



## Dane County Department of Human Services

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TO: DCDHS Partners and Interested Others  
FROM: Interim Director Astra Iheukumere  
RE: Annual RFP Process – 2026 Forecast

The Dane County Department of Human Services is preparing for the annual Request for Proposals (RFP) process and want to provide lead time for potential bidders to review this year's RFPs and consider participating in the application process.

The following pages have a list of programs that we have tentatively identified to be included in this year's bidding cycle for calendar year 2026 funding. There may be updates to this list prior to the date of RFP publication.

### **Important: OpenGov**

The Dept. of Human Services uses OpenGov to post RFPs and receive vendor responses. You can read more about OpenGov on DCDHS's website, [here](#).

### **RFPs and Application Materials**

Most RFPs and associated application materials will be released in April of 2025. Please check the vendor portal and sign up for updates. The Department of Human Services releases the bulk of its yearly RFPs in the spring, but also releases RFPs throughout the calendar year.

- [Vendor Portal for all Dane County purchasing](#)
- [Vendor Portal listing only Human Services' RFPs](#) (note: this list will appear empty if there are no current DCDHS RFPs)

### **Questions about RFPs**

Vendors have an opportunity to submit questions about the RFPs after they are posted. Please see the RFP for the deadline for these questions.

### **Application Due Date**

Applications must be submitted by the time listed on the due date. The RFPs that are released in spring 2025 will typically be due in late May and early June.

**Late submissions cannot be accepted.** We recommend your agency familiarize itself with the OpenGov platform to ensure your submissions are on time.

**Services Not Listed**

As always, providers who have contracts for programs not on the RFP list are not required to submit any information to be considered in the 2025 budget cycle as an ongoing provider. However, **if you have recommendations or suggestions for changes to your current contract,** please discuss these with your contract manager. Remember that continued funding is not guaranteed but is contingent on the 2026 adopted budget.

**Dane County Dept of Human Services**  
 Annual Process RFP Forecast – 2026

<b>Behavioral Health Division</b>	
OWI Court	The Dane County OWI Court program currently provides intake, assessment, and coordination services for individuals in Dane County’s OWI Court Program.
Crisis Case Management and Outreach	Crisis Case Management provides short term supportive services for individuals with Medicaid who have urgent behavioral health needs and are not connected to another behavioral health system case manager. The Outreach program provides low barrier access to free drop in behavioral health support at locations in the community. Both programs target underserved racial and ethnic communities and other marginalized populations.
Work Services and Peer-Based Services	This Work Services RFP includes supported employment and peer specialist-related services for individuals living with mental illness, funded through the Medicaid benefit Community Recovery Services (CRS). Supported employment may utilize the evidence-based Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model. Peer specialist services should include activities by individuals with lived experiences in the behavioral health service system who have been trained to support others in finding their path to behavioral health recovery. For additional information about the Supported Employment and Peer Support benefit through CRS, visit: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/crs/index.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/crs/index.htm</a> .
Drop-In Center Services	Program shall provide drop-in services through a center-based model to individuals with mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders, many of whom are also experiencing housing challenges. The aim of this program is to connect consumers to needed behavioral health, medical services, and housing services. Drop-In Centers should include access to meals, showers, laundry facilities, phone, and mail services. They may also provide psychosocial groups, individual activities, information and referral, relapse prevention and peer support. Drop in centers may utilize the Medicaid Crisis benefit to provide case management and crisis stabilization services for individuals who meet the Medicaid billing criteria. Providers of drop in centers are expected to be a part of the Dane Crisis Provider Network, for more information, visit: <a href="https://providers.dcdhs.com/documents/pdf/Crisis-Billing/Dane-Crisis-Provider-Network-DHS-34-and-Medicaid-Billing-Handbook.pdf">https://providers.dcdhs.com/documents/pdf/Crisis-Billing/Dane-Crisis-Provider-Network-DHS-34-and-Medicaid-Billing-Handbook.pdf</a>
Outpatient Treatment for Court-Involved Children and Families	This program will offer outpatient behavioral health treatment to court-involved children (ages 0-9) and their families. Children referred for services will have an assigned Child Protective Services Social Worker, a Youth Justice Social Worker, or Joining Forces for

