

|| City of Sioux Falls Council / Minnehaha
|| County Commission Joint Meeting Agenda
|| Carnegie Town Hall, 235 West 10th Street
|| MEETING OF Monday, November 17, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

Official Agenda

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

REPORT OF OFFICERS/BOARDS/COMMITTEES

1. SAFE HOME PILOT PROJECT REPORT - HUGH GROGAN, DIRECTOR OF MINNEHAHA COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES CENTER

Memo

PowerPoint Presentation

ADJOURNMENT

Agenda Item: Not Assigned

Item ID: 53101

The following document(s) are public records obtained from the City of Sioux Falls.

PROJECT SAFE HOME: First-year Preliminary Findings

Project Safe Home is a Housing First Program that offers intensive case management services to twenty individuals, both male and female, who are chronically homeless with severe alcohol addictions. These twenty individuals have been identified in a previous study as the top twenty utilizers of publicly funded crisis services within our community. The services that have been identified in the previous study have included hospitals, detox, and jail. Out of the twenty individuals, over half have medical conditions, including mental health issues, that have been untreated for many years, some their entire life.

Project Safe Home is the first of its kind in South Dakota, however there are a number of other similar programs throughout the United States that are designed and function on a much larger scale. Currently there are two full time case managers that facilitate the intensive case management that is provided to the twenty participants. Because our community is rich with services, the two case managers coordinate and network with all care providers in a number of the specialized areas as appropriate/as the client is willing to participate in, i.e. mental health, medical/health services, substance treatment providers, and the list goes on, which provides for the best of the best services to be available for each participant.

What is Housing First?

Housing First is a proven strategy to (a) engage chronically homeless people with multiple barriers to housing, and (b) promote housing longevity for people with long histories of homelessness and illness. Housing First is a strategy that promotes removing barriers to housing so that people can stabilize their situation and begin to receive the support, guidance, and access to the supportive services they need to become as self-sufficient as possible, all while improving their quality of life.

Who are the participants in Safe Home?

15% of the participants are single females

85% of the participants are single males

Participants in Safe Home are between 30 and 60 years of age

15% of the current participants are Caucasian with the remaining 85% Native American

100% of the participants have been chronically homeless for a minimum of 8 years

100% of the participants have a severe addiction to alcohol and use/abuse every day

Safe Home has a remarkable 85% retention rate in the past 9 months

The group overwhelmingly has been diagnosed with a variety of medical issues including (but not limited to) diabetes, congestive heart failure, high blood pressure, glaucoma, and seizure disorder

