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COUNTY/CONISC Western P	xmx xxe Valte Humen Servi	ices (WPHS)				_	_	
PLAN YEAR	* CONTACT PERSON			(3 771)L				
2024-2025	Crystal			Zaviska				
ADDRESS			a city	1.7141	e	sivie	* 23P CODE	* PHONE MUMBER
211 E. Minr	nesota Ava		Gien	boow		MN	56334	320-634-7758
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2. * Identify challenges in employment services that are prohibiting you from properly serving MFIP/DWP families in your community.

There are some Rainbow Rider routes available to assist clients with transportation, however the service does not provide service across county lines, with the exception of Pops. Grant county does have Rainbow Rider service, however without being able to cross county lines, the ability to access the service for work opportunities is limited. Phone and internet issues are also problem. Many clients only have a phone to access the internet and with all application pretty much being online now this is a barrier to those without reliable internet or phone.

9434 characters remaining

3. * Identify the strengths in your community that you are most proud of that benefit NFIP/DWP families.

Knowing the communities and some of the things they are experiencing such as new businesses coming in, city ordinances that may be affecting housing, as well as resources surrounding communities offer expands the resources available. Sharing information about what other communities are doing to meet barrier issues such as child care are important to expand such resources. We do have a number of vendors there, connections with businesses for car repair, car insurance, housing and utilities. In this area the connections to community are imperative. Someplace Safe, Community Education, ABE and online resources for education are good examples of these connections.

In 2024 WPHS is awarded a grant to implement chore services and home making services for citizens who are in need of these services. The plan is to also partner with the CAP agency to see if the skills needed would match up with the enrollees with CEP and develop/create employment that would be flexible and during the daytime hours to allow for transportation and daycare use. This is at its infancy stage of implementation, but plan to grow rapidly.

ande characters remaining

A. Needs Statement (continued)

4. What strengths and resources do you have available to address the needs of your participants? Please check all the resources available to participants in your service area and check whether the resource is available within MFIP financial or employment services "in-house" or from a partner organization (County/Tribal Nation resources with developed connections to MFIP), and/or an external community resource or both. If you lack the resources in your service area, check the Resource Gaps column. Add any "other" resources that you consider necessary.

HFIP	Pertner	Community	Resource	
Resources	Rasources	Resources	Gape	
		2		ABE/GED
22				Aduit/elder services
			Ö	Career planning
				Childcare funds
				Chemical health services
2				Computer lab access
2				Credit counseling/financial literacy
		2	Ċ	English Language Learner (ELL)
		2		Food shelf
22				Housing assistance
2				Job dub
1				Job development
3				Job placement
23				Job retention
3				Job search workshops
				Mental health services
				On-the-job training program
22				Post-secondary education planning
2				Re-entry support
S				Short-term training
				Supported work / paid work experience
1				Transportation assistance (gas cards, bus cards)
2				Vehicle repair funds
2				Veberan Services Support
2				Volunteer opportunities
2				Youth program
0				Other

5. County/Tribal Nation Program Contact Information

Please name contacts for the following programs if different from the contact on the lower page. You only need to give a person's phone and email once.

MPIP SHOLDYNENT SERVICES STAFF CONTACT HAVE	* PHONE MUMINER	" ENAL ADDRESS	
Robble Steir	320-391-9569	robbles@rmcep.com	
• OWP STAFF CONTACT NAME	PHONE NUMBER	ENAIL ADORESS	
Robble Stelr	320-391-9569	robbles@rmcap.com	
* FERANCIAL ASSESTANCE SERVICES STAFF CONTACT NAME	PHONE NUMBER	FWAIL ADDRESS	
Crystal Zaviska	320-634-7758	crystel.zaviska@westemprairismin.uz	

