



Price County

Health & Human Services

**20
24**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

Price County Health and Human Services

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Message From the Price County Health & Human Services Director:

On behalf of the staff, I am pleased to present the 2024 Annual Report for the Health and Human Services Department. Here are some of the highlights for this year:

In the Behavioral Health Unit, positions that were created the previous year were successfully filled in 2024, following a year of advertising the open roles.

In the Aging and Disabilities/Senior Services Unit, a Disability Benefits Specialist (DBS) position has been established. This role is dedicated to serving the communities of Price and Sawyer counties. We are fortunate to have been selected to have this position locally, allowing us to provide essential services directly to our residents. Also in 2024, Price County was added to the coverage of the ADRC Regional Line. We increased a part-time ADRC specialist position to full-time.

The Community Outreach position significantly enhanced the Strong Bodies Program by establishing a new site in Brantwood and offering a complimentary session for residents of Flambeau Heights in Park Falls. This effort that was put into the program resulted in a doubling of registered participants throughout the county.

The department collaborated with the Pleasant View Memorial Fund Committee, an organization that offers funding for respite services to caregivers and their loved ones within the comfort of their homes. Over the course of the year, the Fiscal/Administrative Unit dedicated efforts to implementing Time Clock Plus, a new time-tracking system designed to enhance efficiency by integrating with our county accounting system.

In the Economic Support Unit, many changes were implemented on a state level to BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid programs due to the COVID-19 continuous enrollment provision. These changes reflect a broader effort to streamline eligibility, promote work participation, and ensure continued access to healthcare for eligible individuals and families in Wisconsin.

In the Public Health Unit, they increased collaboration with Price County Coalitions and were able to offer many programs. One notable initiative was the Trunk or Treat events, which successfully provided 386 Bento Boxes to children. Public Health participated in community outreach events and youth activities, offering educational sessions at the nutrient site and providing home vaccinations for vulnerable individuals.

In the Children and Youth Unit, a part-time Foster Care Coordinator was brought on board to assist in recruiting foster care parents. This initiative aims to reduce the expenses associated with out-of-home placements. Additionally, two child protective services social workers have undergone forensic interview training. This specialized training equips professionals with the essential skills to conduct effective interviews, especially when working with children and vulnerable populations.

I would like to thank the Price County Health and Human Services staff for all their hard work, commitment, and dedication in providing services to the residents of Price County. The staff ensures health and safety for children, individuals, and families of Price County.

We hope you find this report useful. We are available to answer questions and look forward to hearing your comments.

Sarah Reese-Locha
Director

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATION

Mission

To manage the fiscal health of the agency while providing effective quality client services through personal integrity and accountability

General Purpose

To provide a fair and accountable system in Price County while maximizing the most efficient use of public funds as established by a consistent process that meets the high standards of integrity. The process by which we establish protocols and internal controls to ensure that all accounting and financial transactions are conducted is in accordance with the General Accepting Accounting Principles (GAAP), Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts, compliance regulations, as well as all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. The financial administration has an enlarged scope characterized by policies and administration that reflect multiple objectives such as stability, development, self-reliance, reduction of inequalities, public interest, accountability, political direction, and a unity of the agency. The Fiscal/Admin. Unit works to achieve the objectives of the agency with the maximum possible level of efficiency at the least expenditure.

REVENUE SOURCES

State/Federal Revenue

Waiver Funds

Basic County Allocations

WIMCR - Act 318 Adjustment

DHS State/County Contract

DCF State/County Contract

State/Federal Revenue - Other Agencies

DOA Contract for Energy Assistance

Area Agency on Aging Contract

DOT Funds

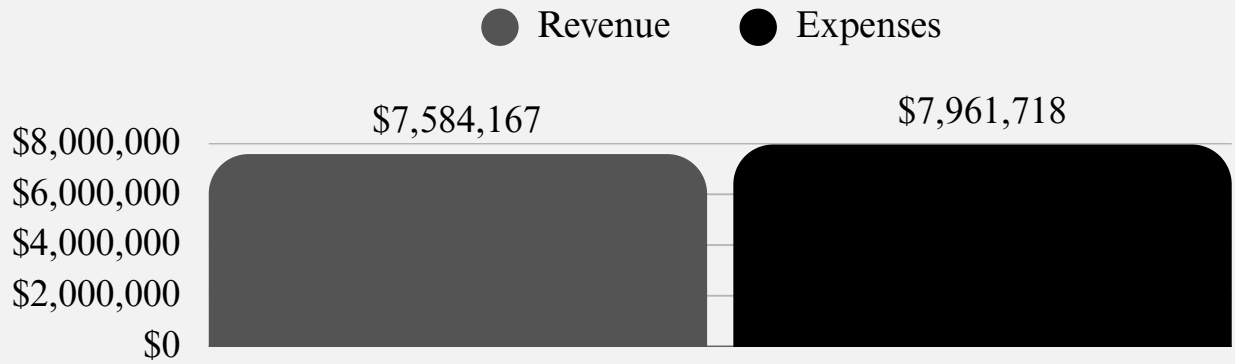
Other Revenue

Medical Assistance Fee for Service

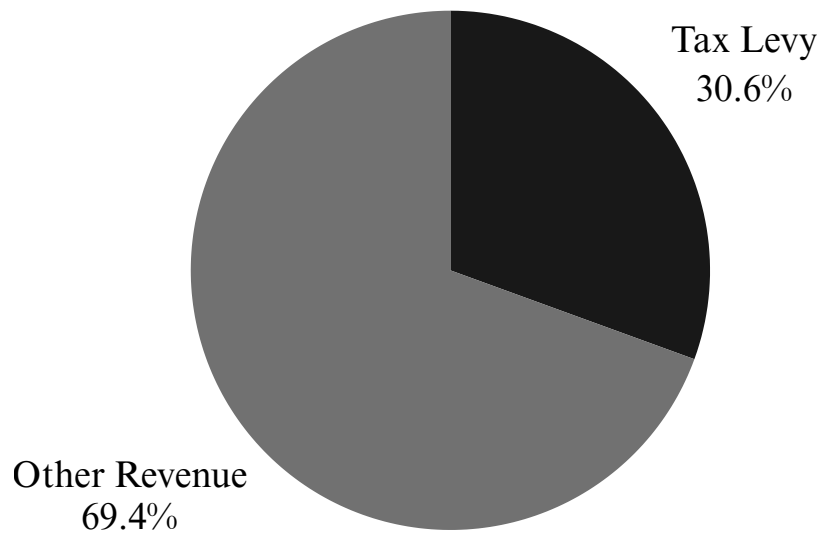
Third Party Collections

Client Fees/Donations

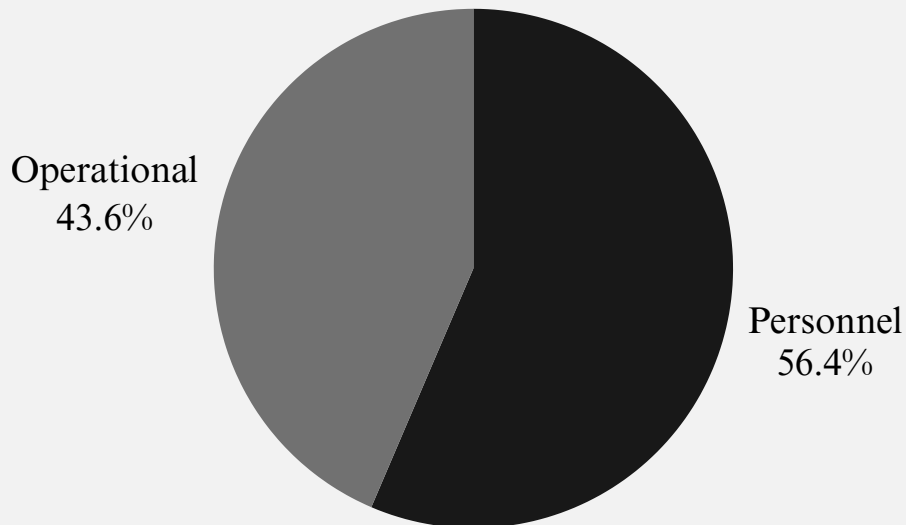
Health and Human Services Revenues and Expenditures



Health and Human Services Revenues



Health and Human Services Expenditures



Unit Revenues and Expenditures

Aging & Disability Revenues



Aging & Disability Expenditures



Behavioral Health Revenues



Behavioral Health Expenditures



Unit Revenues and Expenditures

Economic Support Revenues



Economic Support Expenditures



Public Health Revenues



Public Health Expenditures



Unit Revenues and Expenditures

Children & Youth Revenues



Children & Youth Expenditures



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mission

To enhance the quality of life for our community by offering comprehensive behavioral health, AODA, and supportive services for families that have youth with differing abilities in a trauma-informed culture of care, promoting integrated healthcare, recovery, and community inclusion.

