center, County Board Room
571 County Road A, Green Lake WI

AGENDA

Committee Members

Joe Gonyo – Chair
*Mike Skivington – Vice
Chair*
Brian Floeter
Christine Schapfel
Mary Hess
Nancy Hoffmann
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant

Samantha Stobbe,
Secretary

Virtual attendance at meetings is optional. If technical difficulties arise, there may be instances when remote access may be compromised. If there is a quorum attending in person, the meeting will proceed as scheduled.

This agenda gives notice of a meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee. It is possible that individual members of other governing bodies of Green Lake County government may attend this meeting for informative purposes. Members of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors or its committees may be present for informative purposes but will not take any formal action. A majority or a negative quorum of the members of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors and/or any of its committees may be present at this meeting. See State ex rel. Badke v. Vill. Bd. of Vill. of Greendale, 173 Wis.2d 553, 578, 494 N.W. 2d 408 (1993).

1. Call to Order
2. Certification of Open Meeting Law
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment
5. Minutes: 1/12/2026
6. Annual Report
 - Health & Human Services
 - VSO
7. Director's Report
8. VSO Report
9. Unit Reports
10. Committee Discussion
 - Future Meeting Dates: April 13th, 2026
 - Future Agenda items for action & discussion
11. Adjourn

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Please accept at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

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Kindly arrange to be present, if unable to do so, please notify our office.
Samantha Stobbe, County Clerk

Please note: Meeting area is accessible to the physically disabled. Anyone planning to attend who needs visual or audio assistance, should contact the County Clerk's Office, 294-4005, not later than 3 days before date of the meeting.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

January 12, 2026

The meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Mike Skivington at 5:00 PM on Monday, January 12, 2026 in person and via remote access at the Government Center, 571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Present: Mary Hess
Mike Skivington
Christine Schapfel
Nancy Hoffman

Absent: Brian Floeter
Joe Gonyo

Other County Employees Present: Liz Otto, County Clerk; Jason Jerome, HHS Director/County Manager; Kayla Yonke, HHS Financial Manager; Shelby Jensen, ESU Unit Manager; Rachel Prellwitz, Health Officer (remote); Lisa Schiessl, Children & Family Unit Manager; Jon Vandeyacht, Veterans Service Office; Nichol Wienkes, Behavioral Health Unit Manager; Brooke Zank, Clinical Therapist

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 11/10/2025 MINUTES

Motion/second (Schapfl/Hoffmann) to approve the minutes of the 11/10/2025 meeting as presented with a change to the next meeting date. That date is correct if a December meeting would have taken place. Motion carried with no negative vote.

SCHOOL BASED OFFICE PRESENTATION

Nichol Wienkes, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, and Brooke Zank, Clinical Therapist, presented information regarding the school based therapy sessions offered throughout the county. There are currently 4 schools participating and one more request but there is not enough staff at this time. Wienkes and Zank spoke in regard to the logistics, benefits, and challenges of the program. Questions and discussion held.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENTS

Nichol Wienkes, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, provided information on a free security risk assessment through BH Connect. Corporation Counsel has reviewed the formalized policy. *Motion/second (Hoffmann/Schapfel)* to approve the policy and assessment. Motion carried with no negative votes.

HHS FINANCIAL POLICIES DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Kayla Yonke, HHS Financial Manager, stated that the current policy has not been reviewed since 2017 so the auditors recommended an update. This is an outline of day to day operations with a few new notations made. *Motion/second (Hoffmann/Hess)* to accept the policy changes as presented. Motion carried with no negative vote.

2026 RATE SCHEDULE

Jason Jerome, HHS Director/County Manager, stated this is an annual requirement with no changes to the current rates as presented in the packet. *Motion/second (Hoffmann/Schapfl)* to approve the 2026 rates as presented. Motion carried with no negative vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jason Jerome, HHS Director/County Manager, stated that the department is in the process of closing out 2025. An opioid settlement task force has been formed to distribute those funds through an application process. Rachel Prellwitz, Health Officer, updated the committee on the funding requirements.

VSO REPORT

Jon Vandeyacht, Veterans Service Officer, asked for ideas for Student Government Day in April. He provided a recap of services for 2025 including outreach programs.

UNIT REPORTS

Discussion held on the suicide rates included in the Health Unit report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION

- Next meeting date – February 9, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
- Future agenda items for action and discussion -

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Skivington adjourned the meeting at 6:10 pm.

Submitted by,

Liz Otto
County Clerk

DRAFT

Green Lake County



GREEN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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2025 ANNUAL REPORT

To: The Residents of Green Lake County, The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Green Lake County and the Green Lake County Health & Human Services Committee.

We respectfully submit for your consideration the 2025 Annual Report for the Department of Health & Humans Services (DHHS).

DHHS provides a vast array of programs and services intended to protect individuals and the public. These services are provided within a framework of requirements and regulations developed at the State and Federal level. This funding does not keep pace with increased costs and demands for these services. DHHS would be unable to provide these mandated and needed services to the citizens of Green Lake County without the funding allocated by local officials.

DHHS is constantly challenged to adapt and find creative and innovative ways to deliver needed services to citizens and strengthening existing partnerships within the County and outside agencies. I am fortunate and humbled to work with a group of individuals who take pride in the services they provide while supporting each other and working as a team to deliver these services to the citizens of Green Lake County.

Attached you will find unit specific reports outlining services provided by the Department. Each unit has provided an excellent overview of their respective unit responsibilities, services provided and related data. Since it is not possible to include everything accomplished in this type of report, I would encourage each of you to visit Health & Human Services in Green Lake and Fox River Industries in Berlin for a tour and more detailed review of the services provided and programs available.

Our ability to continue and provide quality services to the residents of Green Lake County is a tribute to the Health & Human Services Board, County Board and a very talented and dedicated staff of professionals.

We look forward to the challenges ahead and the opportunity to continue to provide services which best meet the needs of Green Lake County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Jerome



GREEN LAKE COUNTY

OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration Department
Kyonke@greenlakecountywi.gov

Office: 920-294-4070
FAX: 920-294-4139

To: Green Lake County Board of Supervisors

From: Kayla Yonke, Health and Human Services Finance/Business Manager

2025 HHS Admin in Review

The Administration Department supports the daily operations of Health & Human Services by handling calls, walk ins, budget monitoring, financial tracking, grants, contracts, and general administrative support. While our work often happens behind the scenes, it plays a key role in making sure programs have the resources they need to serve the community effectively and responsibly.

Throughout the year, the department focused on maintaining strong financial oversight, supporting program staff, and responding to changing operational needs. Despite ongoing challenges related to staffing, funding requirements, and increasing service demands, the team continued to keep core functions running smoothly.

What We Do

The Administration & Finance Division provides support across all Health & Human Services programs in several key areas:

- Providing administrative support to leadership and program staff
- Preparing and monitoring the department's budget
- Tracking expenditures and revenues throughout the year
- Process and submit insurance billing
- Manage Claims, payments and follow-up with insurance carriers
- Support program billing and fee-based services
- Managing financial reporting and year-end close
- Supporting grant funding, reimbursements, and compliance
- Assisting with contracts, purchasing, and vendor payments

Our goal is to make financial and administrative processes as clear and efficient as possible so program staff can focus on service delivery.

Highlights from 2025

Some of the division's key accomplishments during the year included:

- Managing the department's budget while staying within approved funding levels
- Supporting audits and reviews and responding to requests in a timely manner
- Maintaining compliance with multiple funding sources and reporting requirements
- Ensured services provided to the community were financially supported
- Improving communication with program managers around budget status and spending
- Adapting to staffing changes while maintaining continuity of operations
- Providing regular financial updates to department leadership

These efforts helped ensure that programs remained financially stable and able to meet service demands.

Goals moving forward

In the coming year, the division will continue to focus on improving processes and supporting the department's long-term stability. Key priorities include:

- Strengthening budget planning and financial tracking
- Continuing to improve internal processes and documentation
- Supporting grant sustainability and compliance
- Expanded support for fee-based and grant-supported programs through improved billing coordination
- Cross-training staff to improve coverage and efficiency
- Exploring ways to streamline administrative tasks where possible

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Yonke
Health and Human Services Finance/Business Manager
Green Lake County, Wisconsin



Green Lake County
Health Department

2025 Annual Report



Prepared by:

Green Lake
County Health
Department Staff

Presented by: Rachel Prellwitz, Health Officer



Green Lake
County Health Department

Prevent. Promote. Protect.



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Message from the Health Officer

Reflecting on the past year, I am very proud to present this annual report. Our department has made progress in meeting the needs of Green Lake County residents by carrying out the 10 essential foundations of public health and addressing our top 3 health priorities as identified in our Community Health Assessment: Access to Care (Medical and Dental), Mental Health and Substance Misuse.

We are a very small department where all staff need to wear multiple hats. With Green Lake County being rural with limited resources, staff often need to think outside of the box and be creative when addressing health needs. Unstable, and inconsistent funding is also a huge challenge for our department.

A few highlights from this past year include:

- Holding our first annual Community Day and Sports Camp at Princeton School on July 17th. In partnership with Terrace Shores Church, middle school and high school students had the opportunity to attend a ½ day sports camp choosing from 5 different sports options. We also held a resource fair which included free haircuts, diaper giveaway, sports physicals, numerous local vendors and a free community meal. It was very well attended, and we look forward to an even more successful 2nd year!
- Growth of our Green Lake County United for Prevention Coalition. The coalition has continued to have consistent attendance at meetings, chosen a name, developed a vision statement and logo, and held several trainings. See page 20 for more information.
- Our Diabetes Prevention Program. Late in 2025 Nancy and Lisa started their 10th cohort of this year-long program. They have worked tirelessly to ensure the sustainability of this program by collecting over \$10,000 in insurance claims through Medicare. In 2025, 32 new participants (in 3 separate cohorts) joined the Diabetes Prevention Program. One group completed their year-long program with a total of 147 pounds lost collectively!

We have a lot to be proud of this year but also can't forget to thank all of our new and continued partners that help support the work we do. Please enjoy this summary of our programs and activities we have accomplished throughout 2025.

Sincerely,

Rachel Prellwitz, RN



Meet Our Team



LAUREN OLSON DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER

As Deputy Health Officer and Health Educator of Green Lake County I work on a variety of health topics; from tobacco prevention, physical activity and nutrition, car seat education, substance use prevention, community outreach, education on a variety of topics, working with our schools, and our community health improvement plan (CHIP).

Highlight of 2025: Building a strong substance use prevention coalition, Green Lake County United for Prevention. It's exciting to see all the partners that come together to work on these efforts to prevent and reduce substance use within Green Lake County.



ALLISON MEYER PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Allison's focus is primarily on investigating all communicable diseases, updating emergency preparedness plans and providing immunizations to adults and children. We carry most vaccines including flu, tetanus and all childhood vaccines. She also provides home visits to the Amish and provides a variety of health education individually and in classrooms. Allison is also a Certified CPR Instructor and Stop the Bleed trained.

Highlight of 2025: Held 24 CPR classes with 158 participants throughout the county. Participants included law enforcement, teachers, 7th and 8th graders, daycare staff, and general residents who want to learn CPR.



NANCY GIMENEZ PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Nancy is primarily responsible for the following areas at Green Lake County Health Department: Managing the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP), coordinating the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, and providing outreach to all postpartum moms/families following the birth of a baby to assure families have the needed resources and services to succeed. She also provides 1:1 advance care planning, and assists the other PH staff with vaccinations, community events and more.

Highlight of 2025: Hosted the tenth cohort of the Green Lake County DPP, with a milestone of over 1,000 collective pounds lost!

Meet Our Team



LISA ROLLIN
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Lisa maintains close collaboration and engagement in the Diabetes Prevention Program as a Lifestyle Coach. She also participates in ongoing efforts of our Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan as a facilitator of our substance use prevention coalition, Green Lake County United for Prevention. As a part time employee, she assists in other areas of focus as needed by the team.

Highlight of 2025: Facilitating the Diabetes Prevention Program and co-facilitating Green Lake County United for Prevention. It is just amazing seeing people work together for common goals in our community!



KYLE ALT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

As the health inspector Kyle licenses and inspects food facilities, lodging facilities, campgrounds, pools and rec-ed camps. The other large part of his job is responding to human health hazards in the community. Kyle uses chapter 154, health and sanitation, of Green Lake County's code of ordinances to address these concerns." Highlight of 2025: Successful transition to Rural Environmental Health Alliance.

Our Organization

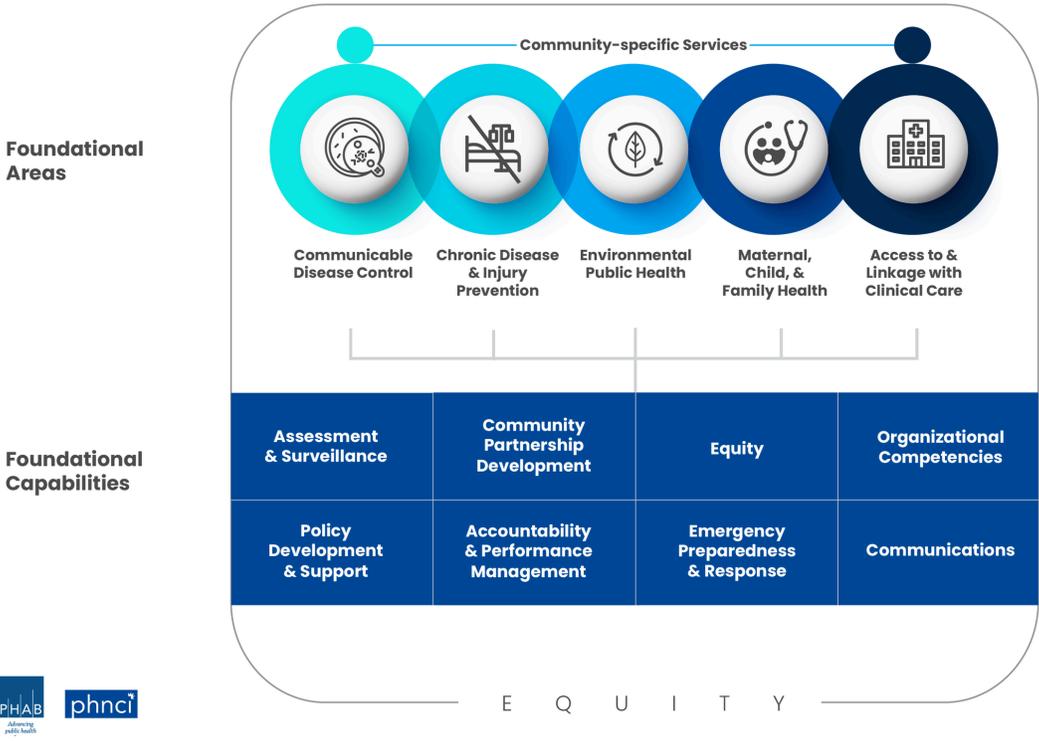


Mission

The mission of the Green Lake County Health Department is to promote and protect health and prevent disease.

Vision

We will become a leader in public health in Green Lake County promoting healthy people, thriving communities and safe environments.



Health Equity

In order to create social and physical environments that promote good health for all we must approach problems through a health equity lens. The Green Lake County Health Department is committed to ensuring health equity for all residents. In the past year, we continued to make improvements in addressing health disparities and promoting health equity through our programs, partnerships, and initiatives.

Equality gives us all the same resources.

Equity gives us what we need.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)



Every 5 years, Green Lake County Health Department, pulls together organizations, agencies, and community members, to gather information about the health needs of our county and make a plan with strategies to address any gaps. A description of these strategies is shown below with an update of what was completed during year two.



Access to Care-Medical

Improve access to health care, including medical and dental services in Green Lake County.

- Distribution of outreach materials aimed to bring awareness to free or discounted preventative medical services available to Green Lake County Residents.



Access to Care-Dental

Improve access to health care, including medical and dental services in Green Lake County.