Page 8 of 21

Cou	nty and Tribal Nation MFIP Bla	iniai Servi	ice Agreem	ent			Page 4 of 2
l	A. Needs Statement (co	ntinued)					
	6. Employment Services Prov MN Statute 2561.50, Subdivision B of at least two employment and tra contracting with workforce canters collaborative effort and can docum needs. List your current employment services pr I of this form addresses provider c	Each count ining service that use mu- ent that part ces provider, list t	y, or group of a providers as (tiple employed (cipants have (s) and check	counties working coo defined under <u>MN St</u> ment and training serv choice among employ	tute 2563.49, Sub loss or that offer n ment and training	<u>division 4,</u> except in countia nultiple services options un services designed to meet s pulation served. If a Workfo	ier a specialized rce Center
	NAME	ADORE					
	Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc.	303	22nd Ave W,	Suite, Alexandria, MN	56308		
_	CONTACT PERSON		NUMBER	EKAL			
	Robbie Steir	320-	391-9269	robbles@macap.com	n		
	Population Served 🛃 MFIP ES	DWP ES	10 FSS	🛃 Teen Parents	🔁 200% FPG	Other	
	NAME	ADDRE		Suite, Alexandria, MN	84380		
_	Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc.				20300		
_]	CONTACT PERSON		ENUMBER	BIAN.			
	Robble Steir		-391-9269	robbles@rmcep.com	n 200% FPG	Cther	
	Population Served 🛛 MFIP ES	ADOXU					
_	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE	NUMBER	EMAJ,			
	Population Served () MFIP ES	DWP ES	[] FS5	Teen Parents	🗍 200% FPG	Other	
	NAME	ADDRI	285				
_	CONTACT PERSON	PHON	E HILTHUERK	EMAD.	_		
	Population Served MFIP ES	OWP ES	FSS	Teen Parents	200% FP G	D Other	

Minnese 1. "What 2 He 2 Of 3 Vf 0 Of 2. "What 3 Se	Twice Models ota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and the Diversionary Work Program (DWP) t strategies do you use for hard-to-engage participants? Check all that apply. ome visits Sanction outreach services ff-site meeting opportunities Incentives – specify: rtual appointments Workforce One Connect app ther – specify: t types of job development do you do? Check all that apply. sector job development Sindividual job development ther – specify: Sindividual job development	
1. "What 2 He 2 Of 2 Vi 1 Ot 2. "What 2. "What	t strategies do you use for hard-to-engage participants? Check all that apply. ome visits Sanction outreach services fi-site meeting opportunities Incentives – specify: trual appointments Worldorce One Connect app ther – specify: types of job development do you do? Check all that apply. sctor job development Individual job development	
1. "What 2 He 2 Of 2 Vi 1 Ot 2. "What 2. "What	t strategies do you use for hard-to-engage participants? Check all that apply. ome visits Sanction outreach services fi-site meeting opportunities Incentives – specify: trual appointments Worldorce One Connect app ther – specify: types of job development do you do? Check all that apply. sctor job development Individual job development	
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2. "What	Incentives - specify: Incentives of job development do you do? Check all that apply. actor job development Individual job development	
2. "What	rtual appointments Worldorce One Connect app ther - specify: types of job development do you do? Check ell that apply. sctor job development Signal Vidual job development	
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2. "What	t types of job development do you do? <i>Check ell that apply</i> . sctor job development 🛛 🔯 Individual job development	
Se Se	sctor job development 🛛 🛃 Individual job development	
Se Se	sctor job development 🛛 🛃 Individual job development	
	una - specials	
3. " Do y	ou have an ongoing job development partnership or sector based job development with community employers	
	p participants with employment?	
~	Wes – check all activities employer provides:	
	terview opportunities 🔯 Job skills training 🛃 Job placement 🔯 Job shadowing	
Or Or	n-site job training 🛛 🔄 Work experience 🛃 Helps plan training programs	
0 Ot	ther - specify:	
00	ther - specify:	
	w provide job retention services to amployed participants while they are receiving MF1P7 () Yes - check all that apply and answer the follow up question below:	
-	Sable to assist with issues that develop on the job	
	t skillis training 🗾 Mentoring 🗾 Transportation	
	sonal contact, with the employee How OFTER? monthly	
_	how long do you provide job retention services?	
O Les	s than 3 months 🕜 3-5 months 💿 7-12 months 🕜 Mora than one year	
5. Do vo	vu provide dol educarezanez previdence previdence dol educareza	
	Yes - check all that apply:	
🛃 Car	eer laddering 👩 Networking 🔽 Coaching/mentoring 👩 Ongoing job search 👩 Education/b	mining
C) Oth	er - specify:	_
7. * Do ye	a utilize any career pathways programs or skill assessment and credentialing programs for your participants?	
O No	Yes - check all that apply:	
🛃 Peti	imays to Prosperity (P2P) 🛛 🧾 Work Keys 🛛 🛃 National Caresr Readiness Certificate (NCRC)	

