

Memorandum

To: Members of the House Human Services Committee
From: Ken Schatz, Commissioner of DCF
Date: February 22, 2016
Re: Follow up from DCF Budget Presentation

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Reach Up reports last week. The discussion generated questions we are responding to with this memo. Please feel free to be in touch with Karen Vastine (Karen.vastine@vermont.gov) if you have any additional questions.

How many people enrolled in Vermont Rental Subsidy (VRS) receive a Section 8 voucher?

- 2012 = 16 out of 20 households received Section 8/FUV, 1 household received a project based voucher; 17 total households (21 adults, 24 children).
- 2013* = 0 out of 52 households received Section 8/ FUV, 4 households received a project based voucher; 4 total households (5 adults, 4 children).
- 2014 = 62 out of 85 households received Section 8/FUV, 3 households received a project based voucher; 65 total households (82 adults, 106 children).
- 2015 = 100 out of 143 households received Section 8/FUV, 2 households received a project based voucher; 102 total households (148 adults, 189 children).

* Please note in 2013, no Section 8 vouchers were issued due to sequestration.

Would you please send us a copy of the Self-Sufficiency Matrix?

Please find the attached.



Self-Sufficiency Matrix

Participant Name: _____

SSN: _____

Phone: _____

Case Manager: _____

Date: _____

DOMAIN		1	2	3	4	5	Tally		Participant Priority Y/N	
		<i>Interfere</i>		<i>Neutral</i>		<i>Strength</i>				
Shelter	Housing	Homeless or threatened with eviction	In transitional, temporary or substandard housing; and/or current rent/mortgage payment is unaffordable (over 30% of income)	In stable housing that is safe but only marginally adequate	Household is in safe, adequate, subsidized housing	Household is in safe, adequate, unsubsidized housing				
Transportation	Mobility	No access to transportation, public or private; may have car that is inoperable	Transportation is available (including bus), but unreliable, unpredictable, unaffordable; may have car but no insurance, license, etc	Transportation is available (including bus) and reliable, but limited and/or inconvenient; drivers are licensed and minimally insured	Transportation (including bus) is generally accessible to meet basic travel needs	Transportation is readily available and affordable; car is adequately insured				
Food & Clothing	Food	No food or means to prepare it. Relies to a significant degree on other sources of free or low-cost food	Household is on 3 Squares VT	Can meet basic food needs, but requires occasional assistance	Can meet basic food needs without assistance	Can choose to purchase any food household desires				

DOMAIN		1	2	3	4	5	Tally		Participant Priority Y/N	
		<i>Interfere</i>		<i>Neutral</i>		<i>Strength</i>				
Finance	Income	No income	Inadequate income and/or spontaneous or inappropriate spending	Can meet basic needs with subsidy; appropriate spending	Can meet basic needs and manage debt without assistance	Income is sufficient, well managed; has discretionary income and is able to save				
	Credit History	Outstanding judgements or bankruptcy/foreclosure with no credit repair plan	Outstanding judgements or bankruptcy/foreclosure with a credit repair plan or debt in collections with no credit repair plan	No credit history or debt in collections with a credit repair plan	Moderate credit rating	Good credit/manageable debt ratio				
Health & Safety	Health Care	No medical coverage with immediate need	No medical coverage and great difficulty accessing medical care when needed. Some household members may be in poor health	Some members (e.g. children) have medical insurance, but adults lack coverage	All members can get medical care when needed, but may strain budget	All members are covered by affordable, adequate health insurance				
	Disabilities	Acute or chronic symptoms affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.	Sometimes or periodically has acute or chronic symptoms affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.	Rarely has acute or chronic symptoms affecting housing, employment, social interactions, etc.	Asymptomatic - condition controlled by services or medication	No identified disability				