- Continued to pursue possible opportunities, through various organizations and agencies, for bringing mobile dental care for those on Medicaid/BadgerCare in Green Lake County.



Substance Misuse

Prevent or reduce substance misuse among youth and adults in Green Lake County.

- New Narcan distribution outreach efforts have been made to make it more accessible to residents.
- Through our Central WI Health Partnership consortium, efforts are being focused on supporting those in recovery and building a recovery community.

*See page 20 for more information related to Green Lake County United for Prevention, our substance use prevention coalition.

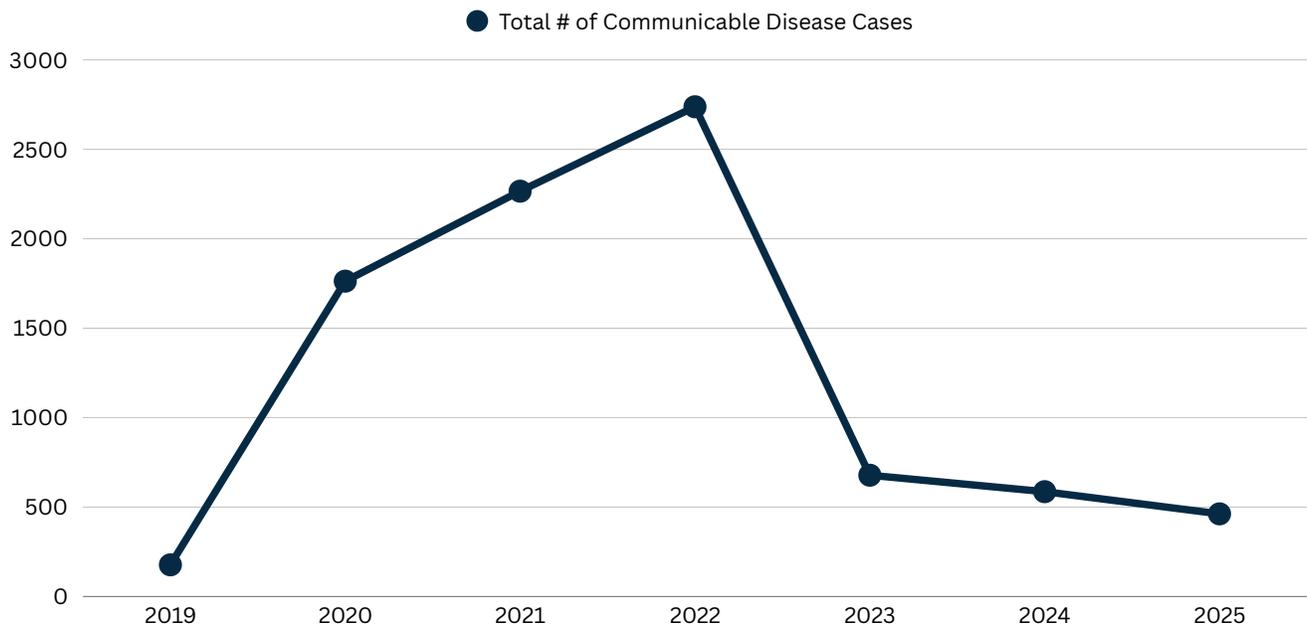


Mental Health

Build a culture of mental wellness throughout Green lake County.

- Green Lake County HHS continues its efforts of Zero Suicide and work towards system wide transformation towards suicide prevention and promoting resources available.
- Working with all school districts to support youth groups within the schools to work on positive mental health efforts and sharing resources.

Disease Control and Prevention



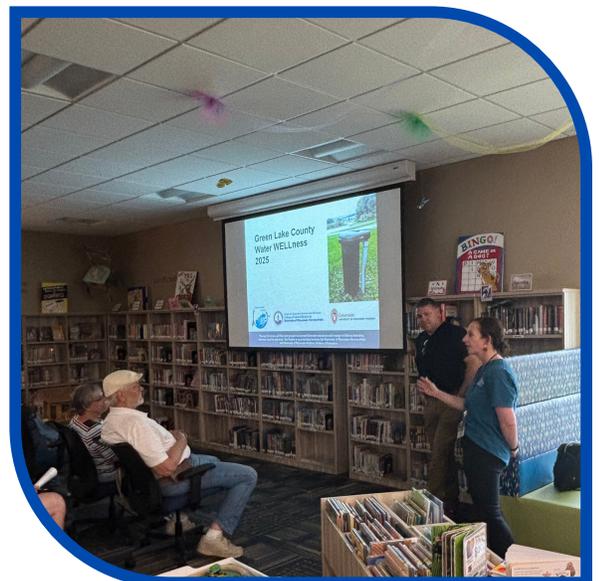
Public Health is required by state statute to follow up on acute and communicable diseases. Using the WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS), we are able to monitor trends and track outbreaks as they occur. The above graph shows total number of cases reported to Green Lake County Health Department over the last 7 years.

Respiratory illnesses continue to be Green Lake County's most reported communicable disease with Influenza being the highest. COVID-19 and RSV remained high in 2025. However, Pertussis was down from 26 cases in 2024 to 11 in 2025.

Other diseases that remain high in were Lyme disease and Chlamydia. One disease that was higher than typical for Green Lake County was Latent Tuberculosis (LTBI). LTBI is not contagious to others but does need to be investigated and treatment provided. Based on some DHS WI requirements, some clients on treatment need to be observed weekly taking their medications. This is called Directed Observed Therapy (DOT). LTBI with treatment and LTBI is not a disease reported frequently in Green Lake County. However, in 2025 there were 7 LTBI cases investigated. 3 of those 7 clients needed treatment with 1 of them requiring DOT for 12 weeks.

The Health Unit continues to partner with the Green Lake Association (GLA) and Green Lake Sanitary District (GLSD) on the Blue Green Algae and E. Coli beach monitoring program. The GLA & GLSD tested water samples at locations around Green Lake for the presence of blue-green algae toxins and E. Coli. Results were used to inform the community of potential beach advisories or closures by the health department. Throughout this testing season, six beach advisories/closures were issued. Once conditions improved, beach closures were lifted. We also partnered with UW Stevens Point and GLC Land Conservation to hold our annual well water testing program.

Pictured: Todd Morris (GLC Land Conservation Dept) and Rachel Prellwitz (GLC Health Dept.) at June 11th GLC Water WELLness presentation at Princeton Library



Public Health Preparedness



Allison Meyer is our Public Health Preparedness Program Coordinator for Green Lake County. We continue to be an active member in the Region 6 Healthcare Coalition attending monthly meetings and participating in various preparedness exercises throughout the year. In addition, we are also active partners in the Local Emergency Planning Committee with Emergency Management.



This year in emergency preparedness, Allison has been working with the All Saints Regional Catholic School and Law Enforcement to develop an emergency action plan for them. In August, Allison held a table top exercise for the staff at the school. The focus of this exercise was to prepare staff for an active shooter within the school.

Allison participates in several emergency preparedness workgroups and coalitions.

- The bi-monthly Fox Valley Healthcare Emergency Response Coalition (FVHERC) meetings, along with the Fox Valley Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) meetings.
- The Association of Public Health Nurses Emergency Preparedness & Response Committee is preparing a paper on the importance of nurses in emergency preparedness.
- The Wisconsin Public Health Emergency Management (WPHEM) advisory group. The purpose of this group is to create a Wisconsin professional certification program to be recognized as a professional field of practice among public health and emergency management.

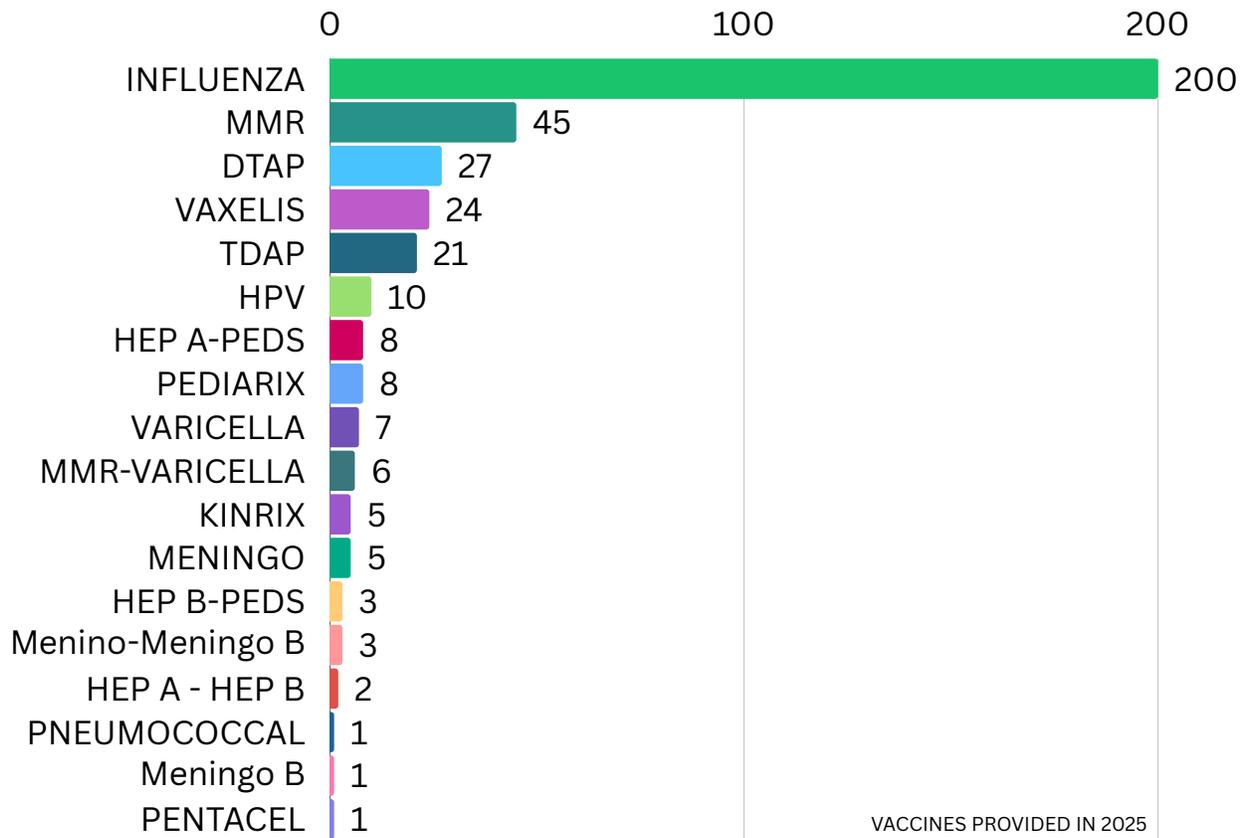
Measles Table Top Exercise

In May, the Health Department hosted a Measles Table Top Exercise for the staff and board members of the Care4U Clinic in Dalton. Members attending included the Care4U volunteer nurses, physicians and Amish Community members from Green Lake County, Marquette County and Columbia County. Public Health staff from the previous three counties also attended.

The focus of the exercise was to refresh the staff's knowledge of measles and develop a plan of action if a suspect measles patient presented to the clinic.



Immunizations



In 2025, we have provided 377 vaccines throughout the year. We have continued our home visitation program to provide immunizations to the Amish community and have observed an uptake in vaccine acceptance particularly with the MMR vaccine. The Health Department is also focusing efforts to increase vaccination rates in all communities with adding new locations for vaccination and this fall we provided vaccinations at a Saturday clinic.

44%

of Green Lake County children who turned 2 years old in 2025 are fully vaccinated per DHS recommendations



Right: Picture of Green Lake County staff providing vaccines in schools.

Dental

Dental services to Prairie View Head Start children in Green Lake County for the end of school year 24-25 were provided by Carrie Knurowski, Dental Hygienist. At the start of school year 25-26, Prairie View transitioned to having services provided by Bridging Brighter Smiles, which also serves students in all 4 school districts within Green Lake County. Going forward, Bridging Brighter Smiles will provide dental cleanings, sealants, and fluoride treatments to all school-aged children in Green Lake County.

319

Total number of children who were screened and provided fluoride treatments

272

Total number of children that had prophylactic cleanings performed

282

Total number of children that had sealants placed

6

Number of referrals given for further care and treatment

This program provides dental needs in our county that are greatly unmet due to providers not accepting patients with MA/Badgercare.

**Please note that previous annual reports included data from Marquette County

NUTRITION/WIC



WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children – offering nutrition education, healthy foods, breastfeeding support, and referrals for healthcare providers and community services to those participating.

2025 WIC Participation

All served by Noble Community Clinics formerly Family Health La Clinica

924

Total number of individuals served

46

Pregnant women served

178

Infants under 12 months

198

Postpartum women

502

Children ages 1-4

\$3,800 **Impacted by budget delays/cuts

Spent on fruits and vegetables at local farmers markets from June-October with the Farmers Market Nutrition Program

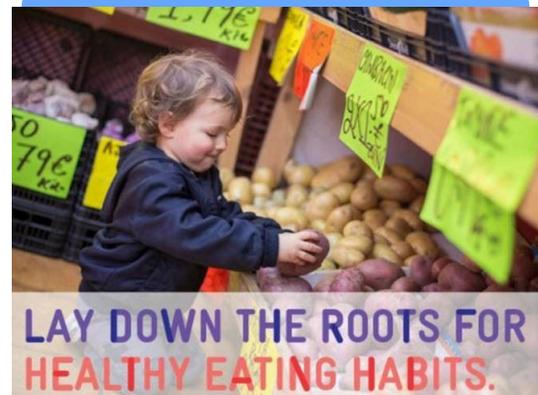
WIC CLINIC UPDATES AND OUTREACH

Green Lake County WIC has continued operating hybrid under ARPA waivers. This temporary waiver is expected to expire in September 2026. WIC continues to have monthly clinics at the Tri County Boys and Girls Club and the Green Lake County Government Center. They also have a clinic in Princeton every other month at the library.

Unfortunately, WIC was extremely understaffed for all of 2025 and were not able to implement any new programs or initiatives. They were able to offer their Dental Day in 2025, but this has cancelled for 2026 due to lack of interest.

WIC continues to build connections with local healthcare providers to optimize referrals and sharing of health screening data (height, weight, hemoglobin).

Lastly, WIC continues to partner with Jake's Network of Hope/The Hub/Eastern WI Diaper Bank to provide families in need with diapers or pull ups on a recurring basis.



Childhood Lead

Lead assessment and education is a service provided by Green Lake County Health Department. It is an important service provided through a partnership of a Public Health Nurse and a shared Environmental Health Specialist with Marquette County.

*In 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated the blood level reference value to 3.5 mcg/dL (Previous value was 5mcg/dL). Any child with a venous blood lead level of 3.5mcg/dL or higher is considered to have lead poisoning.

At Green Lake County Health Department, all families who have a child with a blood lead level of 3.5 mcg/dl or over (venous or capillary),

- **are contacted by phone to perform an assessment and provide education.**
- **followed by an e-mail containing supplemental educational handouts and county contact information.**

Families that the nurse is unable to contact, have letters sent to their home, and the health care provider is notified.

For children presenting with a *capillary test* above 3.5 mcg/dl, parents are instructed about the need for confirmatory venous blood lead testing.

In 2024 Wisconsin DHS recommended universal lead testing for:

- ALL children at age 1
- ALL children at age 2
- Any child between ages 3-5 without a previous test

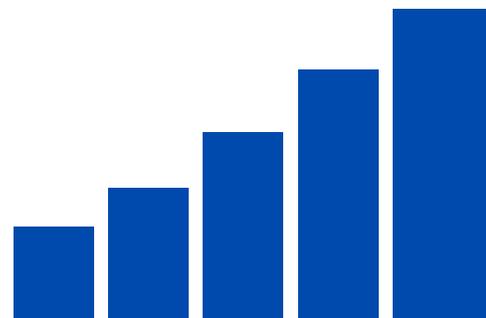


206

Total blood lead level tests completed for children residing in Green Lake County in 2025

4

Children with elevated confirmatory venous blood lead levels (VBLL) ranging from 3.5- 8.8 mcg/dL



Mother, Child and Family

To help support healthy family development, Green Lake County Health Department provides outreach and education to all families when a baby is born. Outreach is done through phone support and mailings.

