



June 2, 2021

To: Ms. Andrea Benck  
Goodhue County Administration

From: Sara Kern  
HOPE Coalition

Re: Goodhue County Outside Agency Funding

Attached is HOPE Coalition's request for Goodhue County Outside agency funding and budget. We are requesting support for our emergency Goodhue County Adult Detention Center (GCADC) Housing Assessment and Release Planning services.

For additional information please contact Sara Kern at 651 388-9360 ext. 9 or [skern@hope-coalition.org](mailto:skern@hope-coalition.org).

Thank you!

## **HOPE COALITION REQUEST FOR GOODHUE COUNTY OUTSIDE AGENCY FUNDING**

HOPE Coalition provides services to approximately 1,200 clients each year. These services include a domestic violence shelter, services for survivors of sexual assault, and youth impacted by abuse or violence. In addition, we provide services to the homeless and funds to clients who are facing a financial crisis, such as a utility shut off or a need to pay for food or gas.

### **SERVICES PROVIDED**

As part of our Housing Support Services Program, our housing advocate provides services to approximately 72 detainees annually (prior to the pandemic) at the Goodhue County Adult Detention Center (GCADC). **These services are focused on emergency needs to help recently released detainees with immediate, basic needs at a critical time in their lives. They are unduplicated and unfunded elsewhere in the county.**

Services include:

**Housing/Transportation (many will be homeless on release)** – If a detainee has nowhere to stay, HOPE can provide a motel voucher for 1-2 nights (especially in winter) or assist with getting them into a boarding house, (based upon availability), as well as help with transportation to these sites. We also provide information as to which local employers will hire jobseekers with a criminal history.

If detainees have no family or friends to drive them to a location outside the county, HOPE assists with transportation to the Dorothy Day Hospitality House (homeless shelter) in Rochester and we refer them to People Ready Employment Service, a seven day a week day labor program. These clients are able to access housing and day jobs so that they can earn funds to return to their home counties. Alternately, our advocate will arrange for transportation to the Twin Cities area or other destinations via Amtrak or shuttle service, and may assist with these costs. Unfortunately, Amtrak only runs through Red Wing 3 days a week, meaning that HOPE may need to put people up in a boarding house, shelter, or hotel so that they have someplace safe to stay for a couple of nights until they can take the next train.

### **Food/Clothing and Other Basics**

Detainees often have little or no money upon release, and may need extra help until they can get assistance and otherwise move forward with their lives. If needed, the advocate can provide a detainee with food (or food voucher) and other basic necessities such as winter gloves, toiletries, and personal hygiene items.

### **Ongoing support**

The advocate may continue to provide assistance to former detainees who live in the area, including referrals and support for: employment, permanent housing, basic life necessities, and support in making positive changes in their lives. In addition, the advocate may provide post-release support to detainees who have just been released from the Goodhue County Adult Detention Center and told to walk to HOPE Coalition for assistance.

### **WHY WE SEEK GOODHUE COUNTY SUPPORT**

*A young woman was recently referred to us by a Red Wing Public Works employee. She had been released from the Goodhue County Adult Detention Center and had just a garbage bag of belongings. She had been out in the rain and was soaking wet and had trouble walking. The employee brought her to HOPE Coalition for help returning to the metro area. She tried, unsuccessfully, to reach someone who would come all the way to Red Wing to pick her up in exchange for a gas voucher from HOPE. Eventually, a HOPE staff member was able to transport her to Treasure Island where a loved one was willing to meet her. The staff member also gave her personal care items and food.*

*Over the winter, two men were released from the Goodhue County Adult Detention Center but couldn't stay in the Hope & Harbor Shelter due to recent criminal behavior. HOPE Coalition helped put them up in hotel until they could make other arrangements for a safe place to stay.*

During the pandemic, the number of people held at the Goodhue county Adult Detention Center decreased. However, we expect numbers to increase again as the pandemic recedes. Normally, due to high demand overall, our Community Care Fund (which helps community members cover basic, emergency expenses, such as food, clothing, transportation, rent, utilities, co-pays for prescriptions, etc.) would support a number of released detainees. It is not unusual for HOPE Coalition to run out of funds and not have any available for a given period of time. For this reason we request \$5,000 from Goodhue County to help support this service, including staff time, non-salary related expenses, and costs for a client's personal expenses.

We deliver important services to the county that no other agency in the county provides:

- For Goodhue County resident detainees, we provide services that assist them with getting back on their feet, becoming productive members of society, and contributing to the County's economy, thus reducing recidivism rates;
- For detainees from outside Goodhue County, Hope assists them to return to their home counties, thereby preventing a potential drain on County resources post-release.

Support from the county would help to cover the costs of HOPE's Housing Assessment and Release Planning services, such as gas vouchers, train tickets, motel stays, food, personal hygiene items, the cost of the advocate's time, and transportation expenses.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this application!

**Goodhue County**  
**Outside Agency Funding Request Form**

| <b>Budget</b>                         |                        | <b>Estimated<br/>2022</b> | <b>Estimated<br/>2023</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                       |                        |                           |                           |
|                                       | Fees:                  |                           |                           |
|                                       | Grants:                | \$ 25,000                 | \$ 25,000                 |
|                                       | State/Federal Funding: |                           |                           |
|                                       | Other Revenue:         | \$ 14,000                 | \$ 14,000                 |
| <b>Total Revenues:</b>                |                        | \$ 39,000                 | \$ 39,000                 |
| <b>Expenses</b>                       |                        |                           |                           |
|                                       | Salaries:              | \$ 18,448                 | \$ 19,001                 |
|                                       | Benefits:              | \$ 5,486                  | \$ 5,651                  |
|                                       | Professional Services: | \$ 342                    | \$ 342                    |
|                                       | Services & Charges:    | \$ 25                     | \$ 25                     |
|                                       | Supplies & Materials:  | \$ 453                    | \$ 453                    |
|                                       | Other Expenses:        | \$ 24,000                 | \$ 24,000                 |
|                                       | Capital:               | \$ 250                    | \$ 250                    |
| <b>Total Expenses:</b>                |                        | \$ 49,004                 | \$ 49,722                 |
| <b>Requested Funding From County:</b> |                        | \$ 5,000                  | \$ 5,000                  |
| <b>Number of Staff</b>                |                        | <b>1.5 FTE</b>            | <b>1.5 FTE</b>            |