General Purpose

To support and promote behavioral health and substance use disorder services for Price County residents.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED

Birth to 3 Program

Children's Community Options Program

Children's Long Term Support Waiver

Community Support Programs

Comprehensive Community Services

Coordinated Service Teams

Intensive Supervision Program

Mental Health Crisis Services

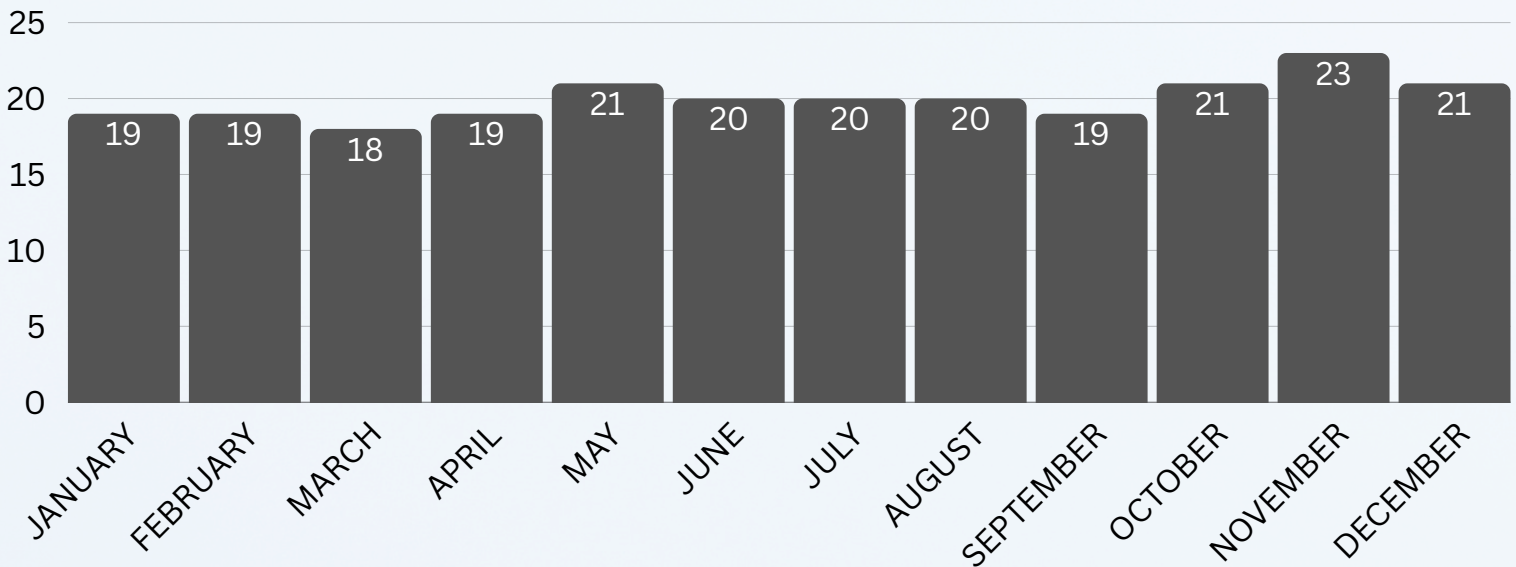
Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Support

Targeted Case Management

Community Support Program (CSP)

Program for adults living with a serious and persistent mental illness. CSPs provide coordinated professional care and treatment in the community that includes a broad range of services to meet an individual's unique personal needs, reduce symptoms, and promote recovery. These services may include: 24/7 crisis services, employment related services, medication prescription and management, social and recreational skill training, support, training and supervision of activities of daily living, support to the participant and their family, supportive psychotherapy and symptom management.

Community Support Program People Served



Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)

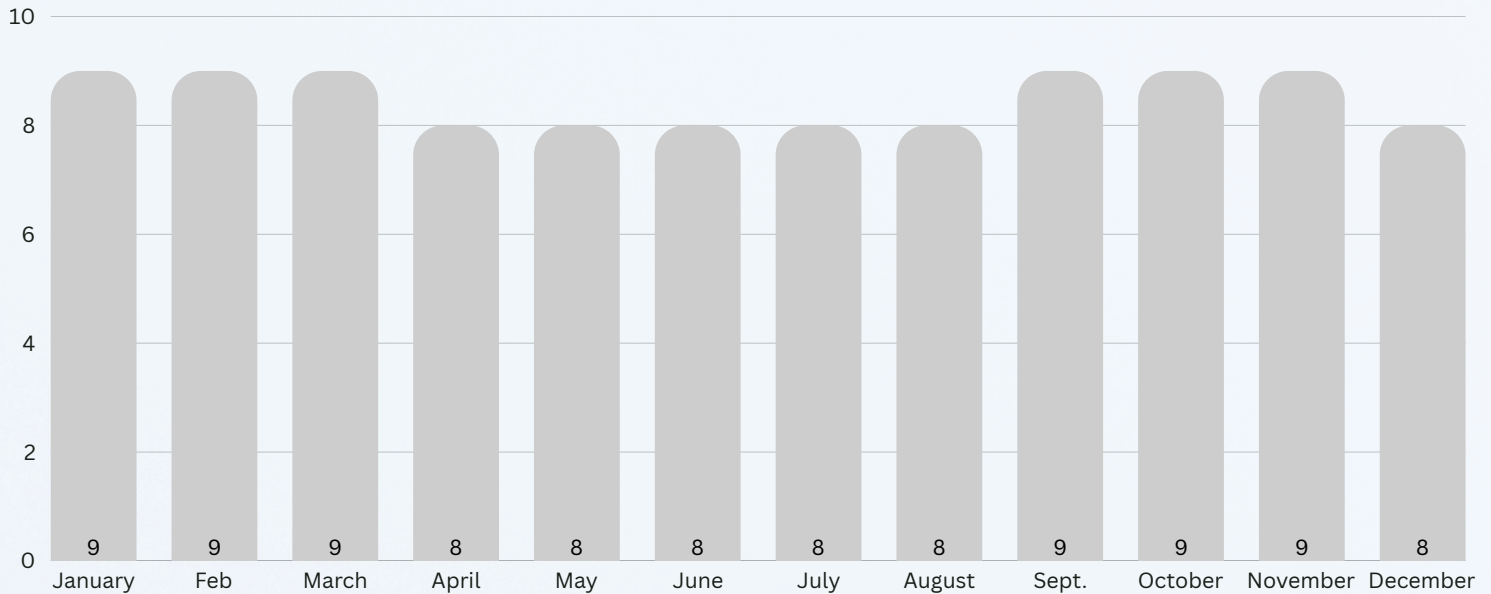
Program that helps individuals of all ages live their best life by providing supports that address their unique needs related to mental health and substance use. CCS is intended to assist individuals who need care outside of inpatient settings, but who may have ongoing needs that, if left unaddressed, could result in hospitalizations during times of crisis. Services that may be included in this program are: employment skills training, medication management, residential support services, peer support, physical health management, support to develop problem solving skills, therapy, and wellness management. Typical reasons that even though there are referrals there aren't multiple admissions could be the following: person does not have Medical Assistance, person does not meet functional screen requirements, person chooses another program/service, person does not return phone calls.

7
Enrolled
23
Referrals

Coordinated Service Teams (CST)

Helps develop a comprehensive, individualized system of care for children with complex behavioral health needs. The CST itself is a group that includes family members, service providers, and others who work to design and carry out a coordinated services plan for the child. This model of care is often referred to as wraparound services.

CST Children/Families Served



Intensive Supervision Program (ISP)

ISP is designed to help people who have been charged with a second or higher Operating While Impaired or Under the Influence (OWI) offense to stop drinking and driving. The program is a combination of treatment and case management services.

10 People served in 2024

116
Crisis Center
Calls in 2024

.....
50
24/7 Warmline
Calls in 2024

Mental Health Crisis Service

A coordinated system of mental health services, which provides an immediate response to assist a person experiencing a mental health crisis. Outpatient emergencies include socio-emotional crises, attempted suicides, family crises, and if needed, referral to an emergency room of a general hospital for medical treatment.

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Targeted Case Management (TCM)

TCM offers case management for adults with Medicaid who have a serious mental health diagnosis or a substance use disorder. Our goal is to help them access essential medical, social, educational, and other services. We have gradually begun to engage in providing this service. Often, we can refer individuals to CCS or CSP if their needs align with those criteria.

