

HomesUnited

ministries



Letter from Duane Mellor

Welcome to the HomesUnited Ministries booklet, a comprehensive guide to understanding and addressing the pressing housing needs in Broward County. Our mission is not only to provide shelter but to create a sustainable model that can be replicated across the United States to solve the housing crisis.

The Need for Housing and Support

Broward County, like many areas across the nation, faces significant challenges in providing affordable and stable housing for its residents. The lack of accessible housing options leaves many individuals and families vulnerable, struggling to meet their basic needs. At HomesUnited Ministries, we recognize that housing is a fundamental right and a cornerstone for building a thriving community.

Our Vision

We envision a future where every person has a place to call home. Our approach goes beyond simply providing shelter; we believe in the power of wrap-around services to ensure long-term stability and success.

These services include:

Comprehensive Case Management: Guiding individuals and families through the complexities of housing, health, and employment.

Mental Health and Wellness Support: Offering counseling and support services to address the emotional and psychological needs of those we serve.

Job Training and Educational Programs: Empowering residents with the skills and knowledge needed to achieve self-sufficiency.

Community Building Initiatives: Fostering a sense of belonging and mutual support among residents.



A Unified Effort

Addressing the housing crisis requires a collaborative effort. We believe in the power of community and the necessity of partnerships. Our model integrates the strengths and resources of businesses, non-profit organizations, and government agencies. By working together, we can create a unified front to tackle the housing crisis and bring about meaningful change.

Our Commitment

HomesUnited Ministries is committed to leading this charge with compassion, innovation, and dedication. We are united in our mission to provide dignified housing solutions and to build a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for taking the time to explore our work and join us in this vital mission. Together, we can create a brighter future and a lasting impact on the lives of those in need.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Duane Mellor
President



Mission

Our mission is to provide housing to individuals experiencing homelessness by uniting with local governments, non-profits, business partners, to provide the support and resources needed for clients to secure and maintain permanent stable housing.



Vision

Our vision is to end homelessness in Broward County, creating a replicable model for addressing homelessness on a national level. Our ultimate goal is to create a future in which homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring for all Americans.



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



**Marie
Joseph**



**Kayla
Weiberg**



**Carole
Mitchell**

76%

of our clients have remained housed for over a year



Mental health respite is designed to help clients stabilize and find permanent supportive housing. Currently, HomesUnited has served 459 clients and 76% of our clients have remained housed for over a year.

\$51,000

Average cost for a homeless person to remain on the street in Broward County per year

\$17,500

Average cost for a homeless person to live in a Homes United respite home per year