B. Service Models (continued)

Family Stabilization Services (FSS)

1.	Do you have qualified professionals available to assist with FSS cases in your service area who meet the licensure and accreditation requirements below? No Second Yes – check all that apply:
	C Licensed physician Physician assistant Advanced practice registered nurse
	Physical therapist Occupational therapist Licensed social worker
	🗍 Licensed psychologist 🦳 Certified school psychologist 🕺 Mental health professional
	Certified psychometrist Other - specify:
2.	* Do you make referrais for children of FSS participants?
	🔿 No 🌘 Yes – check all that apply:
	🗌 Children's Mental Health Services 🔰 🛃 Public Health Nurse home visiting services 🛛 🛃 Child Weilness Check-ups
	😿 Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) 🛛 🛃 Follow Along Program
	Other - spediy:
3.	* Are any of these services for children offered to non-FSS families?
	O No 💿 Yes
S	ervices for families under 200% of Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG)
1.	* Do you serve families not receiving MFIP/DWP that are under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG)?
	🔿 No 🔹 Yes
	DESCRIBE
2.	* Do you provide services to families who have exited MFIP/DWP or families at risk of receiving MFIP or the Diversionary Work Program (DWP), but are under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG)?
	🔿 No 🍙 Yes - check all the services that apply:
	[Child care 🔄 Job retantion services 🗌 GED 🗌 ABE/ELL classes
	🔽 Job postings 🛛 Computer lab access 🔲 Support services 🔲 Transportation/vehicle repair
	Other - specify:
	If yes, how long do you provide these services?
	O Up to 3 months O 6 months 12 months O Other - specify:
3.	* Do you provide services to Non-Custodial Parants (NCPs) that are under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG)?
	O No O Yas
	Describe below, Including how many NCPs you are currently serving:
4.	* Describe the process you have in place to verify income below 200% FPG for participants that are not on NFIP or DWP.
	RMCEP uses a formal intake form that validates income.

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1. "Describe how you are ensuring your services are inclusive and accessible for all.

RMCEP completes annual ADA assessments and works to remain compliant with all regulations that promote accessibility for all users. We have earned the description of an Inclusive Workforce Employer and continue to work with our staff and partners to improve on our systems that support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. RMCEP is committed to provide on-going training to our staff to continue to bring knowledge and understanding around all aspects of inclusivity.

2. " How are you working to advance equity in service delivery in your county/Tribal Nation?

RMCEP seeks to reveal the underlying conditions that lead to disparity within the hardest to serve, we are committed to promoting diversity and equity within all aspects of service delivery. We regularly train our staff to better understand and serve under-represented populations.

WPHS is invested in a person cantered model, that meets the needs of each person being served. This means taking more time for Interpreter services, meeting in person and helping outside basic eligibility criteria.

- 3. ** Do you provide equity and diversity training for workers?
 - O No
 - O Yes, voluntary
 - Yes, mandatory
- 4. * Do you have culturally specific employment services for different radal/ethnic groups?

🔿 No (Yes -	check	21	that	apply:
--------	--	-------	-------	----	------	--------

🛃 Aslan Immigrant 🛛 🔛 Hispanic/Latino 🛛 🛃 Newly arrived immigrant	
Other specify:	

D. Collaboration and Communication with Others

Workforce One

- 1. * How many Financial Workers have access to Workforce One?
 - 4
- 2. "How many Child Care assistance workers have access to Workforce One?
- 0
- 3. [•] How many support staff have access to Workforce One?