*(20 people
in program)*

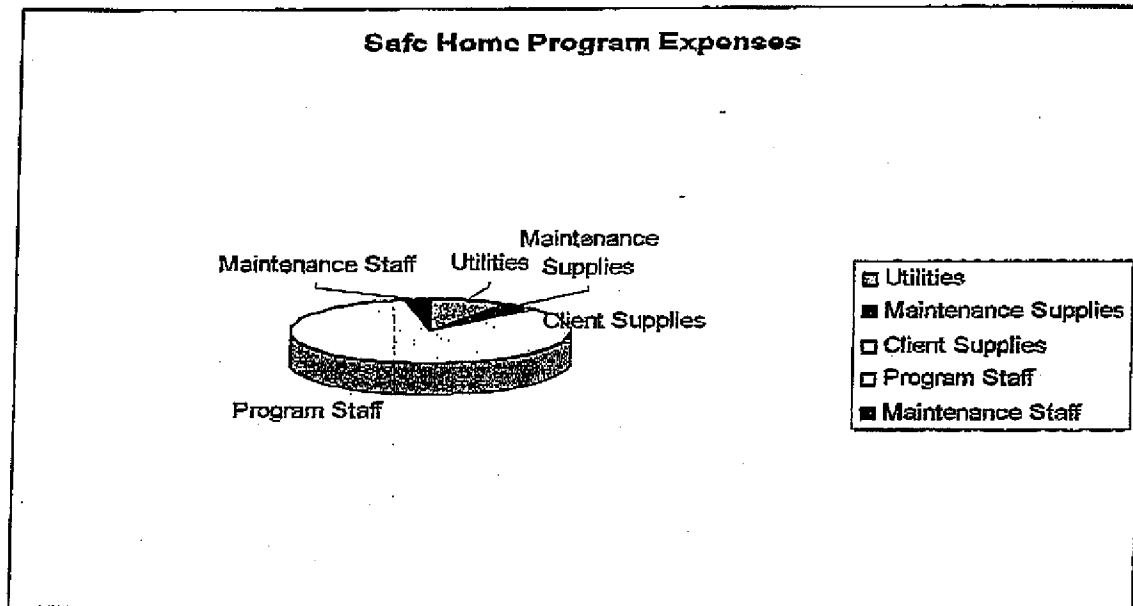
23 total clients

Safe Home Expenses

Safe Home has been an efficiently operated program from day one. Staff has been focused on providing effective, high quality, intensive case management services, yet dedicated to efficient operations that are demonstrated in the graph below.

Budget Breakdown

Utilities	Maintenance Supplies	Client Supplies	Program Staff	Maintenance Staff
\$4,145.99	\$1,631.84	\$366.63	\$91,445.57	\$1,409.60



The Safe Home Program expenses were figured by the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Total Safe Home Program Expense}}{9 \text{ months}} \times 12 = \text{Projected One Year Program}$$

When taking the totals for each of the identified categories noted above, the following numbers were entered into the formula to calculate the projected cost for Safe Home for one year:

$$\frac{\$98,999.63}{9} \times 12 = \$131,999.49$$

It is important to note that included in the calculations for the Program Staff, noting all staff are clinically qualified staff, the amount calculated includes staff salaries, benefits, as well as the administrative time that has been necessary for operations of the program.

Reduced Use of Services

The effectiveness of the Safe Home Program is easily identifiable when reviewing the table below. The months have been divided as "winter months" (January through April, noting this is a four month time frame) and the "summer months" (May through September, noting this to be a five month time frame) and a significant reduction of services can be noted once intensive case management was implemented.

Service	Jan-Apr 2008	Per Person Expense	May-Sept 2008	Per Person Expense	Total cost	Total Per Person Exp
Jail	12,218	611.00	14,333	716.00	26,551	1,327.55
Detox	16,280	814.00	12,100	605.00	28,380	119.00
Hospital	109,109	5,455.00	24,627	1,281.35	133,736	6,686.80
Community Health	4,616	231.00	6,081	304.05	10,697	534.85
Total	142,223	7,111.15	57,141	2,857.05	199,364	9,968.20

The Safe Home Program expenses were figured by the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Total Cost}}{9 \text{ months}} \times 12 \text{ months} = \text{Projected One Year Outside Service Expense}$$

When taking the totals for each of the identified categories noted above, the following numbers were entered into the formula to calculate the projected cost for Safe Home for one year:

$$\frac{199,364}{9} \times 12 = \$265,818.66$$

When interpreting the data on this table it is easy to identify the decrease in the costs for both Detox as well as the hospitalizations, however it is notable the cost for the jail increased. There are a couple of items to be aware of:

- (1) A number of the participants in the program have been clearing up their warrants/legal charges
- (2) Some jail admissions are "Detox only" admits either due to Detox being "full" or because the particular participant is not permitted in Detox any longer/at certain times

The decrease of hospitalization costs is astounding, as in the last four months, hospitalization costs have decreased to 22.571% of where they were at the beginning of 2008, which is a difference of \$84,482.00.

Another significant, notable point is that even with the "summer months" being a much more mobile time for the program participants as well as being a five month period of time vs. four, Detox spending continued to decline by \$4180.00.

-Qualitative Changes

Over the course of the past nine months, it is important to note that it has not only been a time of change, education, trust building, and unconditional acceptance for the participants, but for the staff as well. Initially all (both participants and staff) were unsure of what would follow in the months following the programs launch, however all have persevered and would like to share just a few of the following updates:

Participant Updates:

- (1) Five out of twenty participants are SOBER today
- (2) Three of those five that are sober are currently in treatment, noting one of those three has not been in treatment for over sixteen years
- (3) Three additional participants are currently involved in seeking treatment
- (4) 25% of the participants have an income (i.e. employment, benefits); others are now appealing Social Security's denial of benefits at this time
- (5) Participants have had a significant increase in contact and involvement with family since starting the program
- (6) Two participants are living in their own apartments within the community and paying 30% of their income for housing
- (7) Having a place to call "HOME" is an amazing feeling
- (8) A client has said to others, "Don't you bad mouth this program (referring to Safe Home); it's helping people"