MENTAL HEALTH RESPITE

Impact of Supportive Housing

50% fewer hospitalizations

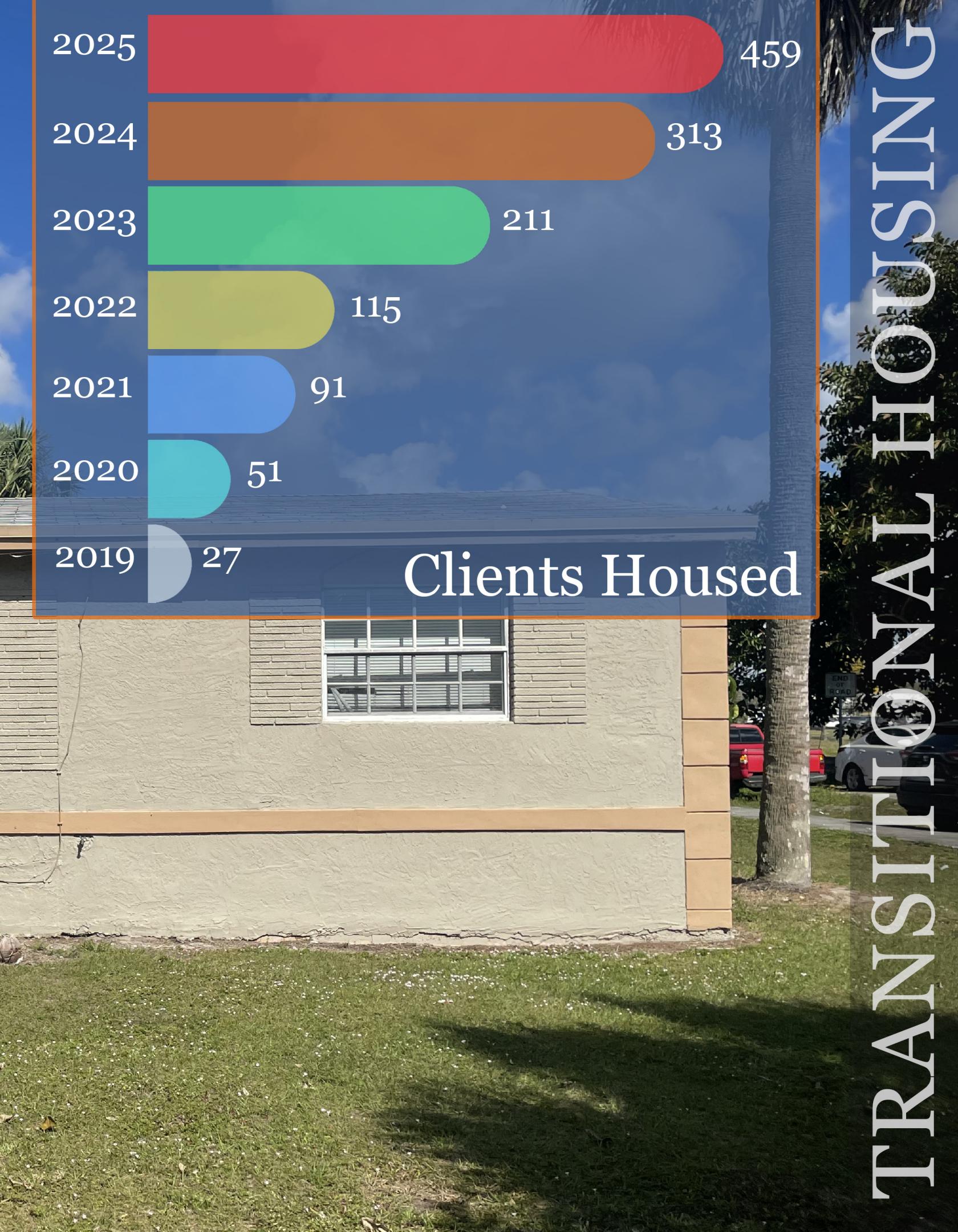
52% reduction in hospital days

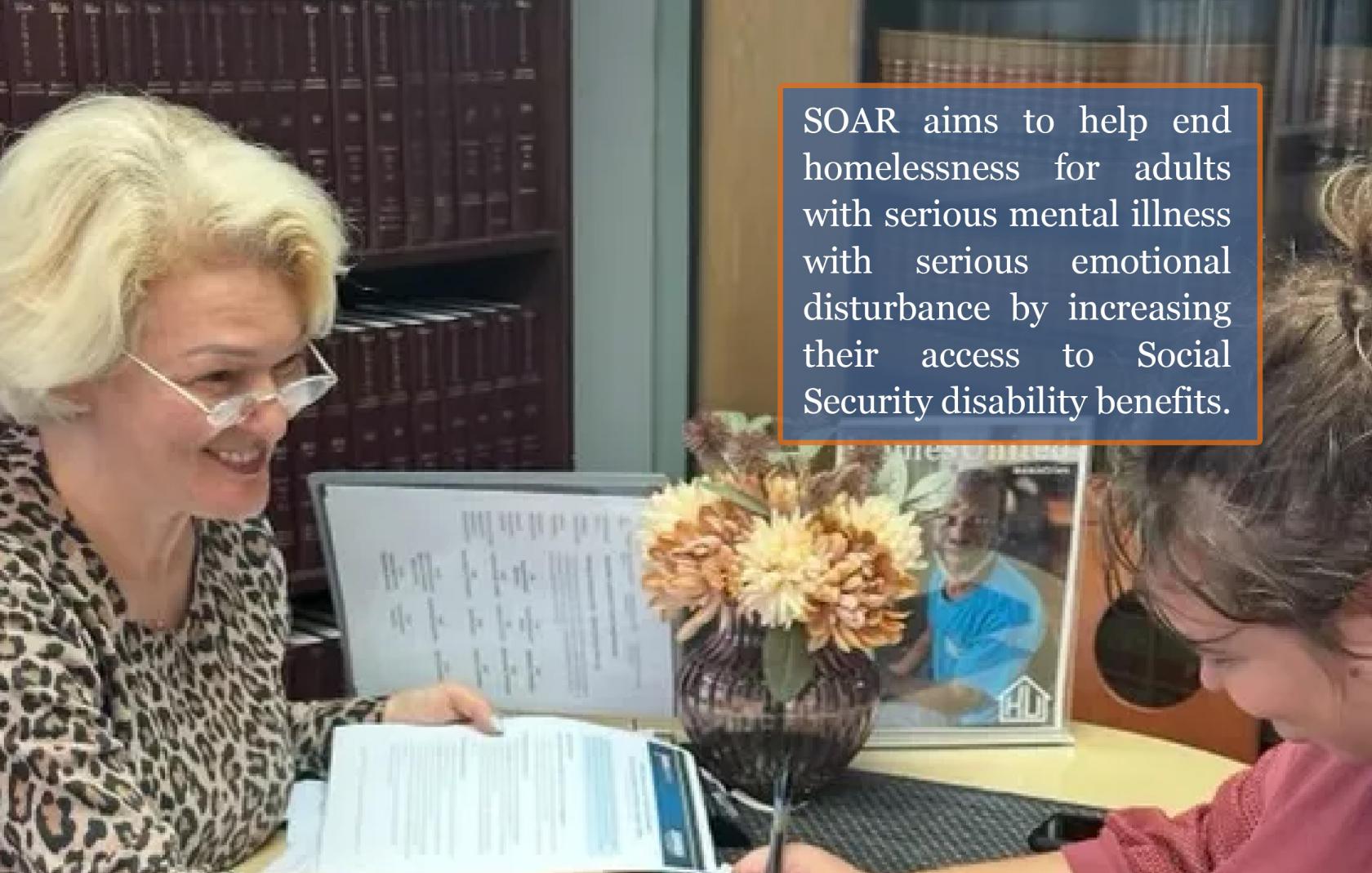
68% decrease in ER visits

Housing First is the only strategy proven to break the homelessness-jail cycle.

Supported by state funding, the City of Fort Lauderdale launched the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Housing Program in March. A pilot program to expand access to behavioral health services and create pathways to permanent housing. In partnership with Homes United, 41 individuals were referred for mental health services. Within three months, 71% remained housed or were reunified with family.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING





SOAR aims to help end homelessness for adults with serious mental illness with serious emotional disturbance by increasing their access to Social Security disability benefits.

SOAR programs significantly reduce the average processing time for SSI/SSDI applications **from 2 years to 4-5 months.**

167 days - average approval time on SOAR-assisted applications.

Initial benefits approval for people experiencing homelessness with no one to assist them is only **10-15%**

Appeals take an average of **1** year to complete.



