Denver Human Services: Human *Together*

*Human Together* is the strategic framework for DHS through 2021. It informs and guides our work across the department and into our Denver communities.

- Supporting a **healthy and connected community**.
- Partnering to build a **network of opportunity** that identifies root causes and addresses the needs of the whole person and whole family.
- Providing quality, timely **essential services** with integrity, kindness, and respect.
Mill Levy Advisory Council Overview

The Council seats up to **seven** Denver residents as voting members.

One non-voting member is from Rocky Mountain Human Services.

Meetings are **open to the community** and include a public comment period.

- Call-in option provided for all meetings
- Meeting documents can be found on the Denver Human Services website, www.denvergov.org/humanservices
Mill Levy Advisory Council Purpose

To provide a voice for and state the desires of the members of the community related to dedicated mill levy funds so that they best benefit persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and their families in the City and County of Denver.

The Mill Levy Advisory Council makes recommendations to the Denver Human Services executive director on how best to address the needs of Denver residents with intellectual or developmental disabilities.
Needs Assessment Top 5 Problems

Respondents were asked to indicate if something was a “Big Problem,” “Small Problem,” or “Not a Problem”

Top Five Problems

1. Affordable Housing
2. Obtaining Employment
3. Waiting Lists
4. Transitions
5. Mental Health

Overall

Providers

Recipients of Services

Other

Big
Big
Big
Big
Big
Big
Big
Small
Small
Big
Mill Levy Advisory Council Priorities

Initial priorities:
- Enhancing access to existing or critical resources
- Greater understanding of the mill levy
- Cultural sensitivity and inclusion
- Communications and outreach

Current priorities under exploration:
- Affordable housing
- Transitions services
- Mental health

Guiding values: courage, loyalty, empowerment, sustainability

DHS currently has approximately $10.7M in unspent funds from prior years to distribute
Today’s Goals

- Learn from each other about current offerings and opportunities
- Hear from you on needs and gaps specific to housing for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Discuss housing goals and begin to explore possibilities
- Leverage our strengths as a community to work together
Today’s Agenda

4:30 Welcome and introductions
4:45 Presentations
  Desiree Kameka, Madison House Autism Foundation
  Renee Nicolosi and Loretta Owens, Denver Housing Authority
  Johnathan Sims, Domus Vitae
5:30 Q&A
5:40 Five-minute break
5:45 Discussion groups & report out
6:20 Public comments (five minutes per person)
6:55 Wrap up discussion
Where to Find the Needs Assessment

The full needs report is available on DHS’ website:


Additional needs assessment details can be found on slides 16-19.
Denver Residency Guidelines

• Informed by D.R.M.C. § 53-550 (c) and Medical Services Board Rule 8.607.1(F)

• Denver’s City and County limits are the same; however, a person could have a Denver mailing address and not be a Denver resident, or vice versa. DHS primarily uses the Assessor’s Office property records to determine residency.

• DHS has provided guidance for mill levy funded services that may result in indirect or spillover benefits, as well as transition of services (90 days).

• Children with I/DD in DHS custody are considered Denver residents regardless of their current placement.