

Housing Navigator Positions and Related Services

Urban Triage – holds a contract from Dane County to provide housing navigation services at Beacon, Job Center and UT with two Housing Navigator positions. This contract was most recently held by LSS and prior to that TRC. Since Urban Triage took the contract over in 2024 the big change is that you must be literally homeless (car, street, shelter) to receive support. If you are not that category 1 level homeless, you can use their webpage but that's about it. That has left a huge gap in services since doubled up individuals and families cannot get any help. There is very little place for folks to turn. These positions are funded by GPR and most likely not at risk of disappearing, although the contract priorities/eligibility could shift slightly through the years as seen in this recent shift. There are two Housing Navigators to work with that population. Below are links that provide more information about Urban Triage's Housing Navigation services that serve unhoused individuals:

<https://urbantriage.org/housing-navigation-services>

<https://www.danecountyhomeless.org/housingnavigationservices>

Porchlight – they have a position in Sun Prairie that is staffed by a person name Leticia. She provides housing search support, navigation etc. Not sure how this position is funded but it predates the pandemic so not ARPA.

Tenant Resource Center – through the County budget process this past year, the County picked up half the tab for a new housing navigator/case management position in Sun prairie. Sun Prairie pays for half of the position through their City budget, GPR I believe.

There are some small programs that do help folks work with homeless families, outside of the shelter system. I wouldn't count these as navigators, but *programs* that offer housing search support in addition to some case management and some financial support. These include a couple programs at Wayforward (formerly Middleton Outreach Ministry) that works on the westside of Madison, both funded not ARPA.

YWCA has Family Housing Stability that I believe is funded through the Predolin Foundation primarily or entirely.

Urban Triage and Wayforward are the service providers for the Doubled Up pilot program, which IS funded through ARPA monies. These are all programs with small caseloads and not large scale housing search/navigation support. There is Shelter from the Storm in Sun Prairie that is a transitional housing program with case management which prioritizes Sun prairie families. There are not resources to be able to meet and provide one on one services for those doubled up or facing housing insecurity. Serving that population is more self-serve in nature such as utilizing the searchable feature for housing resources at: <https://urbantriage.org/housing-services/housing-resource-list>

Formal shelter system - If families are in the formal shelter system, specifically Salvation Army, are supposed to have case management for housing search support.

New Bridge – probably not of that much interest to your group but Ill toss it in. They have housing case management available to seniors who qualify for their services. I do send seniors there for support, who I suppose at times could be caring for minor children but probably not often. Caveat is that if someone qualifies for CareWisconsin or another managed care org, they are not eligible to get services from there.

Using School Facilities for Family Shelter in Sun Prairie

Hotel stays for families are being provided in Sun Prairie through ARPA funds and then the city of Sun Prairie released some funding for unhoused initiatives. There have been conversations with local stakeholders around other options, including the use of school buildings as overnight emergency shelter, but this idea has not moved beyond that conversation. This idea was based on a program in California that has emergency shelter for families in schools (Claire Bergman, MSW)

General Comments from Multiple Social Workers

Any approach that prioritizes serving only the highest risk families misses the mark in any successful homeless response. There needs to be a continuum of support and doubled up families/self-paying motel families have been left out of any broader scale response.