Staff Updates:

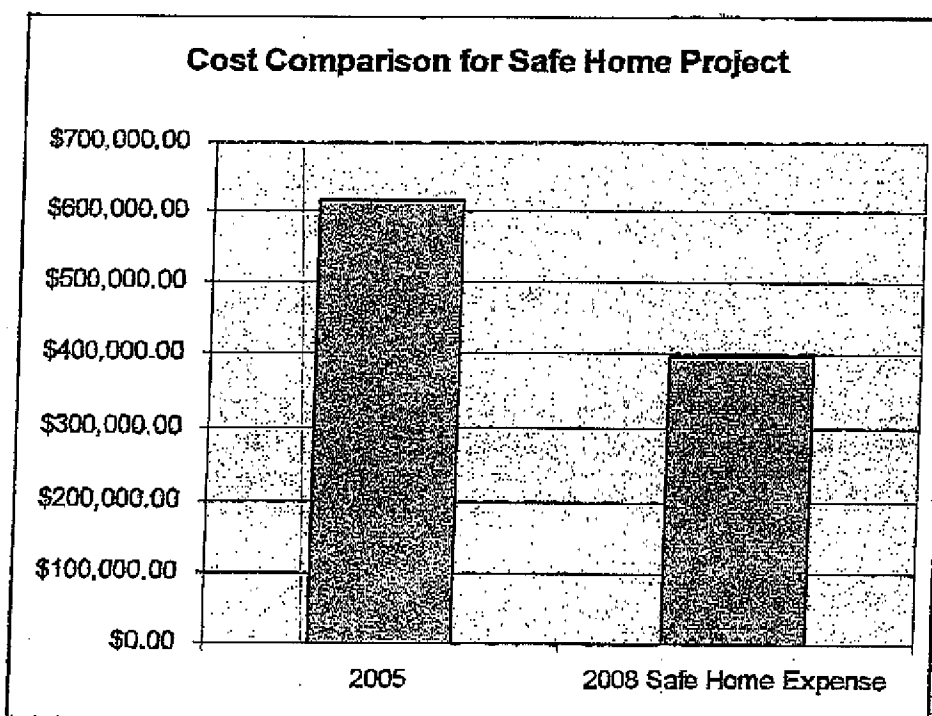
- (1) NEVER assume that everyone knows that turning down the thermostat from 90 degrees to 75 degrees will cool down an apartment vs. leaving the thermostat at 90 degrees and opening every window and turning on fans
- (2) Locking a door is NOT something that everyone takes for granted
- (3) Learning to sleep in a bed (and not next to it on the floor) is NOT easy after being homeless for 10 plus years
- (4) Participants now have someone to write in as an "emergency contact" on applications/paperwork
- (5) SUCCESS can be defined in the tiniest of ways
- (6) Caring UNCONDITIONALLY has promoted the participants to truly value the program, the positive relationships they have formed, and especially THEMSELVES
- (7) Taking things day to day sometimes means taking things minute by minute and accepting that this is SURVIVAL

Although the updates that are noted above are all positive, the past nine months have offered many challenges and hurdles, however those very things have also been learning experiences and opportunities for all of us to challenge ourselves to learn new concepts, live "outside the box" when looking at issues, and to become stronger, more diverse people. While for many the focus is the financial aspect, which, true, that is important, the staff would all like to make very visible and well known that this program's success can best be understood when talking to the participants. Being able to call a place "HOME" is an amazing feeling, a feeling the participants of Safe Home have not been able to have for many, many years.

Cost Comparison

It is difficult to compare past studies with the data and figures included in this report due to the ever changing population/individuals involved, economic changes, items tracked, etc., however in taking a look at the financial aspect as close to comparing apples to apples as can be done, the numbers are astounding.

Project Safe Home, when offered as an option to address one of the most difficult of populations, did not suggest that the program would unquestionably save money, but according to the study, would rather utilize the money spent over the course of nine months (\$338,335.00) to address the needs of those identified individuals and provide case management to insure proper care was administered. However, the results of this cost comparison are unbelievable!