People Served in 2024: 0

Children's Long-Term Support Services (CLTS)

Provides support to families with children who have developmental, physical, or severe emotional disabilities. Supports may include but are not limited to respite, home health care, medical supplies and therapy.

18 Children Referred

.....

51 Children Served

**51
Children
Served**

Children's Community Options Program (CCOP)

It is a state-funded program that offers limited financial assistance to purchase essential services and goods for children with disabilities when other funding sources are not available.

Birth to Three Program



The Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program is committed to serving children under the age of 3 with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. We value your family's primary relationship with your child and work in partnership with your family. We work to enhance your child's development and support your family's knowledge, skills, and abilities as you interact with and raise your child.

It is an early intervention program that can provide services/therapies to children who have at least a 25% delay in development related to a qualifying diagnosis.

**20
Children
Referred**

**9
Children
Served**

ECONOMIC SUPPORT

Mission

*As a member of the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium the mission of the Price County Economic Support Division is:
"Working together to Provide Services that Enhance Quality of Life"*

General Purpose

The general purpose of Income Maintenance program is to assist financially and categorically eligible individuals with a means to meet their basic human needs, including food, shelter, medical treatment, etc.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED

BadgerCare Plus

Child Care Assistance

Child Care Certification of Day Care Homes

Family Planning Only Services

FoodShare

General Assistance

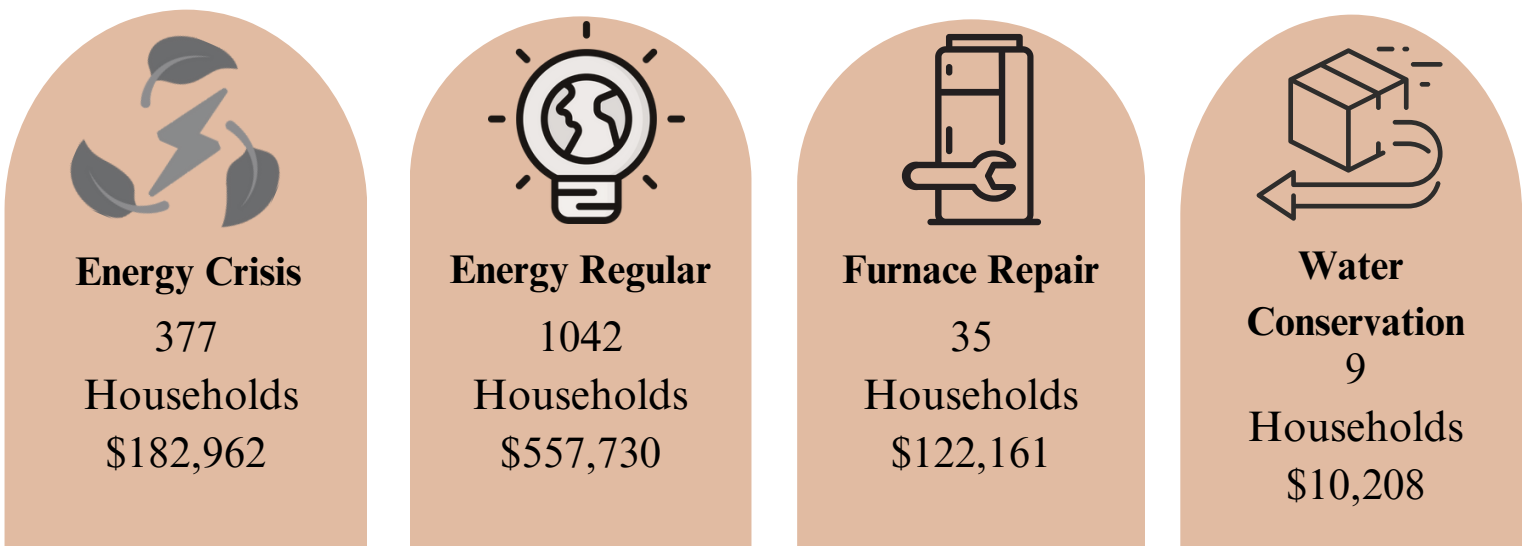
Medicaid for Elderly, Blind, or Disabled

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) provides support to low-income households in Price County for their heating and electric expenses. This program offers a one-time benefit payment, with eligibility determined by factors such as household size, income, and heating costs. Additionally, WHEAP may connect recipients to further assistance options, including weatherization services or furnace repair and replacement.

These offerings are available statewide and are funded by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR).



Representative Payee

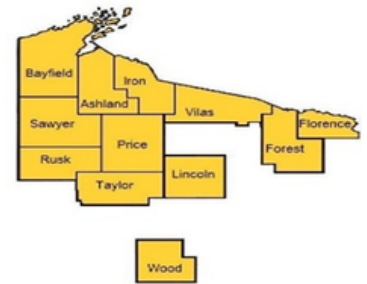
The Representative Payment Program provides financial management support for beneficiaries who are unable to manage their finances due to reasons such as age, disability, or other circumstances. Price County serves as an organizational payee designated by the Social Security Administration to oversee the distribution of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for individuals.

**Representative Payee Averaged
3 Clients**

.....

Northern Income Maintenance Consortium (NIMC)

Price County is part of the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium, which is a partnership of twelve counties including Ashland, Bayfield, Florence, Forest, Iron, Lincoln, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, and Wood. The consortium's mission is to work together to provide services that enhance the quality of life. It provides public assistance administration of FoodShare (SNAP), State Medicaid Programs, and Childcare Assistance.



BadgerCare / Medicaid

Wisconsin offers a variety of Medicaid programs for its residents, including BadgerCare Plus, the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP), Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB and SLMB+), Family Planning Only Services, Long-Term Care, Family Care, and Wisconsin's Caretaker Supplement (CTS). These healthcare programs are designed to support Wisconsinites with low incomes. Each Medicaid program has specific eligibility requirements that must be met.

26,883 Recipients

\$42,885 Annual Assistance

FoodShare

Each month, people across Wisconsin receive assistance from FoodShare to help them purchase food for themselves and their families. This program supports individuals of all ages, including those who are employed but have low incomes, those on small or fixed incomes, those who have lost their jobs, and those who are disabled and unable to work.

21,931 Recipients

\$2,943,666 Annual Assistance

Child Care Administration and Assistance

Wisconsin's Childcare Assistance program, known as Wisconsin Shares, subsidizes childcare costs for eligible families with children under 13 (or up to 19 for special needs). Eligibility generally includes low-income parents, those in W-2 employment programs, and parents attending school. Childcare providers must be regulated and part of the YoungStar quality rating system.

7 Licensed Homes

1 Certified Home

100 Families

159 Children

\$58,906.46 Annual Assistance

PUBLIC HEALTH

Mission

The mission of the Price County Public Health Division is to be leaders in promoting, protecting, and preserving the health and well-being of Price County citizens through partnerships with people and communities.

General Purpose

The general purpose of Public Health programs is to carry out the core public health functions through the essential public health services.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED

Community Health Needs Assessment and Planning
Public Health Accreditation Planning
Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Communicable Disease Control

Communicable Disease Reporting
HIV Prevention & Partner Services
Immunization Program
Investigation and Follow-up

Maternal Child Health & Family Health

Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs
Health Check
Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)
Reproductive Health
School Health Nursing (Phillips & Prentice)
Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
Targeted Case Management (TCM)

Environmental Health

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Assessment Program
Environmental Human Health Hazard Investigation Control & Abatement
Rabies Control Program
Radon Testing Program
Well Water Testing Program


Coalitions

Health and Wellness Coalition
Mental Health/AODA Coalition
Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition

Foundational Public Health Services

The Foundational Public Health Services model outlines the minimum responsibilities of governmental public health that must be available in every community. Its framework consists of: the Foundational Areas, which are the public health programs and services aimed at improving the health of the community; and the Foundational Capabilities, which are the skills and capacities needed to support basic public health programs and activities.

