

2025 Annual Report

DATE: April 1, 2026

COMMITTEE NAME: Health and Human Services Advisory Council (HHSAC)

CHAIR: Tara Haley

STAFF SUPPORT: Juliette Maronel, St. Johns County Health and Human Services

BCC LIAISON: Commissioner Sarah Arnold

BRIEF HISTORY OF COMMITTEE:

In 1997, the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee and the Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Committee were combined to form the Health and Human Services Advisory Council to the Board of County Commissioners. The Council evaluates human services programs in the community, assists in determining the effectiveness of programs to help reduce duplication of services and assures the health and human services needs of the residents of St. Johns County are met. The Council reviews applications requesting County funding for programs that provide health, mental health, substance abuse, social services and submits recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The Council performs its functions and duties without regard to the race, religion, gender or national origin of any affected person.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The health and well-being of a community is a function of its quality of life, including the delivery of health and human services supported by public policy and funding those in need of such services. Our mission is to be responsive to those needs and to recommend funding programs worthy of public support for citizens of St. Johns County.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

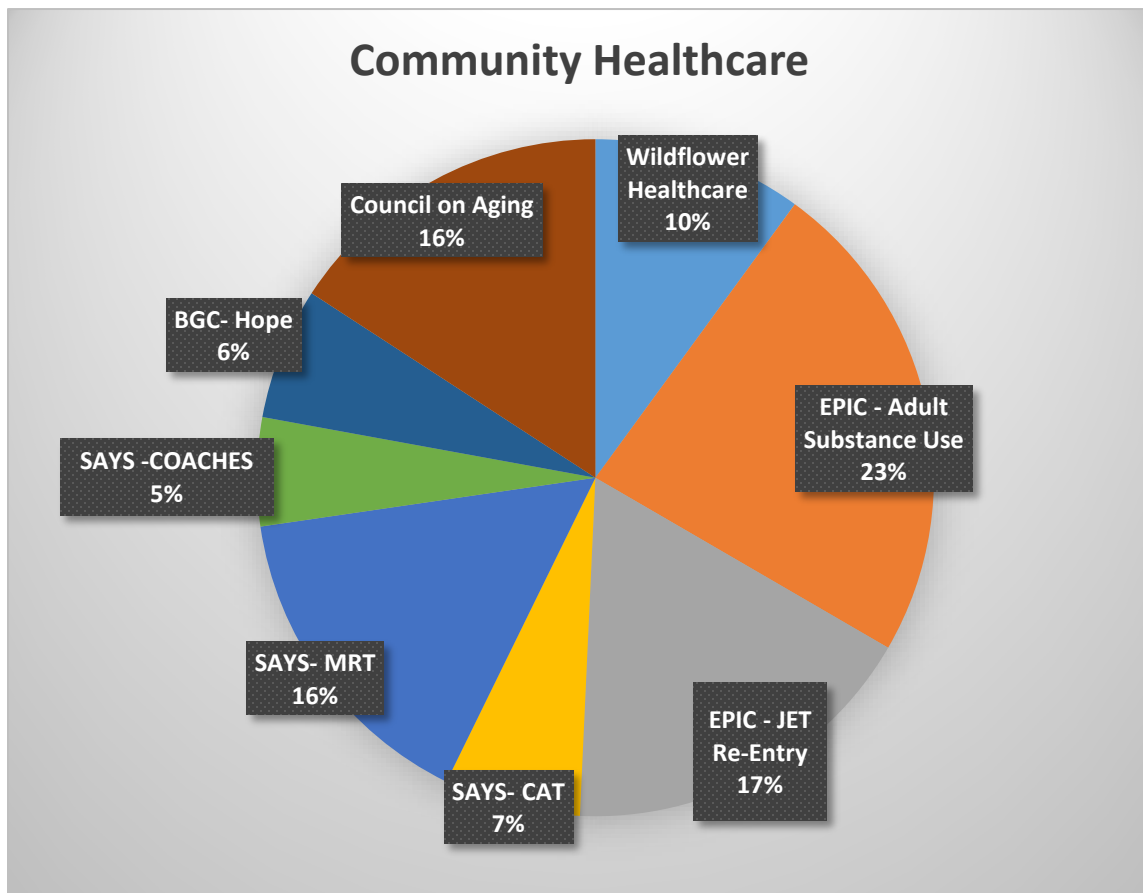
- Funding for Fiscal Year 2025, totaling \$1,828,000.00, was awarded through the 2024 RFP process for the Health & Human Services Independent Agency Program.
- The Advisory Council required attendance by funded agencies at monthly general meetings and received regular updates on the performance of funded programs. The Council also requested a representative from UF Health St. Johns Care Connect, the lead agency for the Continuum of Care for Homelessness, to attend Advisory Council meetings so that a monthly update would be provided to the Council concerning the CoC, the Point in Time Count, and other matters related to homelessness.
- The Advisory Council invited guest speakers monthly to cover various topics. These included a presentation from the St. Johns Continuum of Care, who conducted the PIT Count (Point-In-Time), measuring the number of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night, and a GAPS analysis, assessing the homeless needs and services available within the geographic area. Additionally, UF Health St. Johns hosted the BRAVE Summit (Be Strong and Voice Emotions), which focused on encouraging youth to take charge of their mental health.
- County funded agencies were required to provide written quarterly reports for the Advisory Council to stay informed of the progress on their contractual obligations and deliverables.

