

Family Promise of Waukesha County



SHELTER DIVERSION PROGRAM:

Outcomes & Impact

WISBOS Quarterly Meeting

May 30, 2025

What is Shelter Diversion:

Shelter Diversion is:

- A strategy to help people avoid entering emergency shelter
- Focused on identifying safe, immediate housing alternatives
- Paired with creative problem-solving and short-term support



Program Goals & Why it Matters

- ✓ Reduce emergency shelter demand
- ✓ Help people maintain dignity and autonomy
- ✓ Use flexible, cost-effective supports
- ✓ Preserve shelter beds for highest need cases



Metrics We Track



Number of families diverted from shelter



Housing stability after 30/60/90 days



Cost savings vs. traditional shelter



Demographics and barriers addressed



Family Well-being



Point in Time (PIT)



Program Outcomes

(Past 12 Months)



 **Total Diversion Inquiries: 154**

 **Successfully Diverted: 88 (57%)**

 **Stayed Housed After 90 Days: 78**
(89% of those diverted)

 **Average Cost per Diversion:**
\$700 total

 **Cost of Shelter Stay (30 days):**
~\$1,200 per person



What's Next?

- Collaboration
- Housing referrals and landlord partnerships
- Volunteer engagement
- Advocacy and awareness



Thank You!

Drewshika Watkins

Shelter Diversion Coordinator

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