Foundational Areas and Their Coverage:

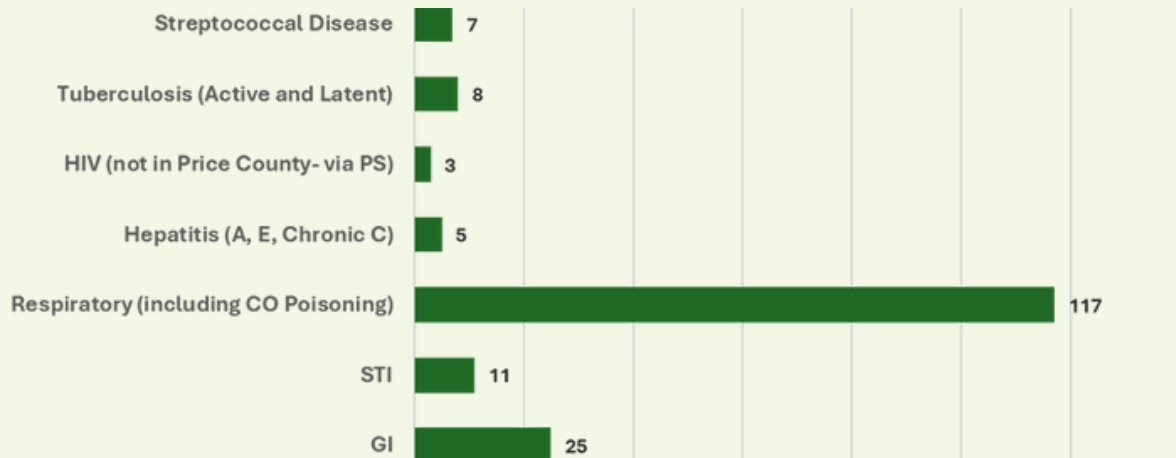
				
Communicable Disease Control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Disease Investigation · HIV Prevention & Partner Services · Immunization Program 	Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Price County Health & Wellness Coalition · Price County Mental Health/AODA Coalition · Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition 	Environmental Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Animal Bites · Human Health Hazards · Well Water Testing · Lead · Radon 	Maternal, Child & Family Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Health Check · School Health · Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) · Reproductive Health · Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program 	Access to & Linkage with Clinical Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Targeted Case Management · Nursing Services

Foundational Capabilities:

Assessment & Surveillance Community Health Improvement Plan Community Health Needs Assessment	Organizational Competencies Workforce Development
Community Partnership Development Wellness Coalition Mental Health/AODA Coalition Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition	Policy Development & Support Updating Policies Creating New Policies
Health for All Public Health Outreach Events	Emergency Preparedness & Response Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan
Accountability & Performance Management Strategic Plan Performance Management Plan Quality Improvement Plan	Communications Health Promotion and Outreach Branding & Communication Plan

Communicable Disease Control

Communicable disease control accounts for a large portion of public health’s work. Per state statute, certain diseases must be reported to local health departments. These diseases pose a public health concern because of their severity and/or their potential for spread. Price County Public Health receives and investigates these and other communicable diseases.



Vectorborne Diseases			
Lyme Disease 47	Anaplasmosis 11	Babesiosis 2	Arboviral 2

HIV Prevention & Partner Services

Through HIV Partner Services for the State of Wisconsin, Price County Public Health covers services for Ashland, Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Sawyer, Taylor, and Vilas Counties.

In 2024, Price County Public Health completed 3 HIV investigations.

Immunizations

To help increase vaccination rates, Public Health promoted vaccine education and awareness through social media, during school orientations, and within other department programs and services.

**1,110
Immunizations Provided**

**46%
Vaccination Coverage Among
Children Age 24 Months by Series**

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

Price County Health & Wellness Coalition

- Healthy Brains - Presentations were provided at Senior Nutrition Sites on how a healthy lifestyle may impact brain health related to dementia/memory loss. Approximately 30 community members received education.
- Hydroponic Garden – Started in 2023, the hydroponic garden at the Phillips School continued to thrive as an educational piece in Horticulture class and Home Economics in 2024.
- Trunk or Treat – Bento boxes with nutritional foods (e.g., yogurt, cucumbers, cheese, whole grain crackers) were offered to 6-11-year-olds during the 2024 Trunk or Treat events in Park Falls and Phillips. Parents were asked to complete a short survey to assess interest in nutritional education/resources to receive a box. As a result, 386 children received Bento boxes with snacks, and the coalition learned more about the community’s motivation for resources like cooking classes and how to cook on a budget.



Price County AODA/Mental Health Coalition

- Community Education - Education to the community on addiction associated with opioids and stimulants, proper drug disposal, and the risk of overusing drugs in ways other than prescribed.
 - 15 harm reduction events
 - 28 lock boxes provided to community members
 - 471 Drug Deactivation (Deterra) bags distributed
- Sources of Strength – Youth mental health promotion and suicide prevention program.
 - 50 high school staff & students from the three local schools were trained in March 2024
 - 63 middle school staff & students from the three local schools were trained in October 2024
- Narcan Direct – Grant received and trainer’s courses completed with project to start in 2025.

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

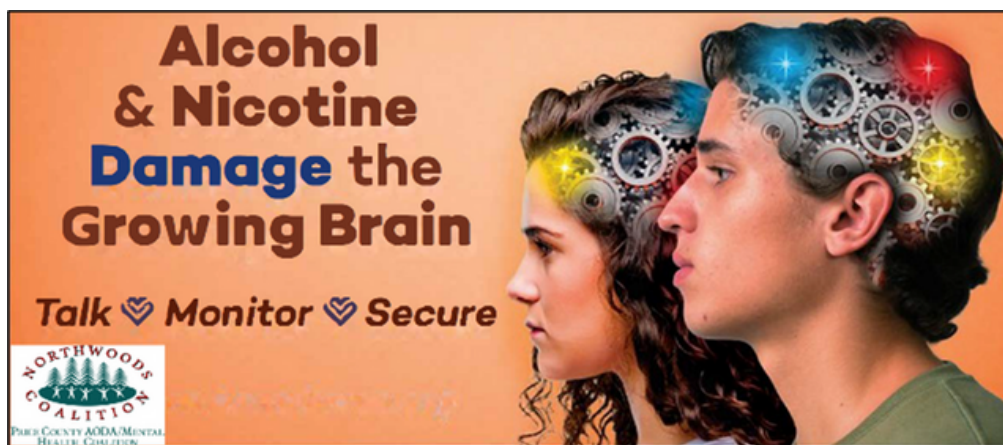
Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition

Collaboration with Schools – Education to prevent and decrease youth vaping

- The “Escape the Vape” Program was introduced to the school districts; one district uses this resource for middle school education.

Community Education

- Billboard placed in Park Falls on the impact of alcohol and nicotine on the growing brain.
- Social media posts regarding the dangers of vaping and resources for quitting.
- Participated in educating legislators running for office in 2024 about the dangers of vaping.



Partnerships for Success (PFS)

Underage drinking prevention and mental health for youth ages 14-21

- Marshfield Clinic Health System Center for Community Health Advancement received a Partnerships for Success grant to focus on underage drinking prevention and mental health for youth ages 14-21.
- Price, along with Barren, Oneida, Forest, and Portage Counties, were selected as sub-recipients of this 5-year grant as data shows these counties exceed national, and often state, averages on various data points related to alcohol consumption.
- Work started in 2024: building infrastructure and skills needed for grant years 2-5, completing a Community Assessment, and establishing a workgroup to complete a Population Health Planning Tool.

Environmental Health

<p>Lead Testing: Children tested at 1 and 2 years of age and between the ages of 3 and 5, if never done before.</p> <p>95 children tested 3 children with elevated lead levels (\geq 3.5mcg/dl)</p>	<p>Well Water Testing: Drinking water sample analysis for private wells & follow-up on unsafe drinking water results.</p> <p>3 wells tested 1 well required follow-up for unsafe results</p>
<p>Human Health Hazards: Complaint investigations & enforcement.</p> <p>7 complaints</p>	<p>Radon Testing: Test kits are distributed to owners for testing.</p> <p>4 had low results & 2 had high results</p>

Animal Bite Investigations	27 dogs	4 cats	3 bats
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Maternal, Child, & Family Health

Health Check

A preventive health check-up for anyone under the age of 21 who is currently eligible for Wisconsin BadgerCare.

15 Health Checks completed

School Health

12 Health Plans developed
25 Students seen per request
10 Health Education presentations

Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC)

A BadgerCare benefit that helps pregnant individuals get the support and services they need, with the goal of having a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby. Public Health Nurses work one-on-one with pregnant individuals during their pregnancy and up to 60 days after delivery.