 **209**
Births in 2025
vs. 207 in 2024

3.35%
Smoked during pregnancy
vs. 4.83% in 2024

6.22%
Babies born low birthweight
vs. 4.83% in 2024

61.24%
Women received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester vs. 61.35% in 2024

Programs and resources that families have been referred to because of our outreach include Children’s Wisconsin Program, First Breath, Wisconsin Works, Well Badger Resource Center, various lactation consultants, dental services and WIC.

“Women who receive early and regular prenatal care are more likely to have healthy infants,” (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Guidelines for Perinatal Care, eighth ed., 2017).

CAR SEAT PROGRAM

The Green Lake County Health Department offers car seat checks to anyone in Green Lake County free of charge. The Health Department has two certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPSTs) who educate caregivers on the proper selection, installation, and use of car seats and booster seats. This program allows eligible, low-income caregivers to receive car seats and booster seats for free. It is supported by local and state grant funds and/or donations.



2025 ACTIVITIES/OUTREACH

- Both Certified Car Seat Technicians attended the Car Seat Conference to earn their CEUs needed for their bi-annual recertification.
- Car seat education and outreach through social media reached over 4000 people!

38
Total number of car seats were given to families along with education.

95%
Of those who had a car seat installation check reported having a significant or moderate increase in knowledge of proper car seat use.

Mother, Child and Family

PLAIN COMMUNITY HOME VISITING

Currently, Lauren and Allison provide bi-monthly home visits to the Plain Community. They provide immunizations, free car seats, water testing, well baby checks, resource information and answer any health questions. Many times, they go to a home expecting to provide one service and end up providing others as well.

While many Amish groups actively prohibit tobacco and alcohol, it was brought to our attention this year that the nation-wide youth vaping epidemic had hit our local Amish families. Through our bi-monthly mailings, we devoted a month to sending vaping and nicotine education and awareness to families. We worked with a local retailer to help with signage to discourage purchasing products for underage youth. We also worked with our local Amish Liaison, with our Sheriff's Office to meet with the Amish School Board Representative to discuss the possibility of education in the schools or to parents. We continue to have conversations with families that reach out seeking assistance with this issue.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN PUBLIC HEALTH PLAIN COMMUNITY COALITION

The Central Wisconsin Public Health Plain Community Coalition started several years ago with Green Lake County, Columbia County and Marquette County public health. All three counties provide home visiting and services in the same Plain Community.

This coalition meets quarterly throughout the year. We coordinate education topics and share the knowledge and information we learn in the Plain Community during our home visiting.

67

Home Visits

111

Immunizations

13

Water Tests

13

Carseats

5

Carbon Monoxide
Detectors

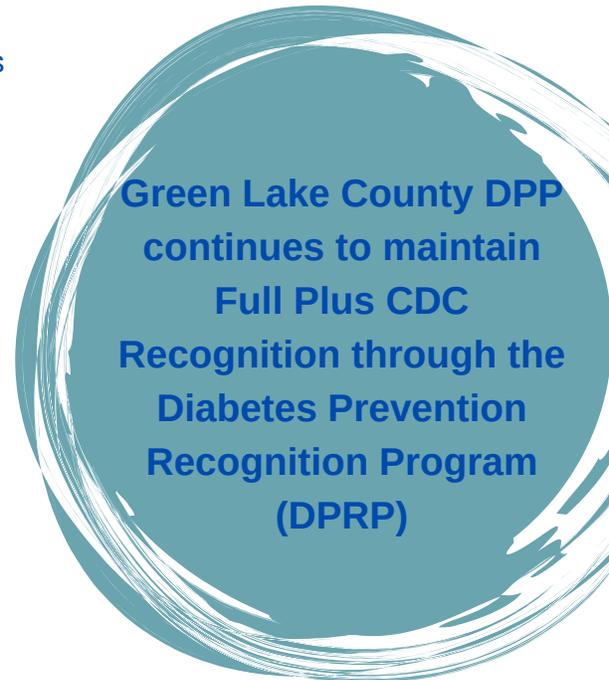


Diabetes Prevention Program



Diabetes and prediabetes remain overwhelming problems in our county like the rest of the country. It is estimated that more than 1 of every 3 adults now has prediabetes, yet most aren't aware.

When left unaddressed, prediabetes generally becomes diabetes within 5 years. It is well known that when diabetes is not well controlled, it can lead to serious complications including heart attack, stroke, kidney disease, limb amputation, blindness and more. The best strategy is prevention. In 2022, Green Lake County Health Department initiated a CDC recognized diabetes prevention program (DPP), which has positively impacted **102 individuals!**

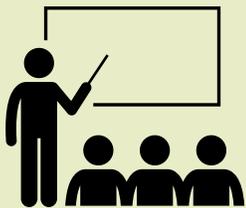


Green Lake County DPP continues to maintain Full Plus CDC Recognition through the Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program (DPRP)



Continue to be a Medicare supplier which supports sustainability of the program!

2025 Program Highlights



In 2025 the Green Lake County DPP saw a few important milestones: The program held its 10th cohort and surpassed a combined weight loss of **1,000 pounds!**



Testimonial from a participant who lost 30 pounds in the program:

"I have learned so much. The class was a judgement free zone. There is a great sense of accomplishment when you start feeling better and stronger, and moving into smaller sizes wasn't bad either!"- Anonymous



Average weight loss per participant is 10 pounds, but some have lost over 50 pounds in the program!

Rural Environmental Health Alliance



The Rural Environmental Health Alliance makes sure that the food we eat, the water we drink, and the conditions of our homes are safe by:

- Inspecting and licensing establishments
- Monitoring beaches in partnership with other organizations and well water testing
- Investigating home lead hazards and providing radon test kits
- Performing human health hazard and nuisance investigations
- Monitoring rabies cases

During the calendar year of 2025, the following was completed in Green Lake County:

FACILITY INSPECTIONS

34

Pre-inspections

247

Routine inspections

7

Re-inspections

6

Complaint investigations

OTHER ACTIVITIES

40

Animals Quarantined

6

Number of animal samples processed

0

Housing Abatements

6

Nuisance/Other Abatements

2

Well water concerns/investigations

65

Water test kits distributed

40

Radon test kits distributed

To raise awareness around radon in homes, the Health Department sells home radon test kits for \$7. During Radon Action Month in January, test kits are discounted to \$5.

Radon Test Kits Available

Why test for radon?

- Radon is an odorless, invisible gas
- Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers
- Radon is present in 10% of Wisconsin homes

Short Term test kits are available for purchase at the Green Lake County Health Department for: **\$7**

Visit dhs.wisconsin.gov/radon to learn more!

JANUARY IS RADON ACTION MONTH

TEST KITS AVAILABLE

Green Lake County Health Department
571 County Road A, Green Lake
Questions? Call 920-294-4070

Available during normal business hours
Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm

Short-term test **Only \$5**
January 1 Through January 31, 2024

The Health Department again participated in the annual well water testing project in collaboration with the Land Conservation Dept. distributing 150 free water test kits to residents, with focus on wells located in the Townships of Princeton and Kingston. A community meeting was held on June 11th to go over results and provide education/resources on remediation for wells that tested over public health standards.



Community Health and Prevention



TRI-COUNTY DEATH REVIEW TEAM

Green Lake County, in partnership with Marquette and Waushara Counties, formed a joint death review team in August of 2023. The Joint Death Review Team's purpose is to examine the circumstances surrounding a death, typically focusing on preventable factors, to identify systemic issues and recommend changes in policy or practice to prevent similar deaths from occurring in the future. → Cases Reviewed in 2025: 6

TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Green Lake County is a member of the East Central Alliance for Nicotine Prevention. This multi-jurisdictional coalition is made up of Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Fond du Lac Counties, with Fond du Lac being the lead.

The Tobacco Coalition worked with a community member to present to Berlin City Park & Rec Committee to educate and discuss having smoke free parks. It was approved through Park & Rec as a recommendation to the city. Education and awareness of smoke free parks continues to happen.



94%

Tobacco compliance rate for retailers checked.

5

Public and media outreach activities completed

WI WINS

The Wisconsin Wins (WI Wins) campaign is a science-based, state-level initiative designed to decrease youth access to tobacco products. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services contracts with local partners to conduct investigations to establish retailer compliance with the law. Direct outreach is done with tobacco retailers and the community throughout the year.

VAPING PREVENTION EDUCATION

CATCH My Breath is an evidence-based youth vaping prevention program for grades 5-12 that has been proven to substantially reduce students' likelihood of vaping. Starting in September we transitioned to the Stanford University program, You and Me Together Vape Free, which is also an evidence-based program including elementary to high school programs.

156

5th- and 7th grade students received vaping prevention education.



Community Health and Prevention

ADVANCED CARE PLANNING (ACP)

Advance Care Planning helps adults at any age or stage of health understand and share their personal values and preferences regarding future medical care. It is a gift you give your loved ones to help them make choices about your care.



ACP is a partnership of our Public Health Nurse, Nancy Gimenez and Kristen Dorsch in the Aging Unit, who are both certified Advance Care Planning Facilitators through Respecting Choices.

Kristen and Nancy continue to offer ACP community presentations to increase awareness and encourage creation of ACP documents before they are needed. One on one training is also available, includes all material needed, and is **FREE!**



GENERAL OUTREACH

The Health Department continues to work to educate the public through news, social media outlets, and our website.

Articles published in local newspapers totaled **32** in 2025.

Content published on Facebook reached **307,858** accounts in 2025.

FLU VACCINE CLINIC
Hosted by the Green Lake County Health Department

Tuesday, October 14, 2025
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Green Lake County Government Center,
571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI
NO registration. Walk-in only

FIGHT THE FLU!

Adults on Medicare or Medical Assistance can receive their vaccine with no upfront cost. You MUST bring your Medicare card & Supplement Card or Forward Card. Adults with private insurance can receive the vaccine for a cost of \$40.00. Adults with no insurance, please call our office to discuss eligibility. **ALL school aged children (3-19) are eligible to receive their flu vaccine for no cost.**

High Dose flu vaccine available for those age 65 and over.

Flu Vaccine is recommended for everyone age 6 months and older.



May is

LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

→ The best way to prevent lyme disease is to prevent tick bites.



Summer FOOD Safety

Food should not sit out long than **2 hours**, or **1 hour** if the outdoor temperature is **above 90°F**.

Toss perishable foods if left out longer to be safe.



www.facebook.com/glcdhhs

Community Health and Prevention

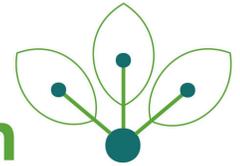


SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION

COALITION WORK

Health Department staff continue to lead efforts of Green Lake County United for Prevention, a county substance use prevention coalition which has been active since August 2024. The coalition hosts regular meetings with individuals from various organizations and agencies that serve within Green Lake County.

GREEN LAKE COUNTY
**united for
prevention**



LANGUAGE MATTERS EVENT

With grant funding that the coalition received, an event titled, “Unraveling Stigma Through Language and Prevention,” was held in September. This event aimed to spotlight that how we speak about substance misuse and mental health matters to those that it affects. This event included separate presentations for professionals and the general public.



120

People attended the Language Matters event.



100 Deterra drug deactivation kits were distributed to participants of Meals on Wheels in Green Lake County to prevent substance misuse.

104lbs Of expired or unused prescription and over the counter medications were collected through the permanent drop boxes located throughout the county. Grant funding received through the coalition helps to support law enforcement to maintain the drop boxes.



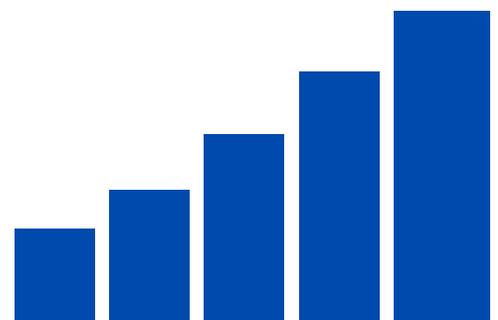
Contact Us



920-294-4070



<https://www.greenlakecountywi.gov/departments/health-human-services-health-unit/>



CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES UNIT

The Unit is comprised of the Unit Manager and eleven (11) staff members. There is one (1) Initial Assessment Worker for Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations, and one (1) Juvenile Court Intake Worker, three (3) Dispositional Social Workers, four (4) Wraparound Case Managers/Coordinated Service Team facilitators and of those four staff, two (2) are also In-Home Therapists. Then we have one (1) Alternate Care Coordinator (part time) and one (1) Birth to Three Coordinator/Children's Community Options Coordinator.

In 2025, the Children and Family Unit remained the same as the year prior with positions and employees. There has been consistency and no turnover. Below is a list of activities that the unit has completed above and beyond their daily duties in 2025.

Ongoing worker, Kate Thompson, developed a human trafficking curriculum and presented it for The Wisconsin Emergency Preparedness Coalition ahead of the NFL Draft. The presentation was attended by over 200 people.

Jordyn Knetzger, our initial assessment worker, has forensically interviewed over 500 children and she is now an expert in the field and can be used to testify as an expert in court hearings throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Jen Zeleske, an in-home therapist and wraparound facilitator helped develop a new mental health group for women called, Radical Self-Acceptance Group. The group had 4 attendees and was six weeks long. All participants reported improved mental health symptoms and feelings about themselves.

Breana Seuffer put together the Angel Tree program again this year, which takes a tremendous effort. We served 100 families and total of 286 children. Beth Meyer helped

organize and put on Shop with a Hometown Hero in Berlin, this was the 25th Anniversary program and they served 100 children.

The Children & Family Services Unit is responsible for the provision of several programs and services available to individuals and families in the community. The following is a summary highlighting activity in 2025.

Access/Child Abuse Neglect/Child Welfare

The ACCESS staff for the Unit receive referrals that are logged into the eWiSACWIS system. These numbers include the Child Abuse/Neglect Reports, Child Welfare Intakes, and other Service requests. 226 total referrals were received. They were as follows: 183 total reports of Child Abuse/Neglect and 43 services reports. 40 reports were screened in for a response from the Initial Assessment Worker; 143 reports were screened out. The reports screened in had a total number of 75 children that were identified as potentially being child victims. The total number of victims in all reports was 255. The screened in reports by maltreatment type were 14 -Physical Abuse; 17 -Neglect; 11 -Sexual Abuse; 1 -Emotional Abuse and 0 – Unborn Child Abuse. 43 Service Reports were received. These were comprised of 12 screened in for response and 31 screened out. There were 16 Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions filed in 2025. We continue to prioritize family first and to utilize Protective Plans and In Home Safety Plans more often.

CPS staff are on-call twenty-four hours a day for the purpose of Juvenile Intake/Detention, Child Abuse/Neglect and Energy Assistance.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Number of Access Reports	226	238	287	264	323
Number of Child Abuse/Neglect Reports	183	186	231	218	261

Number Screened in					40	40	55	59	80
Number Screened out					143	146	176	158	181
					2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Physical Abuse					14	11	27	22	35
Neglect					17	43	43	36	40
Sexual Abuse					11	13	7	9	9
Emotional Abuse					1	2	3	1	2
Unborn Child Abuse					0	0	2	2	4
Service Reports Received					43	52	56	46	62
# Screened Out					31	29	25	22	37
Child Welfare Screened in Reports					12	23	31	24	35
Youth Justice Referrals					53	38	49	67	85
Kinship Care Applications					1	4	12	0	1
Court Ordered Study					0	0	0	0	0
Adoption Related					0	0	0	1	0
Re-open closed care					0	0	0	0	1
Drug Affected infants					0	0	0	0	0
Inter-state Compact					0	2	1	0	1

Juvenile Court – Delinquency/Youth Justice

In 2025, the Youth Justice staff received 53 referrals. This is the first year that we have seen an increase in referrals to our agency. 12 new delinquency petitions were filed in 2025. Nineteen (19) YASI pre-screens were completed, and six (6) full screens were completed, seven (7) reassessments were completed.