	Families Social Worker. This program is intended to serve families experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, court intervention due to child abuse, neglect, child sexual abuse, domestic violence, and/or at risk of experiencing child abuse and/or neglect. This program will also serve uninsured children who are not court-involved.
School-based Mental Health Case Management	This program is intended to prevent the escalation of youth and family behavioral health needs to improve youth functioning in the school, home, and community through assessment, case management, service referral, and advocacy and consultation with the school team. This program serves nine school districts throughout Dane County through trauma-informed, wraparound case management.
Intensive Therapeutic Services for Court-Involved Youth and Adolescents	This program will offer intensive in-home family therapy, crisis intervention and planning, care coordination, and parent peer support services for children, adolescents, and their families involved with DCDHS Child Protective Services (CPS) and Youth Justice (YJ) services. This program is intended to help youth remain in their homes and communities and prevent out-of-home placement. Services will be trauma-informed and family-centered.
<b>Disability and Aging Services Division</b>	
Outreach to Underserved Older Adults	The program is to purchase staff hours to coordinate and provide culturally appropriate and relevant programs to older adults to improve their physical, emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing. Target population including Asian but not limited to SE Asian, Chinese, Indian, Cambodian, Laotian etc. and LGBTQIA older adults.
Service Coordination for Adults with Hearing Impairment and Physical Disabilities	Provides ongoing service coordination to approximately 35 individuals per year in need of individualized, service linkage and coordination who are not eligible for other long-term care programs. Services focus on enhancing independence and vary in duration based on individual need. In addition, the program conducts a minimum of 12 outreach events per year, focused on improving community awareness of resources available for adults with hearing impairments and physical disabilities.
<b>Economic Assistance and Work Services Division</b>	
Food Distribution Program	Provider will collect and distribute food to the Dane County Food Pantry Network (DCFPN) pantries, and other food distribution sites, for low income individuals and families. Additionally, they will provide pantry sites with information on TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program), participation guidelines, food safety standards, and food security.
Driver's License Recovery	This program provides services to assist with driver's license reinstatement for adults who at the time of screening have a suspended or revoked driver's license. The goal of this program is to assist low-income residents of Dane County to reinstate a suspended

	or revoked driver’s license. By reinstating an individual’s driver’s license, barriers to employment may be removed allowing individuals to meet minimum requirements for many family-supporting wage jobs.
<b>Prevention and Early Intervention Division</b>	
College and Career Readiness	This program will provide services to strengthen college and career readiness in Dane County youth.
Information, Referral, and Outreach	Provide outreach and referral services for primarily persons who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and/or transgender. Referral services may include but are not limited to referrals to community supports, housing and food security resources, and health care. Outreach activities may include provision of educational materials and workshops along with targeted outreach and provision of drop in groups and other community supports.
Parent Education and Supportive Services	Provide parent education and supportive services to Dane County parents and caregivers of children and youth ages 0-17. The proposed program model shall provide opportunities for parents and caregivers to practice and enhance their parenting skills and help tailor their parenting to best meet the developmental needs of the children/youth in the family. Program participants will be referred exclusively from CYF Child Protection and/or Youth Justice Social Workers. Proposals incorporating lived experience into their service delivery are highly encouraged.
<b>Children, Youth, &amp; Families Division</b>	
Youth Mentoring Services	Provide individual or group supports for youth at-risk of, or currently involved in, the Youth Justice System. Programs should be prepared to provide activities that are pro-social, or are academic/vocational supports.
Youth Restitution/Community Service and Victim Services	Provide support for youth who are required to complete Restitution or Community Service by the courts or through a Deferred Prosecution Agreement. Collect restitution payments from youth and distribute to their victims.
Restorative Justice/Municipal Diversion	Provide county-wide intake and referral services for youth (12-16) as a diversion from formal Municipal Court processes. Provide restorative circles, develop/monitor repair harm agreements and collaboration with county and Law Enforcement partners.
Prosocial/Recreational Activities for Youth	Provide athletic and enrichment activities for at-risk youth in the community. The project should focus on youth most at risk of involvement in the formal Youth Justice system, those who reside in high need communities, and youth of color.
Youth Employment and Support Services	Provide a continuum of services to youth ages 13-18 with a priority for youth that are involved with, or at risk of involvement in the Youth Justice System. These support should include pre-employment

	training, job placement and support, subsidized wage processes, administrative support for Right Track Work Crew, HSED preparation and support, as well as connection to, and support for, the trades and pre-apprentice opportunities.
<b>Housing Access and Affordability Division</b>	
Permanent Housing Supportive Services	Provide client-centered and culturally responsive services to help participants formerly experiencing homelessness remain in permanent housing.
Emergency Shelter Services	Provide emergency shelter services for households experiencing homelessness. Funded programs to include the operation of emergency shelter (including shelter diversion activities) and supportive services for shelter guests (housing case management, employment and training supports, behavioral health supports, etc.)
<b>Housing Access and Affordability: Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME)</b>	
Housing Access & Affordability	Increase access to affordable quality housing, including housing rehabilitation, down-payment assistance, homebuilding, and tenant-based rental assistance. Project areas will be listed as separate RFPs.
Economic & Business Development	Expand economic business opportunities for low- to moderate-income persons which may include supporting direct financial assistance to businesses, providing technical assistance, and supporting microenterprise business efforts.
Public Services	Provide services to low- to moderate-income persons in Dane County, including but not limited to: Social Services, Transportation, Child Care, Crime Prevention, Job/Skills Training, Homeless Services/Prevention, and Education.
Public Facilities & Infrastructure	Improve public facilities and community/municipality infrastructure to support low- to moderate-income persons.
Community Housing Development Organizations	Certified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) can apply to create affordable housing developments.