The cost comparisons were figured by the following formula:

$$\frac{\$338,585}{11 \text{ individuals}} \times 20 \text{ individuals} = \$615,609.08$$

When taking the \$338,585.00 spent over the course of nine months in 2005 and dividing that by the 11 individuals involved in the study and then multiplying that number by 20 (because Project Safe Home numbers reflect the cost for 20 participants), gives you a total of \$615,609.08 projected cost to continue into the future with no services as offered through Safe Home.

Cost Comparison (Continued):

When calculating the numbers included in this report for the past nine months for Project Safe Home, total tabulations provide you with an amazing cost savings!

\$615,609.08 (projected cost for having no program as noted in the study in 2005)

\$397,818.15 (projected cost for Safe Home for one year)

= **\$217,790.85 Total Savings**

It is important to note that this figure does not include the shelter expense savings, nor does it begin to calculate the savings of the entire legal system in Minnehaha County.

Because the original data in the 2005 report did not include the costs for housing/hotels, this report excluded that financial data as well. However, because County negotiates a monthly rate for the participants in the Project Safe Home, the cost for housing may very well be less than what would have been figured in the original study.

Costs that Minnehaha County has incurred over the course of the last nine months for Project Safe Home have included costs for housing (both apartment and hotel), dental care, medications, birth certificates, photo identification cards, food, non-food items (i.e. cleaning supplies), optical care, and substance abuse treatment. The total cost of all of the above noted care for the 20 participants in the last nine months was \$68,363.90. When taking this amount away from the \$217,790.85 total program savings as noted above, this would leave a cost savings of \$149,426.95. It is important to note that there have been some payments made to the County by a few of the participants in Project Safe Home, which is an incredible achievement in itself.

By developing and building a facility that could house all of the participants in the program, it would be expected that there would be a significant cost reduction in housing cost. When participants are provided the opportunity to reside close to one another, the opportunity to create the sense of community and function as a "family" by helping one another is promoted. There is also the sense of taking pride in having a home.

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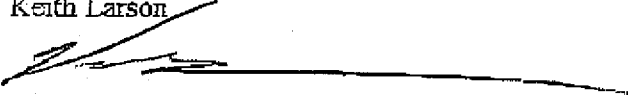
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Hugh Grogan,

With the start of the safe home project here in Sioux Falls, SD the Minnehaha County Detox Center has seen a drastic decrease in the admissions and days in Detox, with the exception of 2 people of the 20 individuals on the list provided by Kari. There are some individuals that have had zero admissions and zero days here at the Detox center, with the others under 5 admissions.

Keith Larson





MAY 09 2008

May 7, 2008

Mr. Hugh Grogan, Director
Minnehaha County Human Services Center
Homeless Advisory Board
521 N. Main Ave. Suite 201
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Dear Mr. Grogan:

This letter is in support of you and your staff's ongoing efforts to address the needs of the chronic homeless in our community.

Please know, that the staff here at Carroll Institute has commented from time to time about the noticeable decline in the foot traffic in and around our facility from those who we recognize as being homeless. That is not to say we haven't needed to call upon law enforcement to assist us with occasional panhandling, but given our location with the bus depot to the north and our neighbor to the south, I am sure you will find that our calls for assistance have declined as well.

Therefore, I can only attribute this positive change in behavior to your project Safe House and Dakota House and the services and support it offers to those in need, and would hope that you are able to continue your efforts.

Please let me know if there is anything Carroll Institute can do to help support those efforts.

Sincerely,



Gary D. Tuschen
Executive Director

Cc: Carroll Institute Board of Directors

—turn over a new life

Agenda Item: Not Assigned
Item ID: 53102

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City of Sioux Falls.

Project Safe Home

Project Safe Home is a Housing First Program that offers intensive case management services to twenty individuals, both male and female, who are chronically homeless with severe alcohol addictions.

What is Housing First?

Housing First is a proven strategy to:

- (a) engage chronically homeless people with multiple barriers to housing
- (b) promote housing longevity for people with long histories of homelessness and illness.

2005 Study

In 2005, a study was completed by the Minnehaha County Human Services Department that focused on 11 individuals who were identified as being chronically homeless with severe alcohol addictions. The compiled data revealed that in a nine month period of time these eleven individuals utilized \$338,585.00 of high cost emergency services within our community.

Safe Home's Goal:

The goal of Project Safe Home is to provide twenty individuals with housing, intensive case management, and the opportunity to utilize community resources on a regular basis rather than emergency services. In doing so, this community would be better investing money spent by providing individuals with resources and opportunities that they have never had before – especially housing and medical care.