No (0) new youth were placed in the Serious Juvenile Offender Program in 2025. No (0) youth were placed in residential care facilities. No youth were placed out of their home during the 2025 calendar year.

Below are the numerous groups that were offered to youth in our community from the staff of the Children and Family Unit. Half of the staff members are involved in facilitating one or more groups throughout the year.

- Boys summer group. Five (5) youths were served in the boys group.
- The Girl Boss group was conducted in conjunction with local businesses that are female owned. This group averaged four (4) females per week.
- Drugs, Alcohol & Vaping Curriculum- we served 7 youth.
- Social media & Sexting Curriculum, no youth were referred to.
- Truancy group- Four (4) youth completed.
- Aggression Replacement Training (ART)- 2 youth completed this group.

Juvenile Court staff are on-call twenty-four hours per day for the purpose of Juvenile Intake/Detention, Child Abuse/Neglect and Energy Assistance.

Electronic Monitoring/GPS Monitoring

2 youth were on electronic monitoring in 2025. This consisted of one (1) male. And one (1) female. The monitors are used in lieu of secure detention.

Parent Training/Education

The Family Training program provided services to twelve (10) families with a total of 17 children in 2025. They provided both parent training and education and parent aide services.

Progressive Parenting LLC also provided parent-mentoring services in addition to Comprehensive Community Services team facilitation. Green Lake County continued their contract for additional parenting services with the Professional Services Group (PSG) in 2025.

PSG provided parenting for one (1) family in 2025 and safety services to two (2) families in 2025.

In-Home Therapy/Targeted Case Management/Comprehensive Community

Services/Coordinated Services Teams:

There were 7 children referred to the wraparound program in 2025 through the school districts that we serve. In addition to these referrals, we had 49 child/youth teams (TCM/CST/CCS) active during calendar year 2025. The agency now has five (5) staff working in two (2) units (Children & Families & Behavioral Health) as well as two (2) contract staff that work facilitating teams in the TCM/CST/CCS wrap-around programs. One (1) additional facilitator carries a limited caseload.

Foster Care/Kinship Care/Like Kin

The state has made substantial changes to the foster care and kinship care programs in 2025. Governor Evers expanded the definition of relatives, creating a new definition of like-kin. The new definition went into effect on January 1, 2025. Below is the new definition.

“Wisconsin Stat. Ch. 48.02(12c) “like-kin” means an individual who has a significant emotional relationship with a child or the child’s family that is similar to a familial relationship and who has not previously been the child’s licensed foster parent. For an Indian child, “like-kin” includes individuals identified by the child’s tribe according to tribal tradition, custom or resolution, code, or law.”

This new definition is a way towards keeping children and youth connected to those who know and love them.

There is also a change to the Wisconsin Administrative Code DCF 56 which governs Foster Home Care for Children. The updated version is in effect as of December 1, 2025. There are

quite a few changes in the memo, however the biggest change that will affect the department is the new licensing requirements for relatives and like kin.

PLACEMENTS

Foster Care, Kinship Care, Group Homes and Residential Care facilities are used for children who are unable to reside in the home of their parents or guardians. All the unit staff are certified to perform the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS).

In 2025, there were eleven (11) children placed in out of home care throughout the calendar year. At year's end, there are still nine (9) children in out of home care. The breakdown of placements for these children is, three (3) in foster care, two (2) in relative foster care, two(2) with a relative but not licensed and then two (2) are in trail reunification with their birth parent. Green Lake County continues to have a very low number of out-of-home placements. The average length of stay for children in out-of-home care in Green Lake County is 9.66 months.

There were no new subsidized guardianships filed in 2025. The total number of Subsidized Guardianships is four (4).

In 2025, we had one case that went to Termination of Parental Rights. The rights were terminated and that child has since been adopted.

In 2025, seven (7) children were in voluntary Kinship Care placement(s). All cases completed an annual re-assessment of eligibility.

Licensing

Green Lake County has three (3) Level 2 foster homes. When children are placed with family, licensing the family for foster care is a priority for the state and this helps the family receive the highest monetary help for caring for the child or children in their home. In 2025, three (3) relative homes became licensed to take the placement of their relatives.

Courtesy Supervision/Interstate Compact

Courtesy Supervision for both Child in Need of Protection and Services as well as Juvenile Justice Cases was performed for other Wisconsin Counties. In addition to courtesy supervision, home checks to confirm safe environment (CSE) for other counties. Our agency requested one (1) Interstate Compact on Juveniles (ICJ) to Montana due to the child moving to his father's home.

Contractual Services

The unit in home therapists served families through Mental Health Crisis planning and services. These two therapists worked in conjunction with an Independent Contractor, Wellhoefer Counseling to provide in-home therapy services to youth and their families and KD Counseling Services. The Unit also contracts for parenting services from both the Family Training Program, Progressive Parenting LLC. and the Professional Services Group (PSG).

Birth-3

The Birth-3 position supports families in the home with children who have developmental delays and diagnosed conditions who are under the age of 3. The children must demonstrate a delay or have a diagnosed conditions to be eligible for services. The coordinator and one of the therapists on her team (one speech therapist, one occupational therapist, and one physical therapist) complete the evaluation. Once a child is eligible for the program then the coordinator writes the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) with the family to determine goals and frequency of services. These services are based in the home and/or the community. We have still been unable to fill the physical therapy role on the team. During 2025, our speech therapist resigned and we were able to fill this with a new provider.

2025:

There were 52 new referrals to the program in 2025. 32 children had active IFSP's throughout the year. There were a total of 73 children/families served in the calendar year due to some of the children still eligible from the previous year. 5 of the children were found not eligible as they were age appropriate in all areas of development. 16 children were found eligible and an IFSP was written to receive support from Birth-3. 4 children were screened out at an intake appointment and did not move forward for further evaluation. 5 children are still scheduled for evaluations and the remaining children's families either declined evaluation, declined services once eligible or had no further contact.

CCOP

This is the Children's Community Options Program. This program is run by the Birth-3 Coordinator and moved to the Children and Family Unit as stated above. This program is a payment for support and services that a family can't get through their insurance or Medicaid, and the child is under 22 years old, has a disability and lives in the home and meets eligibility on the functional screen that is completed by the coordinator.

One (1) child was served through CCOP in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Schiessl

Children & Family Services Unit Manager

2026 ANNUAL REPORT **ECONOMIC SUPPORT UNIT**

~ Providing and Coordinating Resources to Strengthen Families ~

Access to resources and quality customer service are the focus of the Economic Support Unit. Our goal is to provide accurate, timely, and effective financial and case management support services for all our participants.

Economic Support provides eligibility services for people who are applying for or are enrolled in programs like Medicaid, Badger Care Plus, Food Share, and Child Care.

These eligibility services include:

- Answering questions about eligibility and benefits.
- Applying for benefits.
- Conducting Food Share interviews.
- Processing:
 - Applications
 - Benefit changes
 - Benefit renewal
 - Documents provided as proof or verification
- Renewing benefits.

Four Economic Support workers, an Economic Support Lead Worker and a Unit Manager make up the Economic Support Unit for Green Lake County.

Green Lake County Economic Support is part of the Consortium, East Central Income Maintenance Partnership (ECIMP). This “partnership” consists of eight other counties: Calumet, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marquette, Outagamie, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago.

Each consortium operates a call center to help with eligibility services. Each county in ECIMP is responsible for “staffing” the call center. Green Lake County is scheduled 52+ hours per week in the call center. ECIMP’s call center receives approximately 13,182 calls per month in 2025. The time scheduled increases as the call volume increases. ECIMP have maintained the required performance standards.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS

~ The Economic Support Programs serve to provide financial stability for low-income households and those experiencing a financial loss~

Economic Support partners with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to help participants apply for or enroll in programs such as: Badger Care Plus, Medicaid and FoodShare.

Requests for programs assistance are made by contacting either the call center at 1-888-256-4563, through www.access.wi.us, contacting Green Lake County Health and Human Services asking to speak to the intake worker, or by coming into the agency. Participants can manage their benefits on the MyACCESS Mobile App.

The caseload for Green Lake County was stable for 2025. Green Lake County has seen an increase in applications requesting Long Term Care services this year. Long Term Care services include Community Waivers (Family Care) and Nursing Home.

Medicaid in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that helps more than 1.1 million residents get:

- High-quality health care coverage.
- Long-term care.
- Other services that promote physical and mental health and well-being.

There are many types of Medicaid Programs. Each has certain requirements that must be met if a participant wants to enroll.



Children



Older adults



Adults



Pregnant people



People with disabilities

In 2025, 3340 individuals (17.27% of residents) were enrolled in Medicaid, Badger Care Plus, and other state-funded programs that provide health care insurance coverage. 40% of the individuals were enrolled in an Elderly, Blind, or Disabled Medicaid or in Long Term Care Medicaid.

Food Share Wisconsin

You've probably heard of food stamps or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). In Wisconsin, we call the program FoodShare. The goal of this program is to stop hunger.

You can use Food Share benefits at most stores. They can also be used at many farmers' markets, to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

People all over Wisconsin get help from FoodShare. We help people of all ages who:

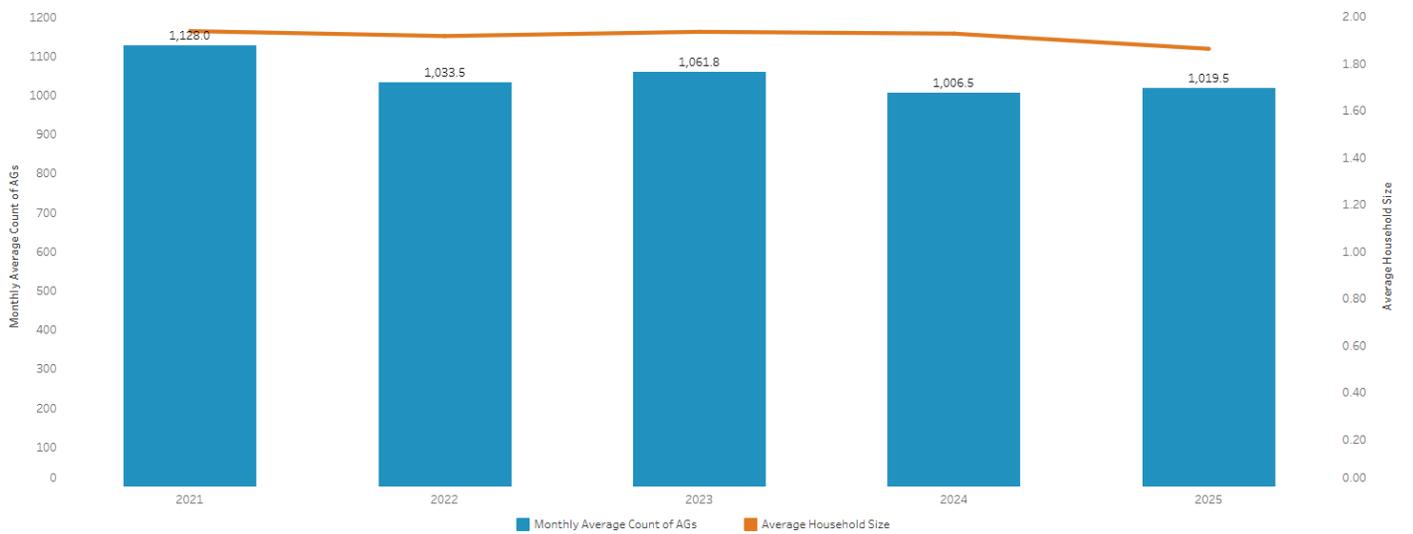
- Have low-income jobs.
- Live on a small or fixed income.
- Are retired.
- Have lost their jobs.
- Are disabled and cannot work.

Who received FoodShare benefits in Green Lake County in 2025?



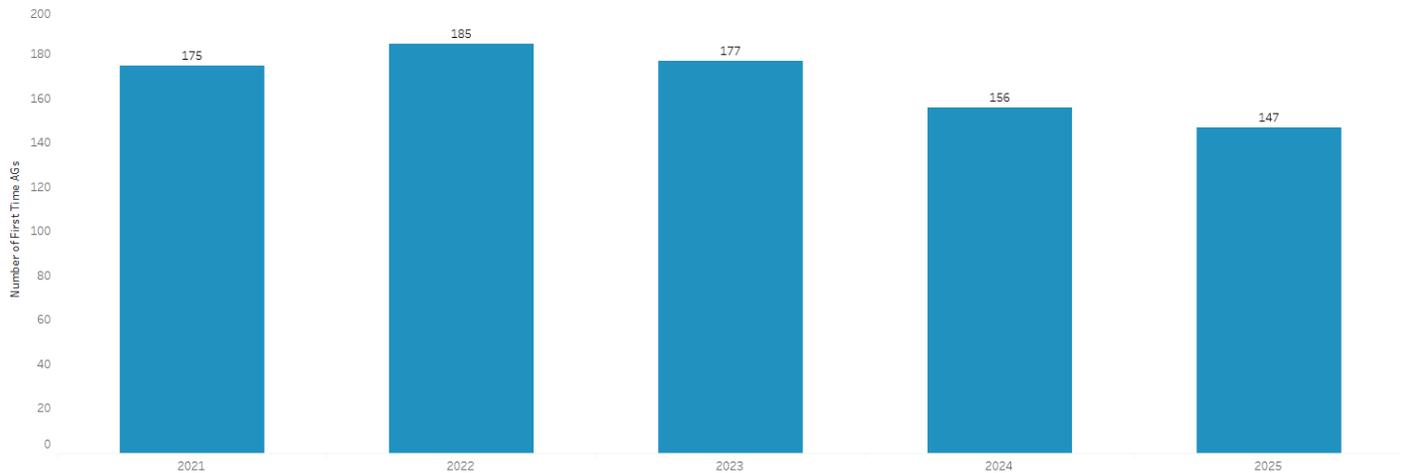
What was the FoodShare AGs household size?

The average number of distinct AGs per month was 1,050 and the average household size was 1.9 in the last 5 years.



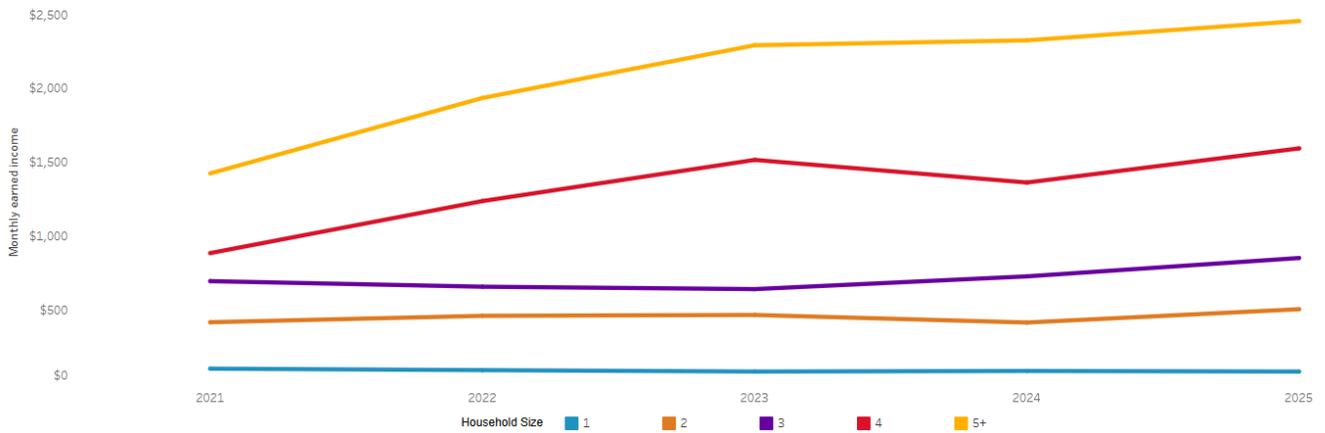
How many FoodShare AGs were first-time recipients?