DOMAIN		1	2	3	4	5	Tally		Participant Priority Y/N	
		<i>Interfere</i>		<i>Neutral</i>		<i>Strength</i>				
Child Development & Education	Childcare (0=n/a)	Needs childcare, but none is available/accessible and/or child is not eligible	Childcare is unreliable or unaffordable, inadequate supervision is a problem for childcare that is available	Affordable subsidized childcare is available, but limited	Reliable, affordable childcare is available, no need for subsidies	Able to select quality childcare of choice				
	Children's Education (0=n/a)	One or more eligible children not enrolled in school	All eligible children enrolled in school, but one or more children not attending classes	Enrolled in school, but one or more children only occasionally attending classes	Enrolled in school and attending classes most of the time	All eligible children enrolled and attending on a regular basis and making progress				
Social & Emotional Health	Mental Health	Danger to self or others; recurring suicidal ideation; experiencing severe difficulty in day-to-day life due to psychological problems	Recurrent mental health symptoms that may affect behavior, but not a danger to self/others; persistent problems with functioning due to mental health symptoms	Mild symptoms may be present but are transient; only moderate difficulty in functioning due to mental health problems	Minimal symptoms that are expected responses to life stressors; only slight impairment in functioning	Symptoms are absent or rare; good or superior functioning in wide range of activities; no more than every day problems or concerns				
	Substance Abuse	Meets criteria for severe abuse/dependence; resulting problems so severe that institutional living or hospitalization may be necessary	Meets criteria for dependence; preoccupation with use and/or obtaining drugs/alcohol; withdrawal or withdrawal avoidance behaviors evident; use results in avoidance or neglect of essential life activities	Use within last 6 months; evidence of persistent or recurrent social, occupational, emotional or physical problems related to use (such as disruptive behavior or housing problems); problems have persisted for at least one month	Client has used during last 6 months, but no evidence of persistent or recurrent social, occupational, emotional, or physical problems related to use; no evidence of recurrent dangerous use	No drug use/alcohol abuse in last 6 months				
Is client in treatment?										

DOMAIN		1	2	3	4	5	Tally		Participant Priority Y/N	
		<i>Interfere</i>		<i>Neutral</i>		<i>Strength</i>				
Family Interactions	Safety	Home or residence is not safe, lethality is high	Safety is threatened, temporary protection is available, lethality is high	Safety is minimally adequate, safety planning is essential	Home is safe, however, future is uncertain, safety planning is important	Home is apparently safe and stable				
	Family Relations	Lack of necessary support from family or friends; abuse (DV, child) is present or there is child neglect	Family/friends may be supportive, but lack ability or resources to help; family members do not relate well with one another; potential for abuse or neglect	Some support from family/friends; family members acknowledge and seek to change negative behaviors; are learning to communicate and support	Strong support from family or friends. Household members support each other's efforts	Has healthy/expanding support network; household is stable and communication is consistently open				
	Parenting Skills (0=n/a)	Parenting skills are lacking and there is no extended family support	Parenting skills are minimal and there is limited extended family support	Parenting skills are apparent but not adequate	Parenting skills are adequate	Parenting skills are well developed				
Legal Issues	Legal	Current outstanding tickets or warrants or other serious unresolved legal issues	Current charges/trial pending; noncompliance with probation/parole; legal issues impacting housing qualifications	Fully compliant with probation/parole terms; past non-violent felony convictions; working on plan to resolve other legal issues	Has successfully completed probation/parole within past 12 months, no new charges filed; recently resolved other legal issues	No active legal issues in more than 12 months and/or no felony/significant legal/criminal history				

DOMAIN		1	2	3	4	5	Tally		Participant Priority Y/N	
		<i>Interfere</i>		<i>Neutral</i>		<i>Strength</i>				
Community Relations	Community Involvement	Not applicable due to crisis situation; in "survival" mode	Socially isolated and/or no social skills and/or lacks motivation to become involved	Lacks knowledge of ways to become involved or new to community	Some community involvement (church, advisory group, support group), but has barriers such as transportation, childcare issues	Actively involved in community (church, etc.)				
Adult Education	Adult Education	Literacy problems and/or no high school diploma/GED are serious barriers to employment	Enrolled in literacy and/or GED program and/or has sufficient command of English to where language is not a barrier to employment	Has high school diploma/GED but is lacking specific vocational skills	Has high school diploma/GED and is enrolled in additional education/training to improve employment situation	Has completed education/training needed to become employable. No literacy problems				
Adult Employment	Employment	No job	Temporary, part-time or seasonal; inadequate pay, no benefits	Employed full time; inadequate pay; few or no benefits	Employed full time with adequate pay and benefits	Maintains permanent employment with adequate income and benefits				
Work Skills & Habits	Life Skills	Unable to meet basic needs such as hygiene, food, activities of daily living	Can meet a few but not all needs of daily living without assistance	Can meet most but not all daily living needs without assistance	Able to meet all basic needs of daily living without assistance	Able to provide beyond basic needs of daily living for self and family				
Referrals:							Tally Total			
Demonstrated basic literacy skills: YES NO Rationale:										