0	 	

Workforce One Connect App

1. Does your county/Tribal Nation have the Workforce One Connect app available to participants?

0	No — explain:	
	Yes - Indicate which of the following groups are	utilizing the app features in Workforce One:
	Employment services 👘 Financial workers	Child care workers
	Other specify:	

MAXIS

- 1. * How many employment services staff have MAXIS access?
 - 1
- 2. * How many managers/supervisors have MAXIS access?

1	

 Describe the process your service area uses to identify and resolve discrepancies between MAXIS and WF1 data in areas such as Family Stabilization Services coding, employment/hours, senction status, etc.

RMCEP uses both WF1 and MAXIS to verify status of cases. WF1 is used to run many reports that assist in managing cases. RMCEP will use the mismatch report to locate any discrepancies in FSS categories. When questions arise ES counselors will connect with Financial Eligibility workers.

D. Collaboration and Communication with Others (continued)

Child Care Assistance Program

- "What strategies does your agency use that involve MFIP and/or Employment Services staff to support timely and consistent receipt
 of child care assistance through the Child Care Assistance Program? *Check all that apply.*
 - 📴 Shared electronic document management system
 - 🛃 Regular case consultation meetings
 - Workers with dual MFIP and CCAP role
 - Workers with dual Employment Services and CCAP role
 - Specific CCAP workers process MFIP child care cases
 - MFIP and/or Employment Services workers receive training related to CCAP
 - 🛃 Communication with CCAP worker via phone, email or fax
 - Use of agency-developed forms or documents
 - MFTP and/or Employment Services workers assist families with completing CCAP paperwork (for example, the CCAP application)
 - MFIP and/or Employment Services workers have MEC2 Inquiry access
 - Other specify: CCAP workers attend monthly case meetings with CAP agency, Child Support officers, and EW's.
- 2. "What barriers prevent timeliness?

Overall timeliness is not an issue, when something is needed, it is requested and response times are within the day.

County and Tribal Nation NFIP Biennial Service Agreement

E. Emergency Services

- "Does your County/Tribal Nation provide emergency or crisis services from your Consolidated Fund?
 () No
 () Yes
- 2. "Submit a copy of your Emergency Assistance policy as an attachment.

Manage attachments

Describe any major changes you've made to this policy below.

Assistance with housing is also defined when a tenant receives a right to quit, a step prior to a formal eviction.

County and Tribal Nation MFIP Blennisi Service Agreement

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F. Measures

n/a

Performance Measures

Performance-based funding is determined by a service area's annualized Self-Support Index value. Review the information and report links in this section to see the effect of performance on funding and reporting, based on <u>MN Statute 2561.626. Subdivision 7</u>.

Each year a bonus to a service area's Consolidated Fund allocation will be based on its performance on the Self-Support Index in the previous April to March year.

The three-year Self-Support Index (S-SI): This measure starts with all adults receiving MFIP or DWP cash assistance in a quarter and tracks what percentage of them, three years later, are no longer receiving family cash assistance or are working an average of 30 hours a weak if still receiving cash assistance. Those who left MFIP after reaching 60 counted months and those who left due to 100 percent sanction are only counted as a success if they worked an average of 30 hours per weak in their last month of eligibility or if they began receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) after family cash assistance and ended. To provide fair comparisons across aervice areas, DHS calculates a "Range of Expected Performance" for the S-SI that is based on local caseload characteristics and economic conditions. The service area's Self-Support Index value is whether the service area was above, within, or below its expected Range.

The S-SI and Range are annualized for the four quarters in the April through March year ending in the reporting year before the funding year. See the annualized report on the MFIP Reports page on the DHS website for 2023: <u>Minnesota Family Investment Program 2023</u> <u>Annualized Self-Support Index (state.mt.us)</u>. A service area with an annualized S-SI "above" its customized Range of Expected Performance for 2023 will receive a 2.5 percent bonus added to its Consolitated Fund allocation for calendar year 2024.