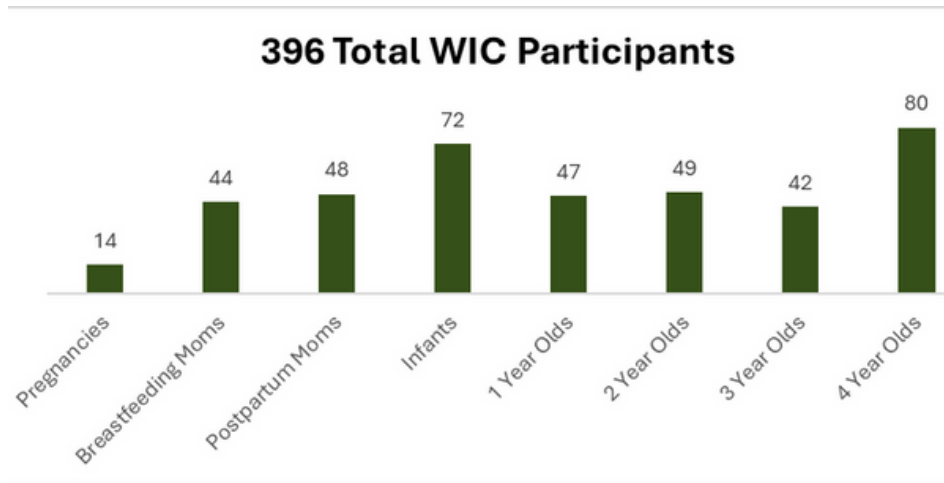
2 mothers enrolled in PNCC

Reproductive Health

Office Visits	Initial Visits	Annual Visits	STI Visits	Pregnancy Tests
170	15	47	13	9

WIC (Women, Infants, & Children)

The goal of the WIC program is to help pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and younger children achieve better health and nutrition.



\$166,555.05
WIC dollars redeemed at
3 local stores

\$1,872
Farmer's Market
dollars redeemed

Mom Strong Campaign

Outreach campaigns done through referrals from insurance companies.

77 families referred - 28 were eligible and enrolled in WIC



Access to and Linkage with Clinical Care

Targeted Case Management

A BadgerCare service to help children and their families gain access to and coordinate medical, social, educational, vocational, and other services.

6 Families = 13 Children enrolled in TCM

Nursing Services

Skilled nurse visits that included: blood pressure check, ear check, or rash assessment.

19 Visits completed

Foundational Capabilities

Assessment & Surveillance

Price County Public Health, along with the Mental Health/AODA Coalition and the Health & Wellness Coalition, continued to work on the priorities identified in the 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan throughout the year.

Additionally, Price County Public Health met with stakeholders in 2024 to review the data collected from the 2023 Community Needs Assessment and selected priority areas for the next Community Health Improvement Plan. The priorities selected include Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, and Chronic Disease.

Community Partnership Development

Price County Public Health continued to facilitate partnerships through participation in coalitions and community events:

- AODA/Mental Health Coalition
- Health and Wellness Coalition
- Northwoods Tobacco Free Coalition
- Partnering with Nutrition sites for flu vaccination clinics
- Information at the Veterans' Health Expo
- Booth at the Price County Fair

Health for All

Price County continued to prioritize health for all individuals in our community throughout 2024 by participating in community outreach events and youth activities, offering educational sessions at nutrition sites, and providing home vaccinations for vulnerable individuals.



Organizational Competencies

Price County Public Health implemented a 5-year Workforce Development Plan in 2024. Part of this plan includes staff completing a public health core competency assessment every two years to identify areas for individual and unit training. Ensuring a competent, skilled, and dynamic workforce remains essential to move Price County Public Health forward.

Policy Development & Support

Throughout 2024, Price County Public Health ensured quality and continuity of programs through the maintenance and creation of policies and procedures.

Foundational Capabilities

Accountability & Performance Management

Price County Public Health continued to ensure accountability and performance management through the implementation of our 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. Priority areas of this plan include communication, workforce capacity, and fiscal management.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

Price County Public Health strives to maintain a strong public health preparedness program to help staff respond to public health emergencies efficiently and effectively. In 2024, staff participated in these routine exercises and skills training as part of this preparedness program:

- Mass Influenza School Immunization Exercise (10/14/24-11/14/24)
- Mass Tdap Exercise for students at the three Public School Districts (9/10/24–10/10/24)
- Mass Influenza Immunization Clinics offsite in various locations within Price County (Fall 2024)
- Test drill of the Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (Spring 2024)
- Participation in the Hazard Vulnerability Assessment through the North Central Wisconsin Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (NCW HERC)
- Participation in the NCW HERC MRSE (medical response and surge exercise) (April 2024)
- Training at the 2024 Wisconsin Governor’s Conference on Emergency Management

Communications

Throughout 2024, Price County Public Health utilized Facebook, the county website, local newspapers, a monthly Public Health Update, and educational displays to communicate key public health information.

Facebook Data:

- 13,011 - number of people who saw any content from the page
- 2,491 - number of times the page was visited



AGING & DISABILITY/SENIOR SERVICES UNIT

Mission

The mission of the Price County Aging and Disability Unit is to provide an array of services to meet the needs and enhance the lives of our adult citizens who are aging, elderly, disabled or vulnerable.

General Purpose

The general purpose of Aging and Disability is to provide services for the elderly and disabled and their caregivers/families that improves quality of life, improves access to services and resources, empowers individuals to make informed choices, assists individuals to remain in their homes as long as possible, and provides a safety net for our vulnerable residents through adult protective services.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED

Aging and Disability Resource Center

Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program

National Family Caregiver Support Program

Elder Abuse/ Neglect

Elder Benefit Specialist

Disability Benefit Specialist

Health Promotion & Disease Prevention

Senior Services-
Congregate & Home Delivered

Elderly & Disabled Transportation

Guardianship/ Protective Placement

Dementia Care Specialist

Dementia & Caregiver Support Network

Aging, Disability & Senior Resource Directory

Elderly & Disabled Transportation Program

The purpose of this program is to promote the general public health and welfare by providing transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities, and to thereby improve and promote the maintenance of human dignity and self-sufficiency by affording the benefits of transportation services to those people who would not otherwise have an available or accessible method of transportation.

7	994	231	29,259
Volunteer Drivers	Volunteered Hours	Driver Trips	Miles

Persons age 60 or older, or disabled individuals of any age, are allowed up to 3 scheduled trips per week, provided a driver is available and other sources of transportation, such as family and friends, are not available. Priority is given to those requesting rides to medical appointments or to work. Other types of trips may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Bay Area Rural Transit (BART)

Bay Area Rural Transit offers a demand-responsive public transportation service, providing rides within a 5-mile radius of downtown Park Falls or Phillips. The service from Park Falls also includes pickups in Butternut and Fifield. Additionally, it facilitates connections between these two communities four times each weekday and twice on Saturday.

10,204 stops
Park Falls Route

4,188 stops
Phillips Route

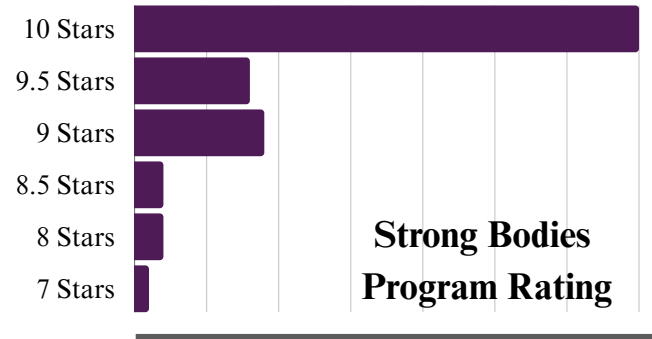
Another route is available from Monday through Saturday, which offers transportation between Phillips, Fifield, and Park Falls to Minocqua three times daily. Passengers can also transfer to Northwoods Transit in Minocqua on weekdays, continuing their journey to St. Germain, Eagle River, Three Lakes, Rhinelander, Phelps, Land O' Lakes, and other nearby communities.

2,028 stops
Minocqua Route

Strong Bodies

Strong Bodies is an evidence-based exercise program that meets for one hour twice weekly, typically for 10 weeks. Each class includes progressive weight training as well as balance and flexibility exercises. Strength training increases strength, flexibility, bone density, muscle mass, and the ability to complete activities of daily living. It also reduces the risk of falls and chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and heart disease.

Strong Bodies is now available at five locations: Catawba, Ogema, Park Falls, Phillips, Brantwood, and also through virtual sessions. A session was also offered at Flambeau Heights in Park Falls, with 6 residents participating.



Senior Nutrition Services

Senior dining programs offer nutritious, well-balanced meals that promote better health and combat isolation by providing opportunities for social interaction.

Senior Dining Sites are located in five communities across Price County:

- Park Falls
- Phillips
- Kennan
- Ogema
- Brantwood

In addition, home-delivered meals are accessible in other communities. Each site serves meals four days a week. Senior Dining is available to individuals 60 or older and their spouse/domestic partner, regardless of their age, and adults with disabilities who live with and accompany an eligible older adult to the site.

While each dining site is unique, all locations occasionally host a variety of activities designed to encourage friendship, fellowship, and enjoyment.

8,668
Congregate
Meals Served



11,088
Home Delivered
Meals

Adult Protective Services Elder/Adult at Risk

Guardianships and Protective Placements

Adult Protective Services staff will consult about and accept referrals regarding adults who need a legal decision maker due to alleged incompetency.

A protective placement may be completed for persons who are at risk without 24-hour care and in need of "residential care and custody".