First-time AGs are households where no one received benefits in the past 60 months. The average number of first-time AGs per year was 168.0 in the last 5 years.



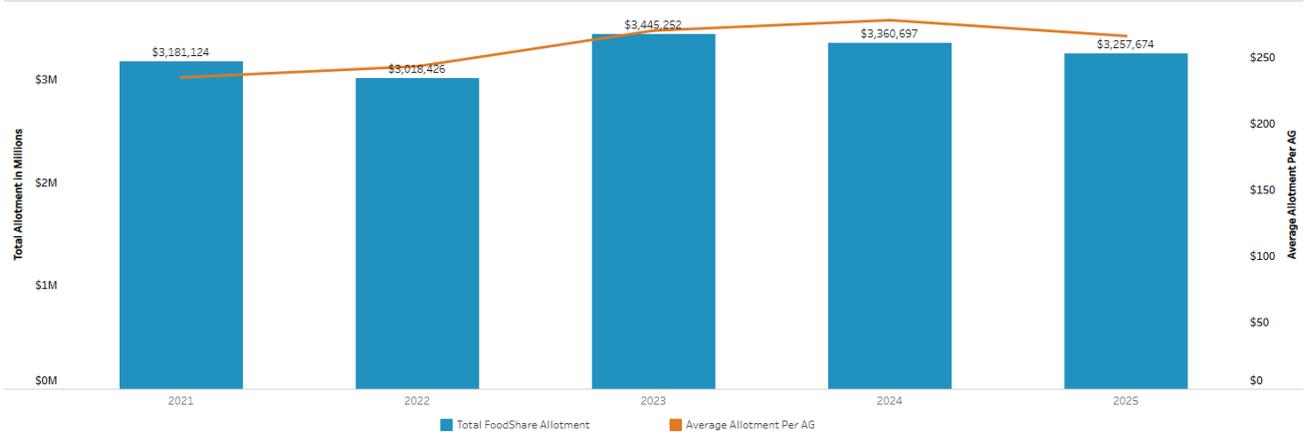
What was the average monthly earned income of an AG?

In the last 5 years, the average income of AGs, regardless of employment status, was **\$402** each month.



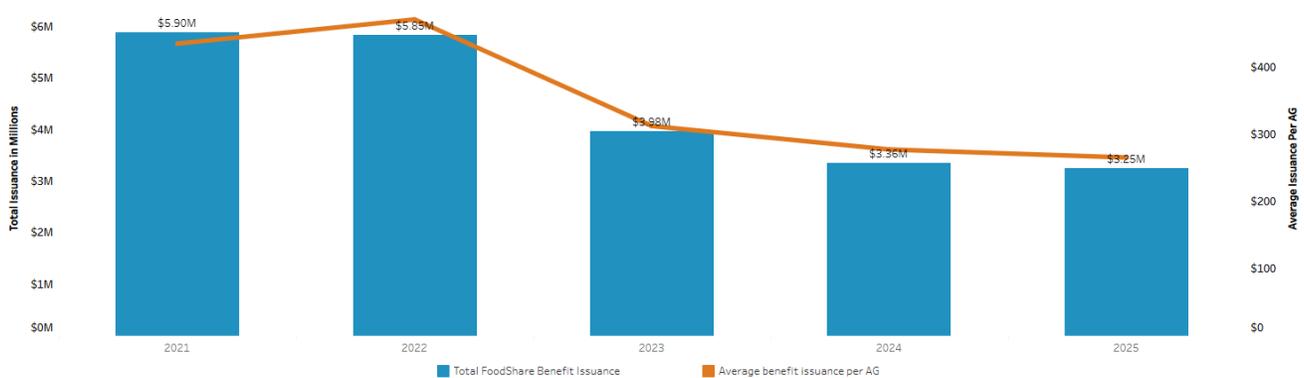
What was the allotment in the past 5 years?

In the past 5 years, the average total allotment amount per year was **\$3,252,635**. The average monthly allotment for AGs was **\$258** in the past 5 years.



What was the issuance in the past 5 years?

In the past 5 years, the average benefit issuance per year was **\$4,469,148**.



Late October 2025 the federal government shutdown extended into its third week, with the USDA advising that funding for SNAP (FoodShare) would expire at the end of October. November 1, 2025, a federal government shutdown caused temporary, significant delays for over 330,000 Wisconsin households (nearly 700,000 residents) relying on FoodShare, with benefits initially paused. Local pantries experienced a surge in demand. Economic Support staff were required to handle high volumes of inquiries from worried participants. Following court orders and legislative action, full benefits were released by early November, with the shutdown formally ending on November 13. Even though benefits were eventually issued in November, the initial, legally mandated, and later restored payments caused a week-long delay in accessing food for many households.

Wisconsin Shares-Child Care

The vision of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) is that all children have access to high-quality early care and education. We reinforce that vision with our mission to support low-income working families by sharing the cost of childcare and promoting the social well-being of all children and families through safe, high-quality early education experiences.

In 2025 Green Lake County provided Childcare assistance to 18 families / 27 children. Average monthly benefit per child was \$4,174.58. Total benefits received was \$112,713.70. Green Lake County saw a 34% jump in the number of families receiving Childcare assistance in 2025. 36% of the children receiving Wisconsin Shares – Child Care are under 2 years of age.

Inter-county Support and Training Assistance

Beginning in December 2023, Green Lake County's Economic Support team provided ongoing operational support to the Economic Support Unit in Kewaunee County in response to their staff shortages. This assistance continued throughout the past year to ensure continuity of services and minimize disruption to their operations.

This support has been particularly challenging due to ongoing staff turnover in Kewaunee Economic Support. Despite these challenges we remained consistent in managing portions of their workload, provided procedural guidance, and delivered hands-on training to staff. These efforts have helped maintain service levels, strengthen staff capacity and promote greater operational stability during a prolonged period of transition.

In addition, I worked closely with Kewaunee County's leadership to help facilitate the addition of a Lead Worker position within their staff structure. This adjustment was intended to provide stronger internal oversight, improve workflow coordination, and support long-term sustainability.

This support is currently anticipated to conclude on June 30, 2026.

Submitted by: Shelby Jensen
Economic & Child Support Unit Manager

Department of Health and Human Services Fox River Industries Unit



MISSION:

NAVIGATE POSSIBILITIES IN ORDER TO REACH FULL CAPABILITIES

VISSION:

To Provide Programming Options that Assist Participants in Fostering Meaningful Community Relationships that Lead to Increased Independence

CORE VALUES:

- Compassion
- Collaboration
- Community
- Choice

SERVICE ARRAY:

- DAY SERVICES
- FACILITY BASED PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES
- COMMUNITY BASED PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES
- SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE SERVICES
- TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Fox River Industries (FRI) is a division of Green Lake County Health and Human Services and a provider agency of long-term care services, including day programming, vocational training, transportation, and representative payee services.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule. This rule mandates that all Medicaid-funded long-term care services, like those provided by Fox River Industries, be provided in integrated, community-based environments rather than institutional or segregated ones. This directly impacts Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) providers by tying their Medicaid reimbursement to strict compliance with "community-facing" standards. This directly affects how we view our mission and services.

FRI's services are designed to support adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities in overcoming barriers that limit independence and participation in daily life and to grow their connections with community. All services are determined through an ongoing, member-centered planning process involving the participant and their care team.

Fox River Industries, Inc. operates as a nonprofit 501(c)(3), guided by a board of directors that meets twice annually. The board provides advisory oversight related to the subcontract work and contracts held that provides an opportunity to earn a wage while practicing the skills needed to work toward a job in the community.



FEDERAL/STATE UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS

- The most significant federal update is the formal withdrawal of the proposed rule that would have phased out subminimum wage certificates.
- In order to standardize processes and ensure compliance with the Affordable Care act, Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRPs) are adult long-term care (LTC) waiver service providers therefore were mandated by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to self-enroll directly with Wisconsin Medicaid via the Forward Health Portal in order to receive reimbursement by Medicaid.

CHALLENGES

- Due to a state budget shortfall, The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) implemented an Order of Selection, the first in over 10 years. This may cause a reduction in new referrals as applicants are placed on a waitlist for DVR services.
- Other funding risks exist due to methodology changes within CMS and how they calculate Direct Care Workforce Payments and their history of under payment and late payments.

AGENCY AND SERVICE UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS

- Identified Focus Groups to support our Core Values
- Completed the Longterm Care Waiver Provider Enrollment into the Forward Health Portal in order to be eligible for reimbursement for services provided.
- Launched our inaugural year of fundraising and outreach events for FRI which exceeded our expectations and expanded our community footprint. Within the first few months we noted an increase in community awareness, support, as well as unsolicited donations.
- Increased the number of contracted services we are eligible to provide by increasing service array with some MCO's or newly enrolling with other MCO's, making our services more obtainable to all residents of Green Lake County.

CHALLENGES

- Difficulty filling a vacancy of a Direct Support Provider as of September 2025 leads to inability to maintain the same level of services, eliminated the ability to be flexible with program options, and reduces revenue. Caregiver shortages is a nationwide crisis.
- MCO's are frequently authorizing services for shorter windows (e.g., 3 months instead of 12) with the expectation that the provider phase down the level of care, this is not always the best plan of action for those we serve nor is it person centered.
- Our aging facility hinders our ability to engage in program advancements, to serve those with higher care needs, or to meet some expectations of the Home and Community Based Settings Rule such as private areas, a conference room, etc.

PROGRAM UPDATES

DAY SERVICE PROGRAM

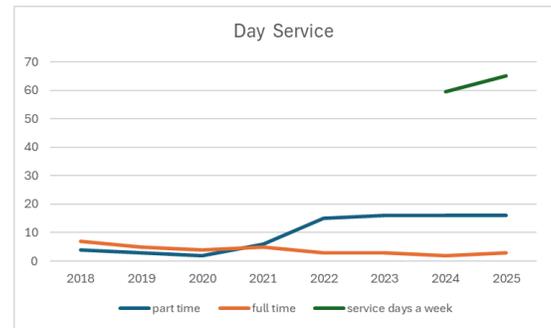
OUR ADULT DAY SERVICES PROGRAMS PROVIDE STRUCTURED, PERSON-CENTERED CARE DESIGNED TO ENHANCE INDEPENDENCE THROUGH COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS. FROM SKILL-BUILDING AND PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY-INTEGRATED RECREATION, CONTRIBUTIONS AND PHYSICAL WELLNESS, WE OFFER SAFE AND ENGAGING OPPORTUNITIES THAT EMPOWERS OUR PARTICIPANTS TO BE ACTIVE WHILE PROVIDING VITAL RESPITE FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

- Began contracting with Berlin School District to provide transition services to adults who will be graduating out of the high school system but not interested or ready for employment.
- Engaged in a mission to cross train staff between our two day service programs, as well as the opportunity for participants to engage in either setting depending on interest and ability based on days agenda, creating a stronger program as well as more as opportunities and self direction.
- Support participants to transition from passive observers to active, recognized community members through experiences that prioritize relationship-building and civic participation.

LOOKING FORWARD

- Ensuring flexible programming options in order to meet participants where they are at to best meet their needs and/or interests.
- Continue to create diverse opportunities to allow each participant the opportunity to experience new things, engage in things they enjoy, and be actively engaged in the community.



FACILITY BASED PREVOCATIONAL PROGRAM

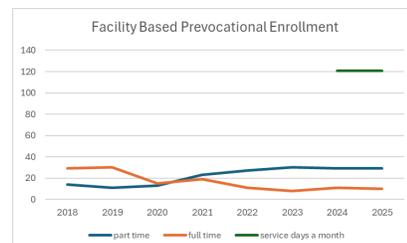
PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES FOCUS ON CULTIVATING STRENGTHS AND TRANSFERABLE SKILLS THAT ENHANCE EMPLOYABILITY. BY PROVIDING HANDS ON TRAINING ON WORK RELATED TASKS AS WELL AS IMMERSIVE COMMUNITY-BASED WORK EXPERIENCES, WE PROVIDE INDIVIDUALS WITH THE PRACTICAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL SOFT SKILLS NECESSARY TO SUCCEED IN A DIVERSE WORKFORCE.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

- Commitment to our core values by focusing less on traditional subcontracting models of service and more on development of community relationships in order to create person-centered opportunities for participants.
- Successful elimination of the Facility Based Prevocational Services wait list.
- Enhanced service capacity by shifting a staff member into a direct support provider position, directly increasing the number of support hours available to clientele without increasing the number of staff.

LOOKING FOWARD -

- Alignment with Home and Community -Based Services standards, with a focus on prevocational services teaching transferable soft skills in a variety of environments based on participant choice.
- Goal toward increased success in meeting our designated benchmark of participants involved in prevocational services that are engaged in the community integrated employment process. 2025 average success rate was 33%.

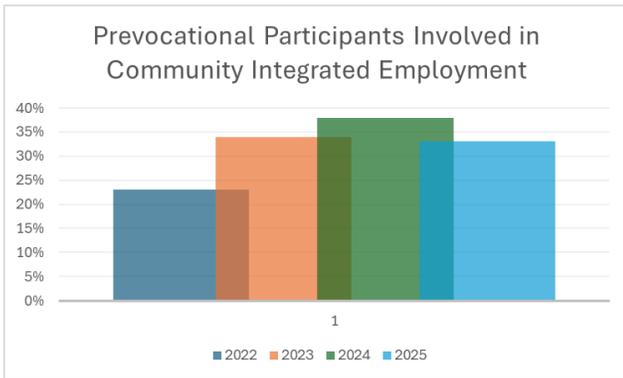


COMMUNITY BASED PREVOCATIONAL PROGRAM

COMMUNITY BASED PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS TO RECEIVE EMPLOYMENT TRAINING IN AN INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SETTING VERSUS IN A FACILITY WHERE THEY ARE ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNITY THRU SERVICE, VOLUNTEERISM, AND EDUCATION ON AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

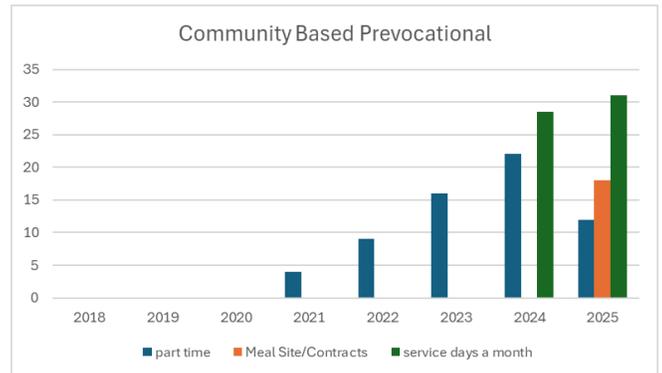
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

- Great success in creating diverse opportunities to go beyond inclusion and not only contribute but to reciprocate and show an ability to show citizenship and play valued roles in our community.
- Successful refining of our community based prevocational programming curriculum by implementing streamlined, person-centered skill-building plans that emphasize individual strengths and self-paced development. These enhancements are supported by improved documentation and communication, ensuring that progress updates are shared seamlessly with interdisciplinary teams.



LOOKING FOWARD -

- Continued Exploration of Youth (18-21) Opportunities
- Continued exploration of Group Employment Program which provides a “group” of participants the opportunity to receive continuous onsite support from a staff at community-based job site thru contracts held with a local business.
- Continued partnership with other HHS units to create new learning opportunities for those served.