Minnesota Family Investment Program 2023 Annualized Self-Support Index (PDF)

If your service area is receiving a bonus, congratulational Please share a success strategy here:

County and Tribal Nation MFIP Blennial Service Agreement

F. Measures (continued)

Racial/Ethnic Disparities

A racial/ethnic disparity is defined as a one-year Self Support Index that is five or more percentage points lower for a non-white racial/ethnic group than for the white group of MFIP/DWP-eligible adults in the County/Tribel Nation or consortium. The report "Annualized MFIP Performance Measures by Racial/Ethnic or Immigrant Group and by County, County Consortium, and Tribal Provider" is now available at <u>https://oubilc.tableou.com/app/profile/tyler.boromann/viz/AnnualizedS-</u> SiSuccessRatebyRacialEthniccommingrantGroup/SSISuccessRateDashboard-Intro

To view your agency's measurement, click on the "S-SI Success Rate by Agency" button. This will bring you to the statewide data for 2022. From the first drop down you can select your county, county consortium or Tribal Nation. If you note any groups that are below the line (indicated by a green bar) your county, county consortium or Tribal Nation will answer the next question below:

What strategies and action steps for each of the groups below the disparities reference line do you gian to implement for the coming blannium to reduce these disparities?

n/a

County and Tribal Nation MFIP Blennial Service Agreement

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G. Program Monitoring and Compliance

- 1. "What procedures do you have in place to ensure that program funds are being used appropriately as directed in law? Check all that apply.
 - Budget control procedures for approving expenditures
 - Cash management procedures for ensuring program income is used for permitted activities
 - Internal policies around use of funds (i.e. participant support services)
 - 12 Other specify: All funds are reviewed as a team to ensure they meet stat policy.
- 2. "What procedures do you have in place to ensure program policies are followed and applied accurately? Check all that apply.
 - 🛃 Case consultation
 - Sample case review by supervisors
 - Sample case review by lead worker/mentor
 - Sample case reviews by peers

Cther – specify:

3. Effective August 1st, 2023, counties and Tribel Nations are no longer required to administer random drug tests to MFIP participants who are convicted drug felors but may do so at the county or Tribel Nation's option. If applicable, what procedures/policies do you have in place for administering random drug tests to MFIP participants who are convicted drug felors as allowed by <u>MN Statute</u> 2561,26, Subdivision, 17 Select one.

O Written policy within the MFIP unit

- O Coordination with Corrections
- O Currently establishing new policy/procedure(s)
- Other specify: Board approved to remove the Drug Felon testing policy as a whole for all cash programs.

Submit a copy of your written policy as an attachment.

Manage attachments

County and Tribal Nation MFIP Biennial Service Agreement

H. Administrative Cap Waiver

Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) allows counties to request a waiver of the MFIP administrative cap (currently at 7.5%) for providing supported employment, uncompensated work, or a community work experience program for a major segment of the county's MFIP population. Counties that are operating such a program may request up to 15% administrative costs per <u>MN Statute 2561,626. Subdivision 2</u>.

If your County/Tribal Nation is interested in applying for the waiver for the coming blennium, please complete the following four questions.

1. Describe the activity(s) you will provide.

2. Explain the reasons for the increased administrative cost.

3. Describe the target population and number of people expected to be served,

4. Describe how the unpaid work experience is designed to impart skills and what steps are taken to help

County and Tribal Nation MFTP Biennial Service Agreement

participants move from unpaid work to paid work,

I. Provider Choice

MFIP provisions require counties to provide a choice of at least two employment service providers available to participants unless a worldorce center is being utilized (<u>MN Statute 2563,50, Subdivision B</u>). Counties may request an exception if meeting this requirement results in a financial hardship (<u>MN Statute 2563,50, Subdivision 9</u>).

Does your County/Tribal Nation:

🕗 Have at least two employment and training services providers. Go to Section J.

- Have a CareerForce center that provides multiple employment and training services, offers multiple services options under a collaborative effort and can document that participants have choice among employment and training services designed to meet specialized needs. Go to Section 3.
- Intend to submit a financial hardship request.