Emergency Protective Placement Facility

Adult Protective Services collaborates with the Woodlands Enhanced Health Services Commission through Clark County Rehabilitation and Living to deliver emergency protective services for our residents.

2

Emergency Protective Placements

Alzheimer’s Family Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP) & National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)

Research indicates that caregivers face significant emotional, physical, and financial stress, which can negatively impact their health. Price County provides two local support programs for caregivers:

- **AFCSP:** This program helps Wisconsin families provide at-home care for loved ones suffering from irreversible dementia.
- **NFCSP:** This program supports families and informal caregivers in maintaining home care for their loved ones for as long as possible, with a primary focus on supporting caregivers.

Education and Support for Caregivers are provided through the following:

- The Caregiver Assistance Newsletter was distributed to participants and other caregivers throughout the year via mail, support groups, and outreach
- Reference books regarding caregiving were distributed to caregivers
- Outreach with Veterans Service Officer
- Equipment purchased to support Project Lifesaver

**3 AFCSP
Participants Served**

**8 NFCSP
Participants Served**

Adult Protective Services Elder/Adult at Risk

Price County Health and Human Services serves as the primary agency for investigations and responses related to Adult and Elder Adult at Risk in Price County. Our mission is to safeguard vulnerable adults in their times of need. We aim to reduce safety risks while promoting as much independence as possible in the least restrictive environment.

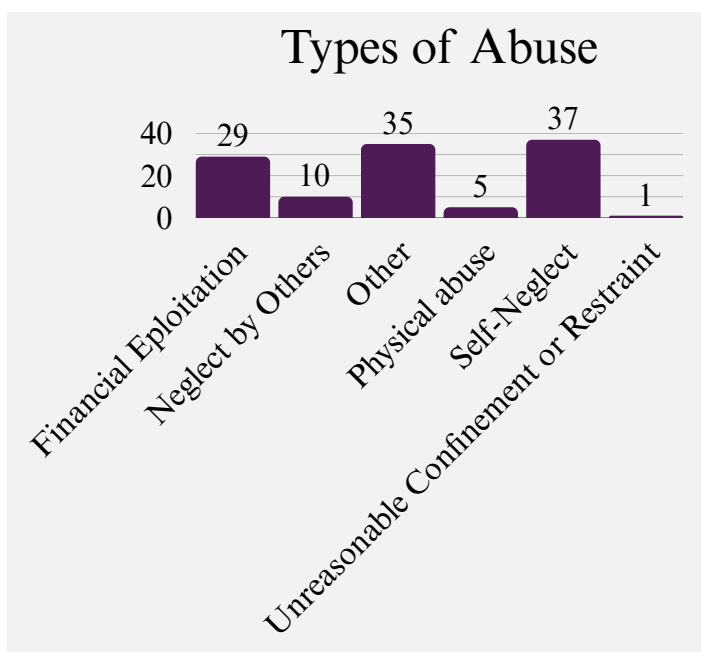
- Reports of abuse or self-neglect are thoroughly investigated.
- Interventions are provided, including access to the Elder Abuse Grant for direct services to individuals aged 60 and older.

Referrals to law enforcement are made for prosecution when appropriate.

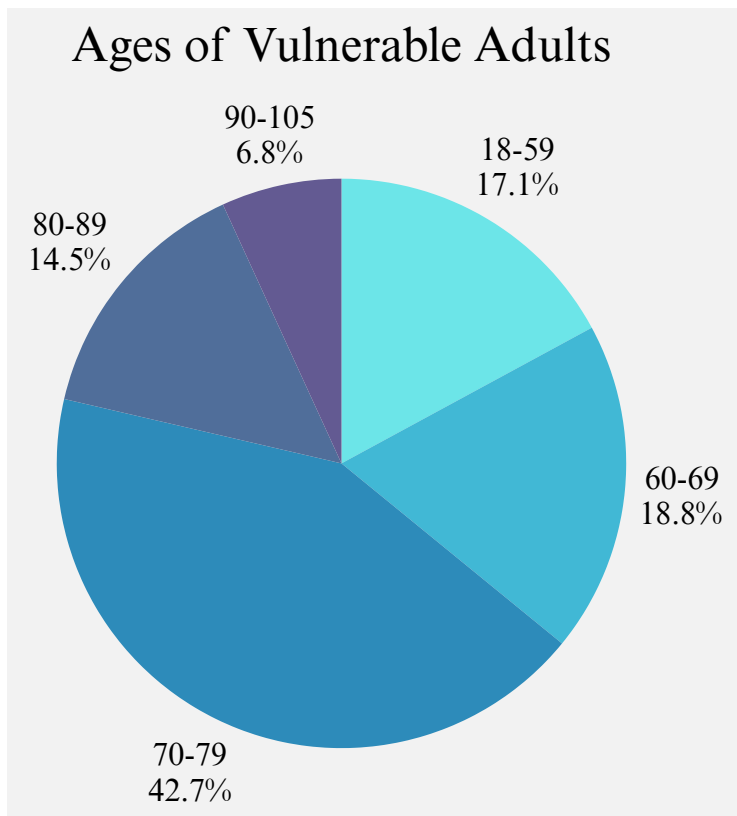
9 Persons served by the Elder Abuse Direct Services Grant

Interdisciplinary Team

Adult Protective Services facilitates an Interdisciplinary Team (I Team) as required for our Elder Abuse Direct Services Grant. Collaboration with our community partners in investigations and response to Elder Abuse situations is the goal.



125 Referrals
125 Reports of Abuse Investigated



Financial Abuse Cases:

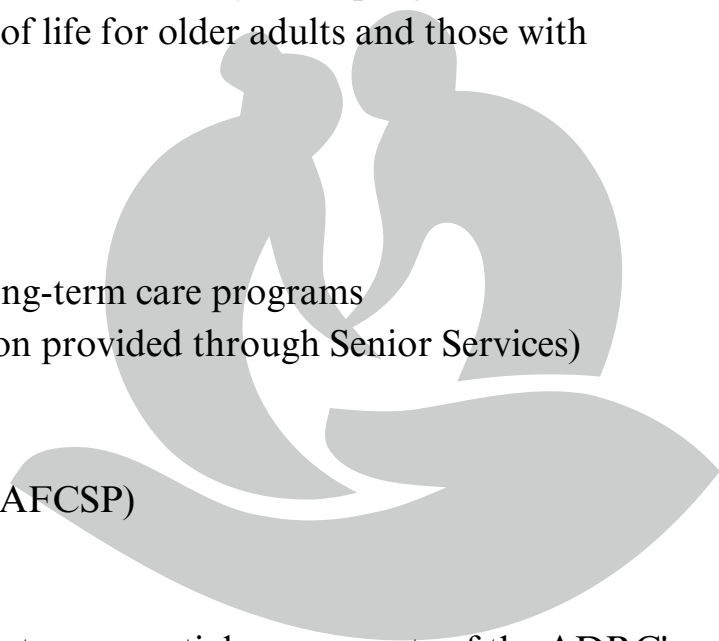
In 2024, Wisconsin residents lost 108 million dollars to fraud, according to the Federal Trade Commission. The types of fraud reported include: imposter scams, ATM/Bitcoin ATM misuse, joint account holder misuse, relationship scams, check deposit turnaround scams, credit card and identity theft, and investment scams.

Aging & Disability Resource Center of the North (ADRC)

The ADRC of the North serves residents of Wisconsin's Ashland, Bayfield, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties, and members of the Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles and Red Cliff Tribes.

Price County is a branch that provides a no-cost, single point of contact for information and assistance related to aging or adults living with a disability. The programs and resources provided aim to improve the quality of life for older adults and those with disabilities. Services offered include:

- Information and referral
- Options counseling
- Long-term care functional screens
- Eligibility screening and enrollment into long-term care programs
- Elder Benefit Specialist (contact information provided through Senior Services)
- Disability Benefit Specialist
- Memory screens
- Caregiver support programs (NFCSP and AFCSP)



Sharing resources and offering caregiver support are essential components of the ADRC's activities. To assist seniors, families, caregivers, and community partners, Price County created and distributed its Aging, Disability & Senior Resource Directory throughout the county and beyond.

The ADRC serves:

- Intellectually/Cognitively Disabled
- Developmentally Disabled
- Elderly
- Physically Disabled
- Mental Health-Based Disability
- Substance Abuse

Activities documented:

- Referrals for Service - 680
- Long-Term Care Functional Screens - 68
- Information and Assistance - 385
- Assisted with Medicaid Application - 31
- Options Counseling - 163
- Enrollment Counseling - 101
- Disenrollment Counseling - 31



Aging & Disability Resource Center of the North (ADRC)

Elder Benefits Specialist

An Elder Benefit Specialist is a trained professional dedicated to assisting older adults over the age of 60 facing challenges with their private or government benefits.