Participants are:

- ❖ 15% single females
- ❖ 85% single males
- ❖ between 30 and 60 years of age
- ❖ 85% Native American, 15% Caucasian
- ❖ 100% have been chronically homeless for a minimum of 8 years
- ❖ 100% have a severe addiction to alcohol and use/abuse every day

FACTS:

The twenty individuals involved in Safe Home have:

- ❖ been identified in a previous study as the top users of publicly funded crisis services within our community, however with the Safe Home Program this is changing!
- ❖ Safe Home has a remarkable 85% retention rate of participants in the last 9 months.

Reduced Use of Services

Service	Jan-Apr 2008	Per Person Expense	May- Sept 2008	Per Person Expense	Total Cost	Total Per Person Expense
Jail	\$12,218	\$611.00	\$14,333	\$716.00	\$26,551	\$1327.55
Detox	\$16,280	\$814.00	\$12,100	\$605.00	\$28,380	\$1119.00
Hospital	\$109,109	\$5,455	\$24,627	\$1,281.35	\$133,736	\$6,686.80
Community Health	\$4,616	\$231.00	\$6,081	\$304.05	\$10,697	\$534.85
TOTALS	\$142,223	\$7,111.15	\$57,141	\$2,857.05	\$199,364	\$9,968.20

Figuring Cost:

The Safe Home Program expenses were figured by the following formula:

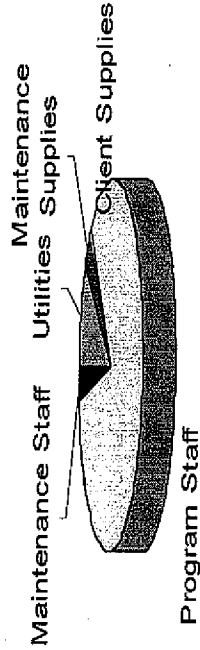
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When taking the totals for each of the identified categories noted above, the following numbers were entered into the formula to calculate the projected cost for Safe Home for one year:

$$\frac{199,364}{9} \times 12 = \$265,818.66$$

Program Expenses

Safe Home Program Expenses



- Utilities
- Maintenance Supplies
- Client Supplies
- Program Staff
- Maintenance Staff

Utilities	Maintenance Supplies	Client Supplies	Program Staff	Maintenance Staff
\$4,145.99	\$1,631.84	\$366.63	\$91,445.57	\$1,409.60