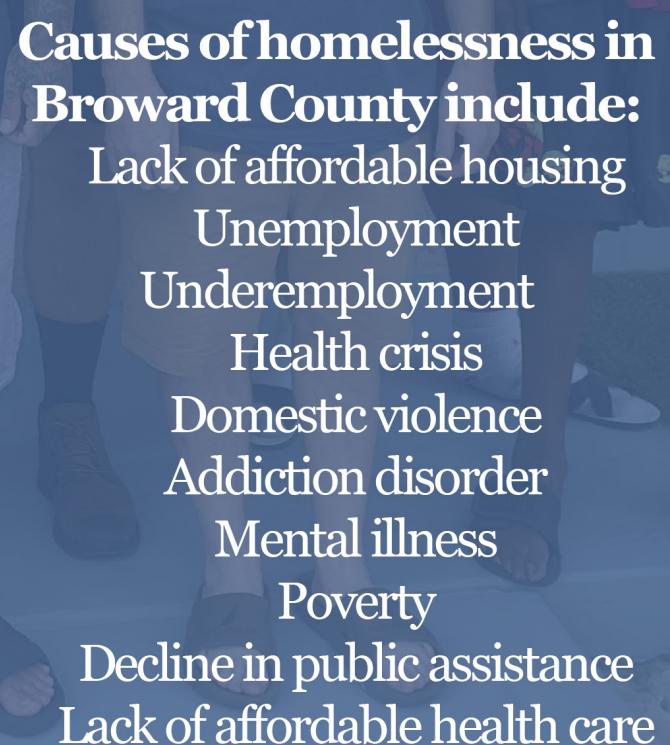
63%

initial approval rate for benefits doubling the national average of just 28% - all on the first application.



Demographics (Based on the 2021 PIT Count: Individuals: 93% Families: 7%
2024: Broward County has approximately 2,487 homeless individuals.





Causes of homelessness in Broward County include:

- Lack of affordable housing
- Unemployment
- Underemployment
- Health crisis
- Domestic violence
- Addiction disorder
- Mental illness
- Poverty
- Decline in public assistance
- Lack of affordable health care

69%

percent of homeless are male, and **31%** are female.



TRANSITIONAL
HOUSING

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers are the heartbeat of our mission to provide hope and support to those experiencing homelessness. Their selfless dedication and tireless efforts have transformed lives and brought light to the darkest of situations. From serving warm meals to offering a listening ear, our volunteers embody compassion and generosity, making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need.

Volunteers

2,328
Volunteer hours served
\$74,010
In cost savings





HomesUnited Ministries is a faith-based organization grounded in the teachings of Christ and the belief that every individual is created in the image of God. The power of community and prayer is essential in our mission to serve and uplift “the least of these.”

MINISTRY OF LOVE



Following Jesus' command to love our neighbors as ourselves, we strive to create a welcoming and supportive environment for all. Through the strength of our faith, the unity of our community and the guidance of Christ, we work together to bring hope to those facing homelessness. Join us in spreading love, compassion, and support of God to our neighbors in need.

BUILD

expand housing capacity



SCAN ME



SPONSOR

rental assistance



SCAN ME



DONATE

give to the ministry



SCAN ME





SERVE
volunteer with your team



INVEST
fund wrap-around services



FEED
donate food and supplies





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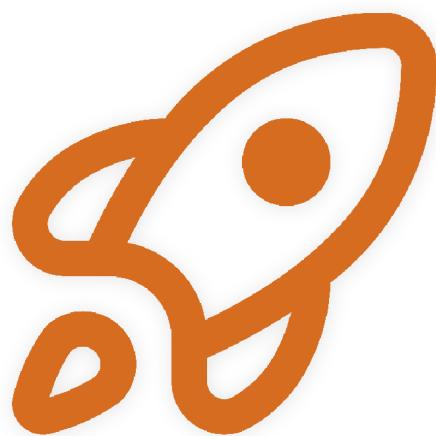


41 individuals on housing navigation list.



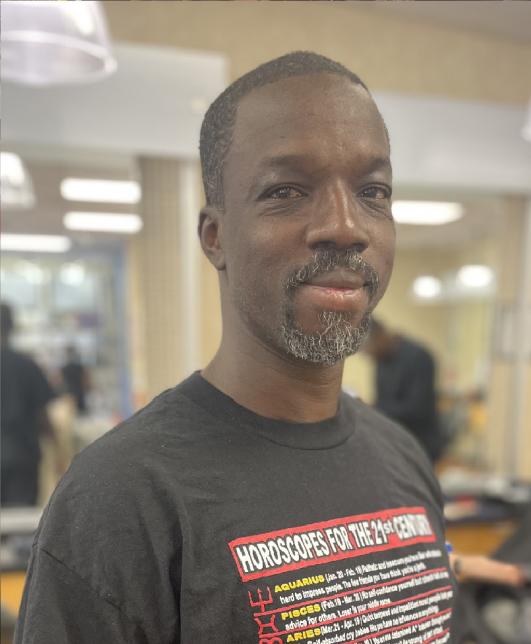
29 individuals were housed or reunited.

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70.73% housing success rate.







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