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

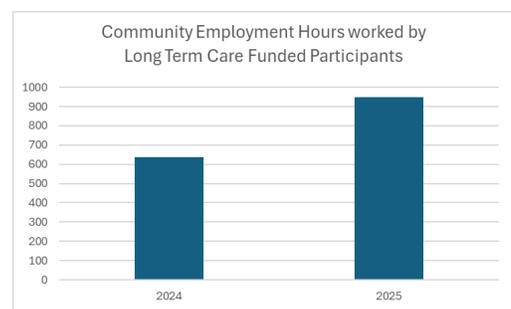
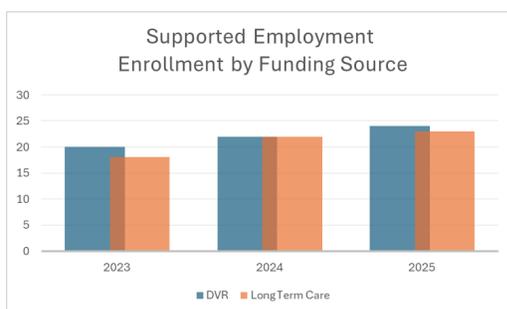
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT ARE SERVICES AIMED TO ASSIST PARTICIPANTS WITH OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING EMPLOYMENT IN A COMMUNITY SETTING. COMMUNITY INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT IS VIEWED AS THE GOAL OF PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

- 54% of DVR referrals where successful with going thru the stages of support and being hired in the community within the year.
- 95% of individuals receiving long term support maintained their employment over the past 12 months.
- Worked with five high school students thru DVR Student Work Experience services

LOOKING AHEAD-

- Continue to support program participants in order to remain in competitive integrated employment, meeting a one-year benchmark after hire.
- Continue to focus on outreach to expand our presence in the community which will lead to more opportunities for those we serve.



REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE SERVICES Representative Payee Services provides benefit management for Social Security beneficiaries who are incapable of managing their money payments.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

- 100% of the 75 beneficiaries (average monthly) essential needs were prioritized and met.
- Showed record keeping integrity as noted by a successful Social Security Audit in 2025

LOOKING FOWARD -

- Continue to focus on accuracy, beneficiary wellbeing, and compliance with expectations of social security, funders, & beneficiaries.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES / DSI

WITH THE DSI FLEET OF VEHICLES WE [PROVIDE ACCESS TO SERVICES AND THE COMMUNITY FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY AND DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED & SENIOR ADULTS OF GREEN LAKE COUNTY, MINIMIZING ISOLATION AND ENSURING ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT, RECREATION, AND OTHER MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES.

HIGHLIGHTS 2024

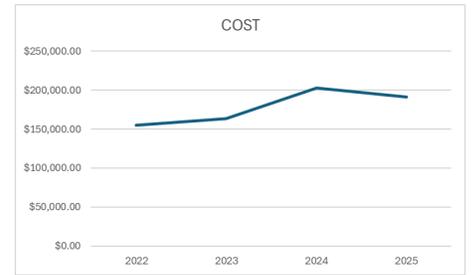
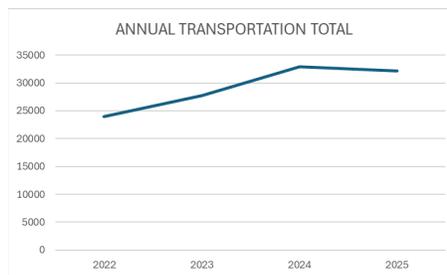
- Provided 32,886 rides to disabled individuals in 2025: a 1% decrease from 2024.
- Partnered with HHS Aging Unit to provide Senior Transportation Services, providing 72 seniors with physical disabilities medical transportation.
- Increased the amount of MCO's we contract transportation with as well as the amount of reimbursable transportation related services we are contracted to fulfill.
- Received the DOT 2024 Cycle 48 grant award: a 2025 Ford E-450 Cutaway minibus.
- Disposed of three aged vehicles that were 14-15 years old.
- Took back into possession two minivans previously subleased to Green Lake County Senior Transportation providers

LOOKING FOWARD -

- Generating increased transportation related revenue thru MCO contract.
- Decrease the fleet's total cost of operation by following a replacement cycle that retires aging, high-maintenance vehicles before they reach the point where repair costs exceed the value of the vehicle being in the.
- Submit an application to the Department of Transportation for operating assistance and a vehicle under the 2027 5310 Cycle 51 Grant.
- Costs related to transportation to not cover the costs to run the program.
- Awaiting 2025 Cycle 49 award of a Minivan.
- Under the 2026 5310 Cycle 50 application, we were successful in being granted 75% of the cost of a minibus (\$102k) and operating funds (\$79k). Anticipated arrival of this awarded vehicle is 2027.

DISABILITIES SERVICES INC. INVENTORY

FORD	STARCRAFT E350 MINI BUS	2013
DODGE	MINIVAN (BRAUN)	2016
FORD	TRANSIT STARCRAFT	2018
FORD	TRANSIT STARCRAFT	2018
DODGE	MINIVAN (BRAUN)	2019
FORD	STARCRAFT E350 MINI BUS	2020
CHRYSLER	VOYAGER	2022
FORD	E-450 CUTAWAY	2025
FORD	E-450 CUTAWAY	2025





2025 Behavioral Health Unit Annual Report

The Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) provides a spectrum of mental health and substance use services to residents of Green Lake County across the lifespan. New in 2025, the Behavioral Health Unit expanded to fold Adult Protective Services responsibilities into the Crisis Program. This decision was made in order to provide a staffing pattern that has capability for APS response on a 24/7/365 basis.

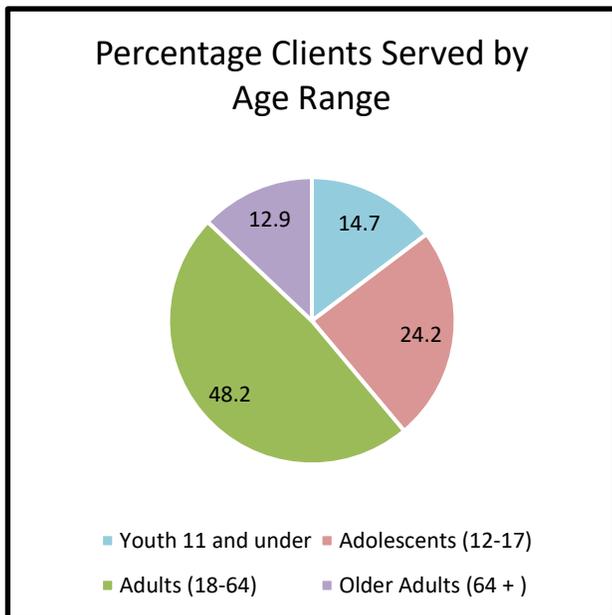
The team includes 14 full time staff, 1 contracted Intoxicated Driver Program assessor, and 1 part-time contracted psychiatrist. Many staff currently work across multiple programs within behavioral health and are included in the structure for each program that they work in. All unit staff receive cross-training in several of the unit programs including 24/7 on-call mobile crisis intervention.

Behavioral Health Trends

Mental health and substance use concerns have been continually identified in the local Community Health Assessment and as priority areas for the Community Health Improvement Plan developed by Green Lake County's Public Health unit. This is consistent with state-level data showing high prevalence of behavioral health conditions including anxiety, depression, and substance misuse.

Positive trends in the behavioral health field have included increased capacity to utilize telehealth options to increase access to services, which has been especially impactful in the rural communities. Increased access to reliable internet services has assisted with this in our area, as has overall provider and client proficiency in using available telehealth platforms.

2025 Unit Highlights



BHU includes a range of programs, collectively serving 1,050 county residents across all of its programs. Individuals served in multiple programs are only counted one time here.

- Crisis team assumed responsibility for Adult Protective Services responsibilities beginning 1/1/2025.
- Completion of a Security Risk Assessment to ensure best practices regarding electronic health record and information security
- Expanded community partnerships via leadership in I-Teams, Housing Coalition, and Zero Suicide collaborations
- Awarded State Opioid Response (SOR) funding to assist with unmet treatment and recovery needs related to substance misuse
- Internship program continues to grow in partnership with several area Counseling and Social Work programs which has helped with recruiting and training new counseling staff, and has helped us maintain a consistently reduced waitlist time

Outpatient Counseling and School Office

Green Lake County offers outpatient individual and group therapy options. Green Lake County has been designated a rural area with provider shortage in psychiatric care, however we are fortunate to have an on-site prescriber for adults on a part-time basis.

Outpatient Overview:

- **559** clients were seen for individual or group psychotherapy
- **196** clients received psychiatric care (medication management)
- **63** individuals received court-ordered Intoxicated Driver Assessments

Outpatient Clinic Highlights:

* **School-Based Satellite Offices:** BHU presently maintains satellite school-based offices in Markesan MS/HS and Elementary, Green Lake, and Berlin Middle/High Schools.

* **Evidence-based clinical practices:** All staff are required to participate in training in evidence-based treatment models. We currently offer treatment including Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (TF-CBT), brain spotting, clinical hypnosis, and more.

* **Opioid Response funding:** In 2025, we received funding to assist with treatment needs related to opioid and stimulant misuse.

1. Room and Board funding for individuals with Medicaid: Medicaid presently covers treatment costs at residential substance use treatment facilities. For many individuals with an opioid or stimulant use disorder, the room and board costs remain a barrier to treatment. This funding is a portion of the state's allotment of opioid settlement funding to be used specifically for room and board funding for people receiving Medicaid *and* requiring treatment for a qualifying substance use disorder. In 2025, we received enough funding to support all **6** treatment requests we received.

2. State Opioid Response (SOR) Unmet Recovery Needs: in Year 1 of our three year SOR grant cycle, we provided recovery supports to 12 individuals including recovery residence, case management, peer support, and transportation related to such services.

***Satisfaction Survey Data** shows positive outcomes and perceptions overall

Item	Average Score (1-4, 4 being "completely agree")
This program helped/ is helping me achieve my goals	3.7
My counselor was sensitive to my needs	3.9
My counselor treated me with respect	3.8
I would recommend this program to others	3.9
I felt heard, understood, and respected	3.8
My therapist's approach was a good fit for me	3.8
Overall satisfaction	3.9

Community Support Program (CSP)

CSP Program Goals

- 1. Increase engagement in community-based programming and reduce social isolation.**
 - Increased offerings for CSP specific activities
 - Highlights included holiday meal and light-tour, community service project
- 2. Address accessibility barriers in engaging with healthcare and mental healthcare resources.**
 - Crisis support plans shared with crisis team at each update
 - All staff offer tobacco cessation assistance
- 3. Outreach to potentially eligible community members.**
 - Outreached 5-6 potential cts via crisis and outpatient referrals

The CSP program provides intensive community-based services to people with severe and persistent mental illness who may otherwise require hospitalization or residential care. Treatment is individualized and based on the person's needs and goals. Staff provide psychiatry, counseling, transportation assistance, case management, medication management, crisis services, social opportunities, assistance with activities of daily living, and assistance with vocational rehabilitation. CSP provides services almost exclusively in the community. **CSP served 22 consumers throughout 2025.**

CSP highlights

- Social opportunities are designed to offer peer interaction and facilitated social skills training, involving a combination of community-based outings and onsite activities.
- CSP staff and leadership attended training on integration of Assertive Community Treatment model in rural settings

- CSP staff facilitated several well-received community opportunities including a client service-project (making blankets for area housing/ homeless assistance programs) and a Holiday Meal and trip to Celebration of Lights

Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)

The Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program is a strength-based consumer driven psychosocial rehabilitation recovery program. This program utilizes the consumer's identified strengths to support their goal-directed recovery process. CCS receives Medicaid funding and requires each individual enrolled in the program to have Medicaid, have a mental health and/or substance use diagnosis, be

motivated to work on self-identified recovery goals, and utilize a collaborative team based model emphasizing natural supports in recovery.

CCS provides community-based services, working to support people in their communities rather than in hospitals or residential treatments. CCS works closely with the Children & Family Unit to help provide services to keep children in their homes instead of foster care placement and to help return a child back to their home with the proper supports. **In 2025, CCS served 59 consumers,** consistent with recent years and a significant increase over the past 5 years. CCS supports a

Basic Needs	Community Living Skills	Crisis Prevention and Management
Education	Employment	Finances and Benefits
Housing	Legal Status	Life Satisfaction
Medication Management	Mental Health	Physical Health

variety of treatment modalities including flexible options such as in-home family systems therapy, which allows clients to find a true array of services and receive the types of therapy that best meet their needs. CCS staff are committed to providing consumer-driven care. The Behavioral Health Unit/ CCS program actively participates in our Regional CCS Consortium, approved by the state of Wisconsin. The consortium includes six surrounding counties working together. Due to consortium efforts, medically necessary services provided to CCS consumers can be reimbursed at a rate of 100% for the services we provide CCS consumers.

Targeted Case Management (TCM)

In 2018, Behavioral Health added a Targeted Case Management (TCM) program tier. TCM is a Medicaid-funded case management program that offers support to individuals with mental health or substance abuse issues who may benefit from case management at a less intensive level or as a step-down from more intensive program option. TCM has historically been offered outside of BHU for other target populations. There are presently 23 consumers being served within the Behavioral Health TCM program.

Children's' Long Term Support Waiver

The Children's Long Term Support Waiver (CLTS) is a Medicaid Waiver program for children with developmental or physical disabilities or Severe Emotional Disturbances (SED). Families develop a person-centered individual support plan (ISP) together with their caseworker in which they identify specific supports that are not ordinarily covered by Medicaid. Examples include accessible home modifications, sensory supplies/ therapeutic aids, respite care, and service coordination.

In 2017, the State of Wisconsin announced the dissolution of the CLTS waitlist, requiring counties to develop strategies to service families presently on the state-wide waitlist. At the start of 2018 there were 10 families enrolled in CLTS, and as the process of waitlist elimination has continued, the program now serves over 70 families. Typically, once a youth is opened within this program, they will continue to receive services from the program until they transition into the adult Long Term Care system (between the ages of 18-21) or move out of the county.

When a child is referred for services, Green Lake County has an average of 16 days from the time of referral to the time that they are able to be opened for services in this program, compared to a 62 day average wait in other parts of the state.

Crisis Intervention and Adult Protective Services

During 2025, crisis intervention responded to **497** initial crisis assessments and many additional follow up contacts. Crisis workers provide crisis counseling on a walk-in basis or respond mobile to the most appropriate location (e.g. Emergency Rooms, schools, police departments) to provide assessment and intervention. BHU adheres to the philosophy that when a counselor engages face-to-face with an individual, they develop an understanding of the individual's needs and can create a safe response plan in the least restrictive environment.

The call volume this year has increased drastically, which was anticipated with the addition of Adult Protective Services responsibilities.

A **safety plan** is the least restrictive intervention provided. It may include follow up contacts, service linkage/referral, family support/ education, etc. and ensures safety without requiring the person to go into a hospital setting.

- 349 safety plans were completed in 2025
- This represents 70.2% of all contacts.

Stabilization facilities are home-like environments monitored by professional crisis workers that can help manage safety and provide peer support, but do not offer treatment or medication.

- 4 stabilization stays in 2025
- Stabilization can avoid or shorten needed stays at psychiatric hospitals.

Psychiatric hospitalization typically lasts anywhere from 2-10 days. It involves individual and group treatment along with medication management. A person may **voluntarily admit** themselves.

- 26 voluntary hospitalizations in 2025
- This represents 5.2% of all contacts

If a person poses imminent risk of harm to self or others due to their mental health condition, an **involuntary hospitalization**, known as an "emergency detention" may be used as a last resort.

- 27 involuntary hospitalizations in 2025
- Significant reduction since 2024 when 54 occurred.

In Adult Protective Services cases, **guardianship** or **protective placement** in a licensed care setting may be more appropriate than hospitalization. As with mental health, less restrictive options are always exhausted first.