Expenses Formula

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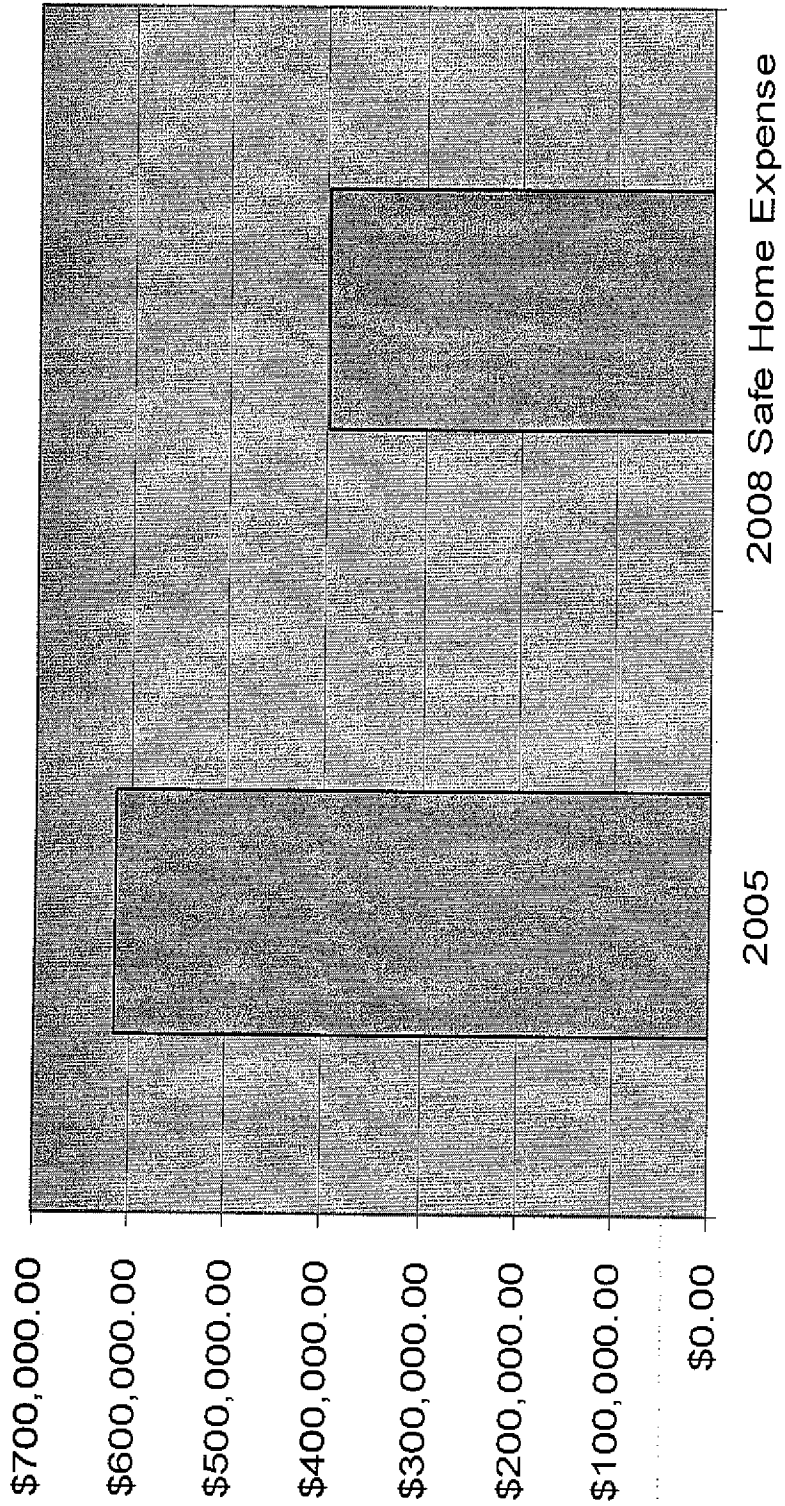
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$$\frac{\$98,999.63}{9} \times 12 = \$131,999.49$$

Looking at the difference

Cost Comparison for Safe Home Project



Cost Comparison Formula

The cost comparisons were figured by the following formula:

$$\frac{\$338,585}{11 \text{ individuals}} \times 20 \text{ individuals} = \$615,609.08$$

Taking the \$338,585.00 that was spent in nine months in 2005 and dividing that by the 11 individuals involved in the study and then multiplying that number by 20 (because Project Safe Home numbers reflect the cost for 20 participants), gives you a total of \$615,609.08 projected cost to continue into the future with no services as offered through Safe Home.

Saving money while improving lives!

When calculating the numbers included in this report for the past nine months for Project Safe Home, total tabulations provide you with an amazing cost savings!

\$615,609.08 (projected cost for having no program as noted in the study in 2005)

-

\$397,818.15 (projected cost for Safe Home for one year)

=

\$217,790.85 Total Savings

Facts to Note:

- ❖ The figure \$217,790.85 does not include the savings in shelter expenses nor the savings of the entire legal system in Minnehaha County. Because the original data in the 2005 report did not include the costs for housing/hotels, this report excluded that financial data as well.
- ❖ Costs that Minnehaha County has incurred over the course of the last nine months for Project Safe Home have included costs for housing (both apartment and hotel), dental care, medications, birth certificates, photo identification cards, food, non-food items (i.e. cleaning supplies), optical care, and substance abuse treatment. The total cost of all of the above noted care for the 20 participants in the last nine months was \$68,363.90.

Not only EFFICIENT but EFFECTIVE!

❖ Taking the \$68,363.90 away from the \$217,790.85 total program savings this would leave a cost savings of \$149,426.95.

❖ It is important to note that there have been some payments made to the County by a few of the participants in Project Safe Home, which is an incredible achievement in itself.

Thoughts to consider:

- ❖ Developing and building a facility that could house all of the participants in the program, it would be expected that there would be a significant cost reduction in housing cost.
- ❖ When participants are provided the opportunity to reside close to one another, the opportunity to create the sense of community and function as a "family" by helping one another is promoted. There is also the sense of taking pride in having a home.