Elder Benefit Specialist can help:

- Provide accurate and current information on your benefits
- Suggest alternative actions to secure benefits or appeal the denial of benefits
- Advocate on your behalf with other parties
- Explain what legal action or other possible solution is required
- Refer you to an appropriate attorney when necessary

99

Clients

78

New Cases Opened

Disability Benefits Specialist

In March 2024, the position of Disability Benefit Specialist in Price County was filled. Disability benefit specialists provide trusted and confidential advice to people with disabilities who are between the ages of 18 and 59. These specialists help people with disabilities by answering questions and solving problems related to:

- Health insurance
- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Social Security
- Other public and private benefits

83

Residents Served

Dementia Care Specialist

A Dementia Care Specialist is equipped to support individuals facing memory or behavioral changes, as well as those who care for or work with someone affected by dementia.

These specialists possess in-depth knowledge of community resources and can offer valuable information while creating tailored care plans for both individuals and caregivers seeking assistance. The Dementia Care Specialist facilitates a monthly support group in Phillips, Park Falls, and virtually online

47

Consults

16

Memory Screens

A Memory Cafe offers a secure, welcoming, and social environment for individuals with dementia and their caregivers, helping to alleviate the social isolation often linked to this condition.

Children & Youth

Mission

The mission of the Price County Children & Youth Division is to assure the welfare and safety of children and youth in Price County and to promote accountability and responsibility for juvenile offenders.

General Purpose

The general purpose of Children & Youth programs is to administer state and federally mandated child protective service and juvenile justice programs.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED

Child Protective Service (CPS)

Early Intervention Program

Early Intervention - Capacity Building

Foster Care Program

Home Detention

Independent Living Program

In-Home Service

Juvenile Restitution/Community Service

Kinship Care Program

Safe & Stable Families Program

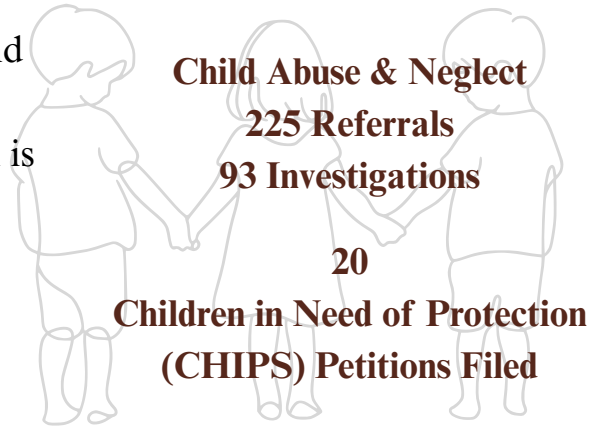
Out of Home Care

Targeted Safety Support Funds

Youth Justice

Child Protective Services (CPS)

Child Protection Services provides assessments, and ongoing services for children who are in need of protection and services. Child welfare intervention is sometimes needed to assist families in stressful / manageable situations.



477
Total Intakes Received

53
After-Hour Calls

Promoting Safe & Stable Families (PSSF)

PSSF prioritizes keeping children safe and families together through various programs and initiatives. These efforts focus on preventing child abuse and neglect, promoting family reunification when children have been temporarily removed, and ensuring safe, stable, and permanent living situations for all children

42
Families

67
Children

Targeted Safety Support Funds (TSSF)

TSSF serves families when children are unsafe and at risk of removal from their home. TSSF reduces trauma to children by keeping children safely in home with their families. It provides support and resources to build on family strengths.

The primary goal of the Wisconsin Targeted Safety Support Funds (TSSF) Program is to keep families together by:

- Increasing parental protective capacities
- Decreasing out-of-home placements
- Helping families develop formal and informal supports
- Reducing maltreatment to children

Supporting reunification planning to prevent re-entry The TSSF Program reduces trauma to children by:

- Keeping children safe with their families
- Providing support and resources to build on family strengths
- Preventing future maltreatment

8
Families

17
Children

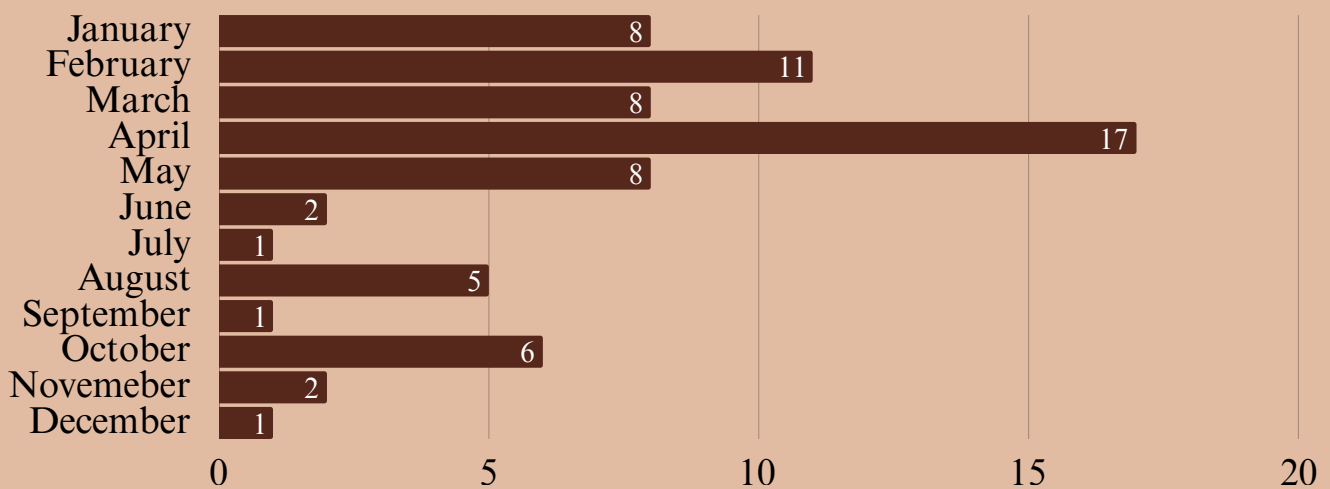
Youth Justice

The vision for Wisconsin's Youth Justice (YJ) System incorporates a focus on prevention and diversion with the provision of accountability and services to youth and families to prepare them to thrive. The YJ system in Wisconsin is community-based, designed to serve the greatest number of youth through local prevention and diversion services and reduce the number served out-of-home.

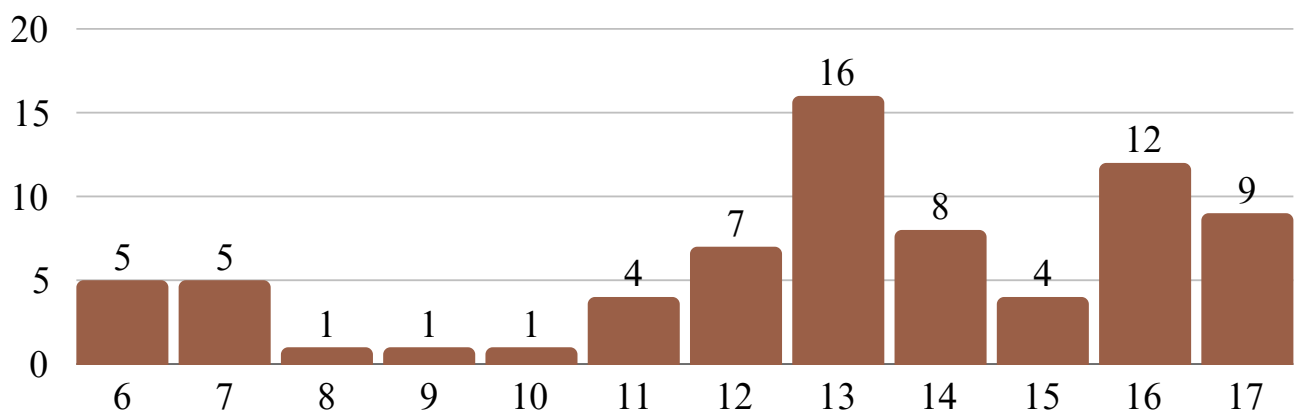
70 Served

Juvenile Court Intake Services, Court Disposition, Intensive Supervision Program, Electronic Monitoring

Referrals by Month



Referrals by Age



Youth Justice

Service	# Served
Juveniles in Need of Protection (JIPS) Petitions Filed	4
Delinquency Petitions Filed	9
Youth Aids Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse (AODA)	12
Secure Detention	0
Home Detention/Electronic Monitoring	0
Capacity Building Early Intervention New Direction Program & On the Right Track Program	14