- 21 guardianships in 2025, 11 of these also included protective placement
- 5 of these were emergency situations requiring immediate, emergency protective placement

Community Partnerships



Zero Suicide is an evidence-based continuous quality improvement framework for suicide prevention work in community healthcare settings. Green Lake County adopted the use of this framework in 2023. BHU leads a steering committee focused on increasing screening and outreach as well as on enhancing data collection to better understand the root issues leading to suicide ideation without our population. This fall, our team was featured in the Office of Childrens' Mental Health newsletter and on Wisconsin Public Radio.



Housing and homelessness continue to be key socioeconomic issues impacting the clients served across our programs. This year, **49** calls to our crisis line included housing and/or homelessness as a precipitant. While housing assistance is outside the scope of Behavioral Health resources, our unit has been instrumental in bringing together a Green Lake-specific subcommittee of the WinnebagoLand Housing Coalition to bring attention to this important community topic.



I-Teams is an inter-disciplinary opportunity to focus on issues related to prevention and intervention in elder abuse and neglect. In 2025, we have worked to rejuvenate the Green Lake County I-Team by updating membership and goals. The team has created shared learning opportunities about topics ranging from hearing from our Ombudsman to considerations when encountering hoarding or suspected financial abuse.

Behavior Health Unit 2026 program development areas:

Continued community and county-level support, dedication from staff, and collaboration with community partners allow the Behavioral Health Unit to continue to grow. Development areas for 2026 include:

- ◆ Expansion of evidence-based practices for mental health and substance use disorders, specifically focusing on acute treatment of suicidality
- ◆ Central Wisconsin Health Partnership
- ◆ Community partnerships to bolster the use of least restrictive, community-based interventions in mobile crisis response and Adult Protective Services programs
- ◆ Community outreach, education, and awareness related to prevention and early intervention for both mental health and substance use
- ◆ Provision of crisis debriefing services to mitigate community impact and secondary traumatic stress of critical incidents
- ◆ Reduce waiting time for enrollment into appropriate level of care for ongoing services
- ◆ Integration and collaboration between behavioral health supports and ancillary services addressing the social determinants of health impacting our community members
- ◆ Partnership with school districts to leverage school-based services options and address mental health presentation at the early childhood and elementary school levels
- ◆ Focus on recruitment and retention of qualified treatment professionals to maintain staffing of programs and reduce waitlist time for individuals seeking services

Respectfully submitted by: Nichol Wienkes, LPC
Behavioral Health Unit Manager

2025 ANNUAL CHILD SUPPORT UNIT REPORT

~Protecting Children, Strengthening Families, Building Communities~

The Wisconsin Child Support Program helps parents get court orders for financial and medical support for their children. It also enforces these support orders when needed and makes sure that all money collected is paid out correctly.

Two Child Support workers and a Unit Manager make up the Child Support Unit for Green Lake County.

The Green Lake County Child Support Unit has 849 cases. Close to 90% of those cases are participants that are receiving some assistance that requires the Child Support Agency to enforce support orders. These assistance programs may include Medicaid, Child Care, Wisconsin Works, and /or children in Foster Care or Kinship Care services.

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025 Green Lake County Child Support collected \$1,583,093.06 in Child Support.



Overview of Child Support Services provided to parents

All families paying and receiving child support, family support or maintenance get “financial management” services. These services include:

- Entering the information about the court case and support orders into the Wisconsin child support computer system.
- Working with employers to withhold income and support payments.
- Processing payments.
- Collecting, recording, and sending payment and/or fees.
- Providing monthly account statements.
- Providing payment coupons.
- Providing different ways to pay for customers.
- Providing payment information by phone and online.
- Correcting errors on account balances.

Case management services are available for the parents to pay child support as well as the parents getting child support. Case management services are provided by county child support agencies and can be obtained by applying for services. These services include:

- Locating the other parent and his or her financial assets.
- Scheduling genetic tests for the child and the potential father(s) of the child.
- Preparing the papers and taking the case to court to legally identify the father and set up a support order.
- Ensuring that one or both parents provide health insurance for the child(ren).
- Using all available and appropriated enforcement tools to collect support owed.
- Reviewing the support order, when necessary, in case it needs to be changed.
- Ending the support order, when necessary.

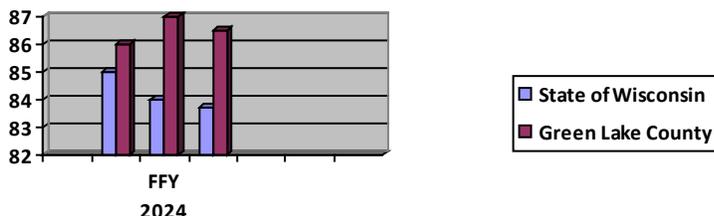
FFY 2025 Green Lake Child Support Performance

Green Lake County continues to exceed the Statewide Performance Standards average.

The following charts represent the percentage rates of the four Federal Performance measurements Statewide versus Green Lake County for the last three Federal Fiscal years. (FFY)

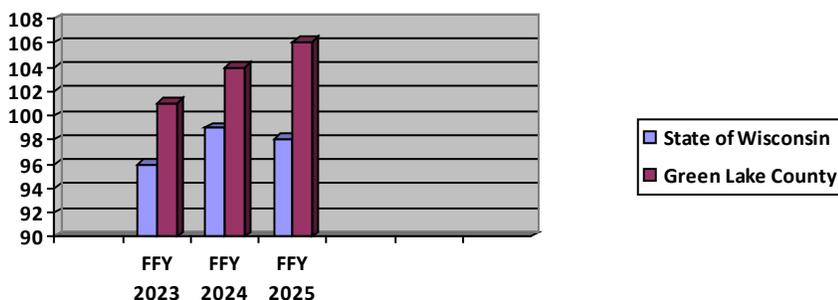
Court Order Establishment Rate

(The court order establishment rate is a performance measure used to evaluate how many child support cases have a legally enforceable support order in place. A support order is required before the state can enforce child support payments. The federal performance metric, aiming for a rate of 80% Green Lake County historically exceeds the federal standards.)



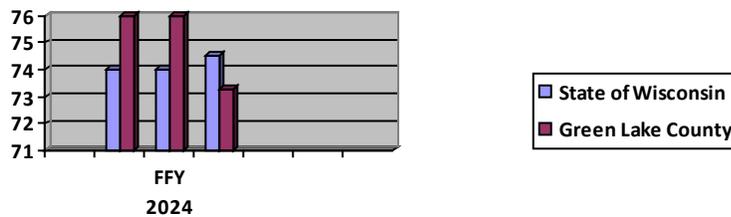
Paternity Establishment Rate

(A key performance indicator used to evaluate how effectively the state locates and legally documents paternity for children born out of wedlock. This importance because paternity must be legally established before many child support actions can proceed. The federal performance metric, aiming for a rate of 80%. Green Lake County historically exceeds federal standards.)



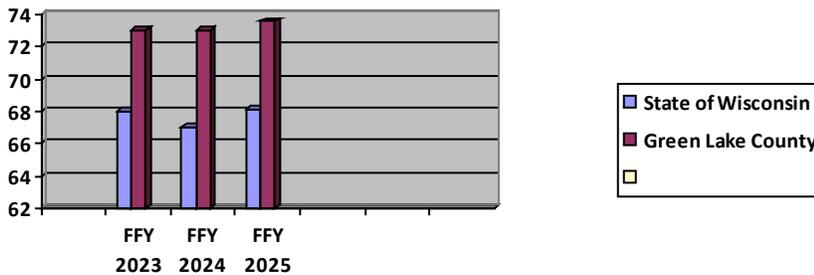
Current Child Support Collection Rate

(The percentage of child support due that is collected in the month it is due. A key performance measure. States are expected to collect at least 80% of child support due in the month it's owed to meet this performance target. The statewide average is below the 80% benchmark. Some counties are meeting/exceeding the 80% target. Green Lake County strives to find approaches to meet this goal.)



Arrears Collection Rate

(The arrears collection rate tracks the percentage of child support cases with unpaid past-due support (arrears) that received at least one payment on those arrears during the reporting period. The federal performance standard for this metric is 80%. Historically Wisconsin has not met the 80% arrears collection benchmark, neither has Green Lake County. Green Lake Child Support continues to explore approaches to improve our measurement.)



Arrears = Past Child Support that is owed and should have been paid earlier.

2025 Annual Report

Aging/ADRC Unit

The Aging/ADRC Unit provides services to Elderly and Disabled residents of Green Lake County. The staff are divided into program areas largely defined by funding source; however, the programs overlap in many areas, and the combined unit can maximize these resources to the advantage of all the people we serve.

During 2025 Staff included the Unit Manager, two Resource Specialist Social Workers, the Aging / ADRC Coordinator, 1 Meal Site Manager, the Nutrition/Volunteer Coordinator, the Elderly Benefit Specialist, the Disability Benefit Specialist, and collaboration with Fox River Industries to have participants and Staff run one of the Meal Sites. The ADRC Unit did have 1 retirement, and a new Resource Center Specialist was added at the beginning of the year.

2025 was the first full year ADRC operated as a single entity. The ADRC increased marketing and outreach in the Green Lake County area. The hope was to reach more people and help keep people informed about resources to assist individuals while they remain in their home. This was possible by shifting the Adult Protective Services Unit out of the Aging / ADRC and restructuring the Aging / ADRC Coordinator. In 2025, the ADRC completed 77 outreach activities throughout the year. Based on data of calls from when outreach started, the ADRC seen an increase in calls each month since more outreach activities started. The ADRC also put more focus on social media platforms. This included having many businesses and organizations in the County following the social media page. This resulted in more ADRC information being shared throughout the Community to people that followed the business and organizations that shared the ADRC information. Because of an increase in these 2 initiatives, the ADRC saw an increase in people served.

The Nutrition Program is another area in 2025 which saw a continued demand. Due to the continued need increase in the County, the program needed to explore ways to add support. The Nutrition Program added an intern from UW-Oshkosh Social Work Program. The intern was tasked with activities like completing and entering meal assessments, conducting program surveys, updating resource directory, completing quality checks at meal sites and more. This added support allowed the Nutrition Coordinator more time to focus on other priorities in the Nutrition Program. The program will continue to utilize an intern in future years.

Another shift with the Nutrition Program was continuing the partnership with Fox River Industries to have Staff and participants run the Markesan Meal Site. 2025 was the first full year of this partnership. Participants who attended Fox River Industries were able to volunteer at the Markesan Meal Site. This created opportunities for Participants to gain more job experiences and interact with individuals in the Community. Participants assisted with packaging meals and performing light cleaning duties at the Site. This has been a beneficial partnership on both sides.

2025 was also the first full year the Aging / ADRC Unit brought in a portion of the 85.21 Senior Transportation Program. Previous years, the program had 5 service providers that focused on different parts of the County. With Green Lake County bringing a portion in house, this brought the service providers to 3. This also allowed one provider to cover the entire Green Lake County. Green Lake County made enhancements to the program in efforts to create structure for the program and make it more user friendly. Anyone looking to utilize the program would need to contact the ADRC first to complete a pre-approval assessment. By having individuals first speak with the ADRC it resulted in a couple things. 1. Individuals were able to be educated on the purpose of the program and explain rides are prioritized for Medical, Nutrition, and Education. Individuals then are sent a rider manual outlining policies and best practices to make sure riders and drivers of the program have the best experience. 2. This created an opportunity for ADRC Staff to speak to more individuals to see if any other resources exist that could improve their quality of life. The program was able to run efficiently and people looking to access the program were able to receive a ride. 2025 data shows that majority of the rides were for medical rides. This shows the program is being utilized appropriately and if people in the Community need assistance getting to a medical appointment, they can utilize the program for that purpose.

2025 Highlights include – Hosted 3rd Health and Wellness Fair. This Fair included 40 plus vendors. The event included food and music for social engagement for the participants. Over 250 people attended the event. New for 2025 was Speed Friending Event. 10 people participated in this event at the Fair. The purpose of the event was to create an opportunity for people in the Community to meet new people and potentially connect with individuals looking for friendships. This event will look to expand in 2026. The Health and Wellness Fair will look to continue in 2026. The Leaf Collection Program continued in 2025. FRI was able to help 7 individuals. The partnership with Fox River Industries continued in 2025.

The ADRC partnered with local youth organizations to create greeting cards and crafts to be distributed to Seniors in the Community. The organizations included Princeton 5th graders, Green Lake 4H Clovers, and individuals connected with Town Square. The ADRC also assisted local Nursing Homes in creating Holiday Cards. This included having a photographer provided by the ADRC visit local Nursing Homes and take pictures of residents. The pictures were then created into holiday cards for residents to send to their family members. ADRC information was included with these cards as well.

The Food Pantry looked for ways to meet the increase demand for food while rising cost of groceries increased and State and Federal government funding support continued to decrease in 2025. The Food Pantry partnered with local meat processors in the area to promote donating venison to local food pantries during the deer hunting season. Hunters were able to donate deer harvested to meat processors. The meat processors prepared the meat to be donated to Green Lake Food Pantry for free. The Food Pantry received 800 pounds of venison. In 2024, the Food Pantry received 250 pounds. The increase was because of the marketing efforts made to promote the partnership.

Aging and Disability Resource Center

In 2025, ADRC Staff had their first full year using the new data system called PeerPlace. The ADRC had a quality improvement plan to increase awareness of the ADRC to Green Lake County Residents. This included increasing outreach activities and building business / organization followers on social media platform. Both were successfully accomplished in 2025.

What is an ADRC? The ADRC is funded by the State to provide a single point of entry to Long Term Care Services and Information and Assistance for residents of Green Lake County. Aging and Disability Resource Centers are the first place to go to get accurate, unbiased information on all aspects of life relating to aging or living with a disability. The ADRC provides information on a broad range of programs and services, helps people understand the various long-term care options available to them, helps people apply for programs and benefits, and serves as the access point for publicly funded long-term care. Below represents demographic data from the first full year of the ADRC being a single entity.

Total Served		574
Age		
	Under 60	75
	60-74	151
	75-84	94
	85+	60
	Date of Birth Missing	94
Frail / Disabled		
	Yes	18
	No	282
	Frail / Disabled Missing	246
Rural		
	Yes	450
	No	26
	N/A	98
Gender		
	Declined to answer	1
	Female	241
	Male	150
	Transgender-Female	2
	Gender Missing	180

Lives With		
	Lives Alone	114
	Lives in Facility	20
	Lives with Others	133
	Unknown	304
Poverty Level		
	Above Poverty	136
	At or Below Poverty	117
	Declined to answer	96
	Poverty Level Missing	219
Race		
	Black or African American	2
	Hispanic or Latino	3
	White	410

HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAMS/TITLE III-D

The ADRC offers community health and disease prevention education programs, with an emphasis on falls prevention, physical activity and chronic disease self-management. These programs are funded by a combination of ADRC, Title III-D, and grant funding. In 2025, 7 classes were offered in Green Lake County (See more detail below). Green Lake County will continue to contract with Waushara County Health Promotion Staff to offer programming in 2026.

Tai Chi Prime – Green Lake (17 participants)

Stand Up for Your Health – Berlin (4 participants)

Stepping On – Berlin (15 participants)

Mind Over Matter – Markesan (canceled)

Stepping On – Markesan (5 participants)

Tai Chi Fundamentals – Green Lake (13 participants)

Tai Chi Prime – Green Lake (23 participants)

TEFAP – (THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

The Food Pantry is operated by the Aging/Long Term Care Unit of the Department of Health and Human Services and is available to any indigent person/family in an emergency. The Food Pantry is funded by TEFAP and private donations from fundraisers and local donors. For the year 2025 the Food Pantry was able to raise over \$73,001 dollars in Grants & Donations. The Food Pantry attempted to bring more awareness to their services by continued outreach activities.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program/Food Pantry operates every Tuesday from 10:00-12:00 as well as the first Thursday of the month between 4:00-6:00 p.m. (June – October). The Food Pantry currently has 35+ volunteers who assist with food pantry distribution, donation drops off, deliveries and pick up of donations.

Eligible residents of Green Lake County may attend once each month. Throughout 2025, the Food Pantry served an average of 242 households per month, and 527 individuals per month. Each household was provided an average of 107 pounds of food for a month totaling almost 309,891 pounds of food given for the year.