Go to Budget section

4000 characters remaining

4006 characters remaining

4000 characters remaining

I. Provider Choice (continued)

Financial Hardship Request

A financial hardship is defined as a county's inability to provide the minimum level of service for all programs if a disproportionate amount of the MFIP consolidated fund must be used to cover the costs of purchasing employment services from two providers or the cost of contracting with a workforce center.

To request approval of a financial hardship exception from the choice of provider requirement, please provide the following information.

- 1. If the County/Triban Nation had a choice of providers in calendar year 2023, describe:
 - factors that have changed which indicate a financial hardship,

 - why the hardship is expected to continue, and
 the magnitude of the hardship, which makes limiting delivery of employment services the best financial option for the County/Tribal Nation.

2000 characters remaining

 Summarize options explored by the county, including use of other partners in a workforce center or other community agencies, such as a Community Action Program or a technical college. The summary should also include:
 major factors which prevent the County/Tribel Nation from utilizing these options and include a cost analysis of each option considered; and

the process used to determine the cost of other options (RFP or other County/Tribal Nation process).

2000 characters remaining

3. If the County/Tribal Nation proposes to directly deliver MFIP employment services, provide a budget and staffing plan that dearly indicates consolidated funda will not be used to supplant County/Tribal Nation funds. The description should include information about what steps will be taken to ensure that staff have the experience and sidils to deliver employment services.

J. Budget

Click on the link below to review your service area's 2024 MFIP allocation and Federal Funding Sources:

MFIP Consolidated Fund (PDF)

In the budget table below, indicate the amount and percentage for each item listed for the budget line items for calendar years 2024-2025. Also note:

- Refer to the 2024-25 Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Blennial Service Agreement (BSA) Guidelines Builetin section, "Allowable Services under MFIP Consolidated Fund."
- Total percent must equal 100.
- Income maintenance administration is reasonable in comparison to the whole budget.
- Ensure the Emergency Assistance/Crisis Services plan is included if funds are allocated.
- All services must be an allowable expenditure under the MFIP Consolidated Fund.
- · Allocation amounts must be spent by the end of calendar year, remaining amounts does not roll over into the following year.
- Medical expenditures are NOT allowable.

· Email Arina Preston at Arina.Preston@state.mn.us, If you need assistance or have questions with the budget section,

Budgeted Amount	Percent	Lina Items
20,415.0d	15.95%	Employment Services (DWP)
65,213.00	50.95%	Employment Services (MFIP)
3,000.00	2.34%	Emergency Services/Crisis Fund
9,600.00	7.50%	Administration (cap at 7.5% or up to 15% with an approved administrative cap weiver)
29,767.00	23.26%	Income Maintenance Administration
	0.00%	Incentives (Include the total amount of funds budgeted for perticipant incentives but don't include support services here)
	0.00%	Under 200% Services
	0.00%	Capital Expenditures
	0.00%	Other:
\$127,995.00	100.00%	Total

2025 Budget

2024 Budget

Budgeted Amount	Percent	Line Itams
20,415.00	15.95%	Employment Services (DWP)
65,213.00	50.95%	Employment Services (MFIP)
3,000.00	2.34%	Emergency Services/Crisis Fund
9,600.00	7.50%	Administration (cap at 7.5% or up to 15% with an approved administrative cap waiver)
29,767.00	23.26%	Income Maintenance Administration
	0.00%	Incentives (Include the total amount of funds budgeted for perticipent incentives but don't include support services here)
	0.00%	Under 200% Services
	0.00%	Capital Expenditures
	0.00%	Other:
\$127,995.00	100.00%	Total

K. Certifications and Assurances

Public Input

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inty and Tribal Nation MFI	IP Blennial Service Agreement	Page 21
Service Agreement	t Certification	
below, state the name of	Tribal Nation board(s) under the provisions of Minnesota Statu	
mailing address and the r	the chair of the County/Tribal Nation board of commissioners name of the county.	or authorized designee, their
	name of the county.	or authorized designee, their
	name of the county.	or authorized designee, their

To submit your information to DHS, dick the 'Submit Final Form' button.

Save Form for Later Submit Final Form