Foster Care

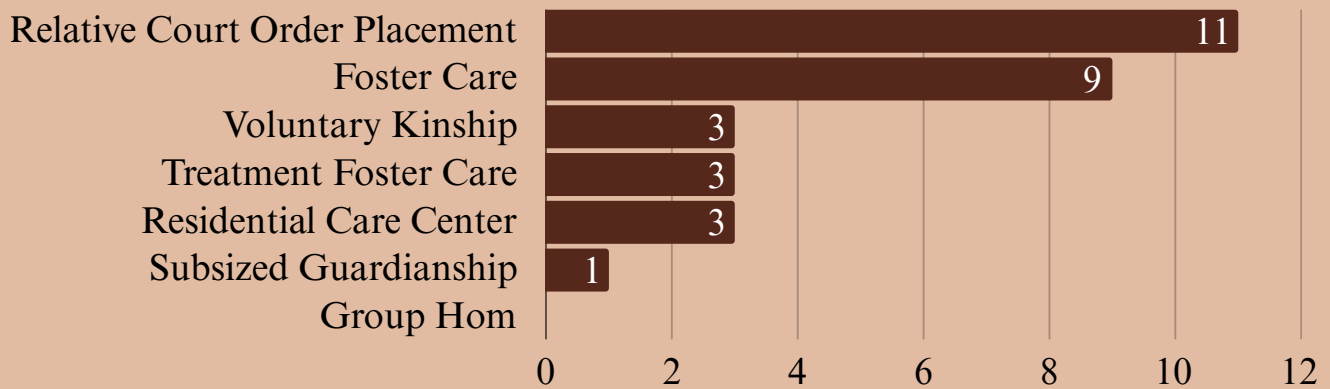
Foster parents play a vital role as partners not only to children but also to their families and our agency. When it is determined that a child cannot currently remain in their home, foster parents—often relatives or close family friends—step in to provide temporary care until the child can either return home or achieve permanency through guardianship or adoption.

Foster parents and our agency work together with the child and their family to ensure that the foster care experience is temporary and focused on supporting the family in making necessary changes, allowing the child to safely live at home and within their community. The primary goal of foster care is reunification, which involves children returning to their families. However, in situations where reunification is not feasible, guardianship or adoption will be considered as permanent solutions for the child.

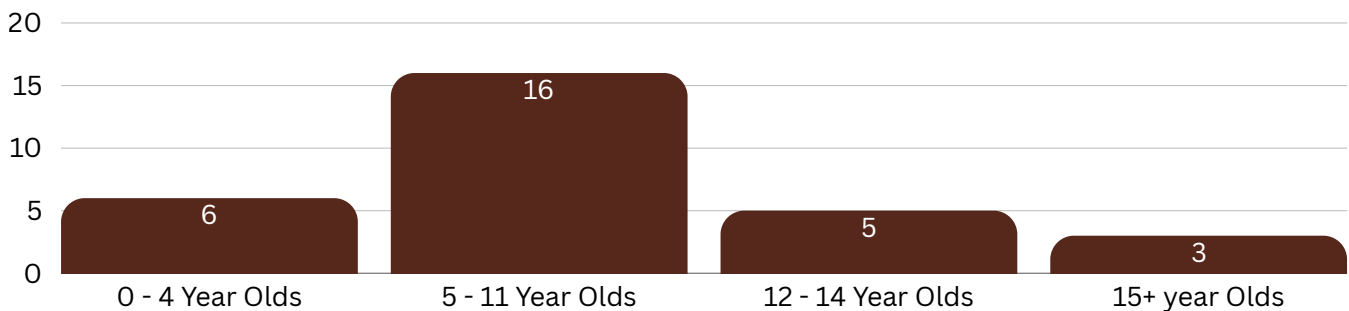
Out of Home Placements

30 Children were placed in out of home care	15 Children were placed <u>IN</u> County	15 Childred were place <u>OUT</u> of County	66% Drug Related placements
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Types of Placements



Ages of Children in Care:

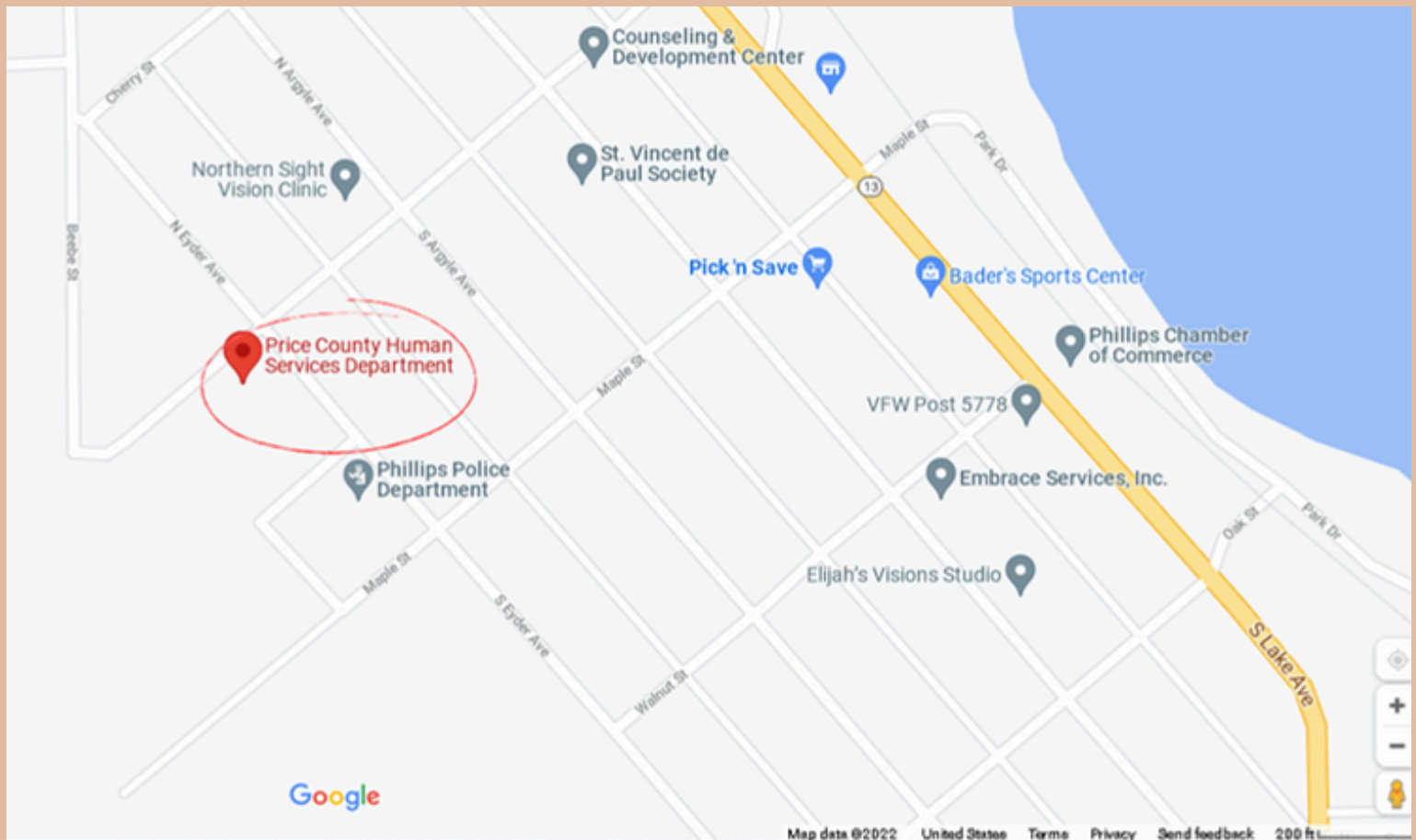


Cost of Placements for Children per Month:

- Court Ordered Relative Placement/Voluntary Kinship: \$375
- Foster Care/ Subsidized Guardianship: \$420 - \$1,000
- Treatment Foster Care: \$3,000 - \$4,000
- Group Home: \$8,000 - \$10,000
- Residential Care Center: \$10,000 - \$18,000
- Secure Detention/Corrections: \$6,000 - \$15,000

\$509,297
Annual Placement Cost

General Information



**Price County Normal Building
104 S. Eyder Ave.
Phillips, Wisconsin 54555**

Phone 715-339-2158

Fax 715-339-4018

Email hhsd@co.price.wi.us

Web <http://co.price.wi.us/190/Health-Human-Services>

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

They are the backbone of Price County and could not operate without them. We are grateful to all volunteers and community partners that work and donate monetarily to help benefit those we serve in Northern Wisconsin.