Food Pantry	2025	2024	2023	2022
Average households served monthly	242	226	221	196
Average number of individuals	527	505	492	444

AGING PROGRAMS

The County Aging Unit is the Agency designated by the County Board and authorized by the Older Americans Act to continue to develop, support, assist, and evaluate County-based programs for older adults (over age 60) with the purpose of fostering independence and enhancing the quality of life for older adults in the county.

All Federal money from the Older Americans Act, Title III, is distributed to the state, which gives it to the regional Area Agency on Aging and then to the Counties. The amount each County receives is determined by a set formula. Included in the formula is the number of elderly, low-income elderly and isolated elderly individuals within the County.

Federal Title III-B money is used for various service programs such as elderly health screening, transportation, the elderly benefit specialist, and program development for Senior Centers. Matching local funds and required In-Kind assistance provides the rest of the resources for the Aging programs. Federal Title III C-1 & 2 must be used for elderly nutrition. See below for more information on the elderly nutrition and matching In-Kind amounts.

The Aging plan was updated in 2024, 2025 marks the first full year of the Aging plan. Aging plans are required by the State for each Aging Department to receive funding. These plans are active for 3 years. The goals created in the plan will be reviewed on a regular basis at Committee meetings. The plan can be accessed online and/or requested at anytime. People could reach out to the ADRC to ask for a copy of the Aging plan. In 2025, the goals emphasized were streamline and make enhancements to the 85.21 senior transportation program and provide more education about the meal program to participants and help create a ranking system of meal items most liked and less liked to inform participants of options.

Aging Funding including IIIB, III-E, and AFCSP -

Under the Federal Older Americans Act, Green Lake County Aging Unit is provided funding to provide services to individuals 60 and older who need services. Some examples of services provided: respite care, light cleaning, yardwork, small home-repairs, and chore services. The Aging Unit continued to look for additional resources in the Community that could help fill the gaps for Residents. Through networking and resource discovery, the Aging Unit was able to establish relationships with key organizations in 2025. This included organizations like: Senior Oasis Advisors, Options for Independent Living, Wisconsin Respite Association, Seques – Senior Moving Management, Senior Medicare Patrol and more. The Aging Unit also discovered a need for safe and secure ramps at individuals homes. Individuals have become creative with building ramps so they can remain in their homes. Many of these ramps are unsafe. The Aging Unit partnered with Home Safety Innovations to build ramps for individuals in the Community. 3 ramps were provided. This will be an emphasis in 2026 as well.

IIIB & NFCSP Data

Service Type + Funder	Ind Client
Aging Information and Assistance - Title III-B	1
Assistive Devices / Technology - Title III-B	2
CG NFCSP Public Information - Title III-E (CGOA)	0
CG NFCSP Respite, In-Home General - Title III-E (CGOA)	2
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Assisted Transportation - Title III-E (CGOA)	1
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Assistive Devices/Technology - Title III-E (CGOA)	1
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Chore - Title III-E (CGOA)	4
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Consumable Supplies - Title III-E (CGOA)	1
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Home Repair / Modifications - Title III-E (CGOA)	1
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Personal Care - Title III-E (CGOA)	1
CG NFCSP Supplemental Services, Transportation - Title III-E (CGOA)	2
Chore - Title III-B	14
Home Repair and Modifications - Title III-B	1
Outreach - Title III-B	0
Personal Care - Title III-B	1
Public Information - Title III-B	0
Transportation - Title III-B	2
	total - 34

AFCSP Data

Service Type	Total Unduplicate d Clients
CG AFCSP Case Management	2
CG AFCSP Case Management	1
CG AFCSP Goods and Services	1
CG AFCSP Respite, General	1
CG AFCSP Respite, Overnight	1
CG AFCSP Support Groups	15

CONGREGATE NUTRITION PROGRAM (C-1)

The Nutrition Program assists older individuals to live independently by promoting better health through improved nutrition. It reduces the isolation of older individuals through nutrition related and supportive services. It prevents malnutrition and promotes good health through nutrition education, screening, and intervention. The Aging Unit Nutrition/Volunteer Coordinator is trained as a certified ServSafe Professional Food Manager/Nutrition Director and oversees both the Congregate and Homebound Meal Programs.

In 2025, 4,690 meals were served at Meal sites: Markesan - Calvary Chapel Church and Berlin. Volunteers play a vital role in all our Congregate and Homebound Meals Programs. In 2025 we continued to partner with FRI to provide job work experience to FRI participants. Participants were able to work at the Markesan Meal Site as a volunteer. This provided job skills training to participants and allowed the meal site to have consistent volunteers daily. Suggested Donation Contribution was increased to \$5.00. The program received \$15,080.05*

Also in 2025, an intern was brought in from UW-Oshkosh Social Work program to help provide support for the program.

HOMEBOUND MEAL PROGRAM (C-2)

In 2025, 18,706 meals were served throughout the County to persons who are unable to go to the meal sites for health-related reasons. Requests for Homebound meals come from hospital discharge planners, meal site managers, units of Health and Human Services, doctors, and families and enable the older person to remain in his or her own home if possible. Requests are referred to the Nutrition Coordinator who meets with each new enrollee to conduct a thorough nutritional assessment; these are updated annually. The meal delivery program is also a part of a support system that checks on the elder person four to five days per week depending on their location. Drivers are trained to watch for changing needs and to alert Nutrition Coordinator as necessary. Green Lake County relies on volunteer drivers to provide these meals. The program is only able to provide as many meals as the drivers can distribute. As more community members look to be added to receive HDMS, more volunteers will need to be added.

	2025	2024	2023
Meals served at meal sites	4,690	4,846	4,700
Congregate Meal Donation Dollars	\$15,080.05	\$14,919.82	\$10,653.52
Homebound meals delivered	18,706	20,183	22,973
Homebound meal donation dollars	\$81,575.14	\$83,763.60	\$69,643.10

TRANSPORTATION

One of the greatest needs for the elderly and/or handicapped person is transportation. The Aging Unit receives and administers the 85.21 State Grant monies, \$79,889.00 in 2025. Service priorities are MEDICAL TRIPS, NUTRITION-RELATED ACTIVITIES, WORK-RELATED ACTIVITIES, and SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. Fox River Industries provided support for individuals needing a wheelchair accessible vehicle. All other rides not covered by Berlin Senior Center, were covered by volunteers with the Green Lake County portion. Below are data from 2025 for Berlin Senior Center and Green Lake County Rides. Fox River Industry data not provided as funding is utilized differently compared to the other 2 service providers and data would be skewed. Out of the 1,829 rides provided 1,467 rides were for medical and/or nutrition.

	Total	
Senior, ambulatory	1698	
Senior, non-ambulatory	131	
Disabled, non-	0	
Disabled, non-senior, non-	0	
Other	0	
	Total	1829
Purpose		
	Total	
Medical	959	
Employment	0	
Nutrition	508	
Education/Training	3	
Social/Recreational	76	
Personal Business	240	
Other	43	
	Total	1,829

DISABILITY BENEFIT SPECIALIST

The Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS) position aids people ages 18 to 59 who have any kind of disability, in applying for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The DBS assists people with Medicare, to find the best Medicare Part D prescription drug plans for their individual needs. The DBS also assists individuals applying for Medical Assistance and the MAPP program.

Clients Served

Total clients (unduplicated)	92
New clients (unduplicated)	90

Topic Counts

Open topics

Healthcare	1
Income - SSA programs	36
Medicaid	4
Medicare	4
Nutrition	3
Other	2

Client Demographics

Age

18 and younger	5
19-21	6
21-29	7
30-39	15
40-49	14
50-59	34
60-69	9

Outcomes

Compared coverage options	0
Favorable outcome	12
Referred to legal provider	0
Other outcome	7
Resolved without further follow-up	2
Unfavorable outcome	6

ELDERLY BENEFIT SPECIALIST PROGRAM

The Elderly Benefit Specialist coordinates information and counseling regarding public benefit programs to individuals sixty years of age and older. The Elderly Benefit Specialist assists people aged sixty and over to apply for Social Security, Social Security Disability, Medicare, Medicare Part D, Medical Assistance, and Senior Care.

Clients Served

Total clients (unduplicated)	150
New clients (unduplicated)	138

Intake Count

Carried over	0
New	252
Closed	242
Remaining	11

Topic Counts

Open topics

Income - SSA programs	2
Medicaid	5
Medicare	4

Client Demographics

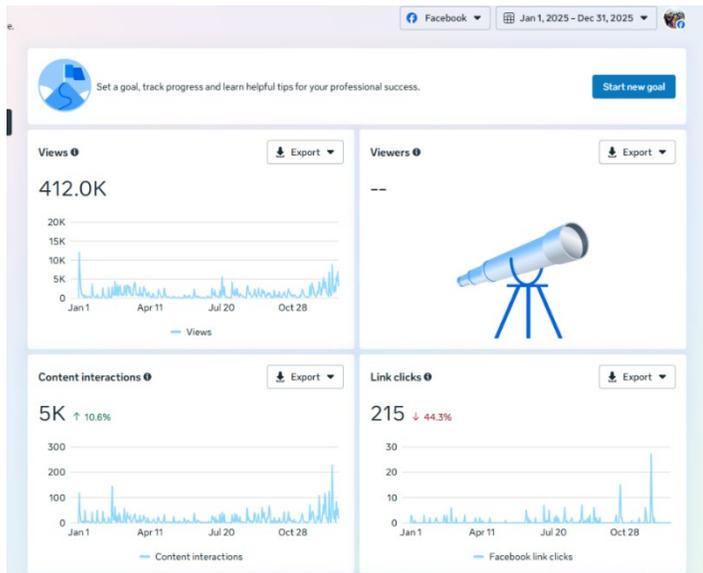
Age

60-69	74
70-79	41
80-89	27
90-99	6

Time Spent by Service Type

Case development	9
Consultation with program attorney	1
Consultation with others	0
Communication	6
General information, assistance, or referral	286
Other	0

OTHER PROGRAMS



Support Group -

- An active support group for caregivers has been established. The support group meets monthly at Town Square. The group consistently has 10+ individuals attend each meeting.

Social Media –

- The ADRC Green Lake County Facebook page had been viewed over 400k for 2025. The page has grown exponentially. This means information is being shared even more and reaching a target group that has not been reached before because information is being shared elsewhere besides just newspaper.

Green Lake County Veterans Services

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

We herewith submit our Annual Report for the Veterans Service Office from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

2025 continued the trend to be good for mental health disability claims approval by the VA; our office has worked closely with The American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to spread the word to Veterans in Wisconsin to apply for that disability or to reapply if previously denied. About a third of our Disability claims included either PTSD or Anxiety-Anger-Depression disabilities. As an invisible wound, there are several hurdles to get over, with the first one being to have the Veteran admit to having a problem.

The Green Lake County Veterans Service Office continues to thank the County Board of Supervisors, County Leadership Team, The Staff of the different county departments as well as the local Veterans Service Organizations for the success in providing benefits or increasing the benefits to the Veterans of the county. Without the support and assistance, it would be far more difficult to provide the services which we offer.

The following is a summary of the activities of our office for the past year (2025).

During the period, this office affected approximately **3,126** personal and telephonic contacts; 2,960 in 2024 & 3,386 in 2023. We handled a total of **8,624 7,439** pieces of correspondence in the course of providing aid and assistance to the veterans, their dependents and their survivors of this county; 7,439 in 2024 & 8,760 in 2023.

Providing transportation to the veterans of this county to various VA Hospitals and clinics has been an important service of this office and is vital in securing cost-effective health care for these veterans. Transportation was provided to VA facilities primarily at Madison & Milwaukee with some trips to Appleton, Green Bay, Beaver Dam and Tomah. **65** veteran transports were made to VA facilities for outpatient and hospitalization appointments with an expenditure of **389** driver hours. In 2024, there were 68 transports with 422 driver hours. The reimbursement to the county for transportation that was received from the VA hospitals and veteran's contributions total **\$2,683** as compared to \$2,995 in 2024.

This office also provides veterans, their dependents and their survivors with assistance regarding Social Security, SSI, Medicare, insurance forms, ChampVA, Social Service programs, Retirement Benefits, Nursing Home applications and many other services when the need arises in conjunction with information needed to obtain veterans benefits.

Green Lake County CVSO Budget Analysis – Based on VA 2024 GDX Report & County budget.

VA Expenditures	\$15,717,275	(\$14,154,000 in 2024)
CVSO Expenditures	\$133,524	(\$132,701 in 2024)

FEDERAL BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

The following Federal benefits were received by the Green Lake County veterans, their dependents and their survivors.

Compensation Payments (for service-connected disabilities), Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Survivor Benefit Plan Payment, Disability Pension (Non-service-connected causes), Death Pension (Non service-connected causes), Servicemen's Government Life Insurance, Education Benefits, Vocational Training and/or Rehabilitation, and Burial Benefits.

Total = \$7,822,069 (\$6,869,000 in 2023)

Veterans Administration Hospital Benefits, which include inpatient and outpatient appointments at VA Hospitals and clinics and prescriptions for Green Lake County veterans. **\$7,895,206** (\$7,121,000 in 2023)

This shows a trend that CVSO offices are increasing the amount of benefits coming into the county even though the total number of Veterans has been slowly decreasing over time.

STATE BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

The following State benefits were received by the Green Lake County veterans, their dependents and their survivors.

Housing Loans, Home Improvement Loans, Personal Loans, Medical Aid Grants, Part-Time Study Grants, Subsistence Aid Grants, Claims processing assistance, Appeals counsel, Discharge Reviews and other various benefits, programs and services. (This does not include services/benefits received through cooperating agencies or service organizations.)

The Veterans Service Office received the 2025 Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs County Veterans Service Office Grant in the amount of **\$11,688.**

The Wisconsin Veterans Home provides a retirement community and nursing home care for veterans and their families. Green Lake County currently has county residents as residing at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King WI.

COUNTY BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

The County Veterans Service Commission consists of Victor Shrock, Chairman; Robert Burdick and Raymond Hudzinski, members; and Jon Vandeyacht, Secretary. Quarterly meetings were held to review grant applications and policy.

The Veterans Service Commission budgeted \$3,000 for Emergency Aid Grants to veterans and/or their families; In 2025, \$1,200 in aid was provided. \$1,590 was utilized in 2024.

Our office also provided Holiday Meals to 6 families this year with donations from the Green Lake American Legion Axillary.

The CVSO and his family provided Christmas gifts to 7 Angel tree requests this year. The Vandeyacht's feel it is their continued way to give back to the community that keeps him employed.

Total Service Commission Grants and Expenses = \$1,517. (\$1,924 in 2024)

Veteran Disability and Benefits Claims

This data is reported only for general information. The number and success of Disability and Survivors benefit claims are based significantly on the information provided by the Veteran or Surviving Spouses as well as political events, weather and any other number of factors that affect people's movements and willingness to ask for assistance.

In 2025, our office directly assisted in a total of 89 claims for disability and survivors benefits. There were 108 in 2024 and 124 in 2023. On average, from initial contact to assembly and submission, to preparing for medical exams or wordsmithing assembly of appeals, to the after-decision-rendered debrief and Q&A, there is approximately 3 to 4 hours of time vested in each claim.

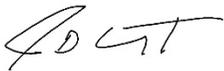
For context, that means there was approximately 267-256 hours of direct conversation with the claimant in claims work alone. In 2025, that meant 7 to 9 weeks or approximately 2 months dedicated solely to disability claims.

This doesn't count for the time spent researching medical diagnosis, treatments, military operations, how all of this links together. That would add another 2 hours per claim on average.

Current Veteran Statistics of greatest need of assistance from our department: Vietnam Era Veterans.

Thank you for your continued generous support for the Veterans in Green Lake County. Without it, much of this would be impossible.

Respectfully submitted,



Jon D. Vandeyacht
County Veterans Service Officer
Green Lake County