The Health & Human Services Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of County Commissioners for their ongoing support and thank all the County staff members who supported the HHSAC throughout the year.

FY 2025 – Independent Agency Funding:

In preparation for independent agency funding for fiscal year 2025, the Health & Human Services Advisory Council put out a Request for Proposals in April 2024. The ultimate funding methodology was based upon application scores and rankings, and community priorities and needs.

These amounts were included in the County’s fiscal year 2025 budget and were formally adopted on September 17th, 2024, by the Board of County Commissioners. As indicated above, these funding priorities were based on data collected through the RFP process in Calendar Year 2024.



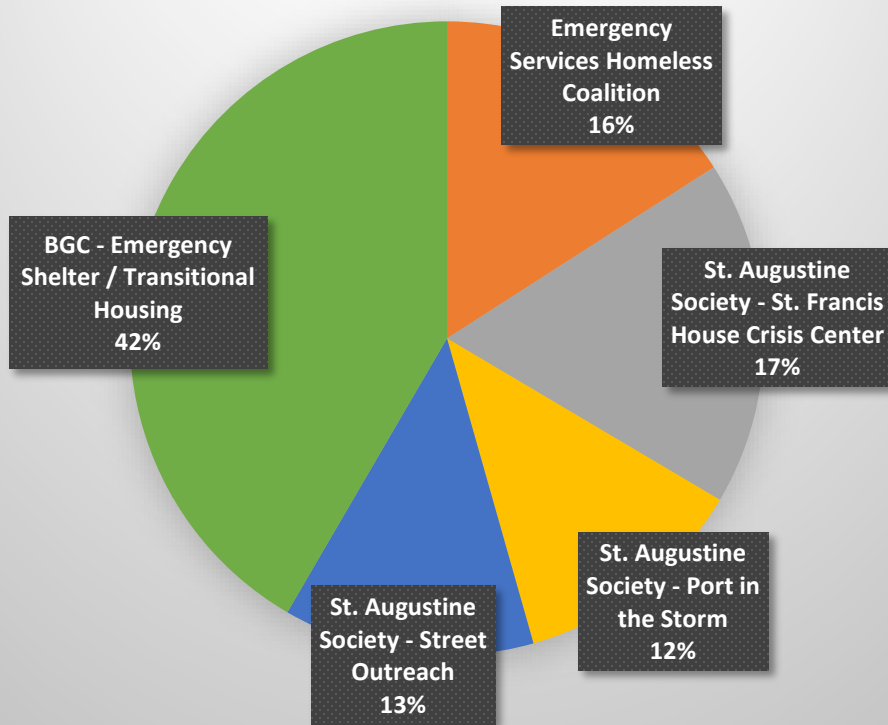
Wildflower Healthcare Community Services_____	\$104,102.00
EPIC Community Healthcare (Adult Substance Use)_____	\$242,295.00
EPIC – JET Re-Entry Program_____	\$180,122.00
St. Augustine Youth Services – Community Action Team (CAT)_____	\$ 67,709.00
St. Augustine Youth Services – Mobile Crisis Response Team_____	\$160,266.00
St. Augustine Youth Services – COACHES Program_____	\$ 53,751.00
Betty Griffin Center – Hope Program_____	\$ 65,410.00
Council on Aging_____	\$164,252.00
TOTAL_____	\$ 1,037,907.00

Employment Opportunities



Early Learning Coalition of North Florida_____	\$134,000.00
TOTAL _____	\$134,000.00

Affordable Housing and Homelessness



Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition_____	\$104,497.00
Betty Griffin Center Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing_____	\$272,954.00
St. Augustine Society – Street Outreach_____	\$ 83,949.00
St. Augustine Society – St. Francis Housing Crisis Center_____	\$115,313.00
St. Augustine Society – Port in the Storm_____	\$ 79,380.00
TOTAL _____	\$656,093.00

GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR 2026:

1. Align FY 26 funding allocations with identified priorities and evaluate remaining service and funding gaps to inform future budget planning.
2. Finalize and apply findings from the formal Health and Human Services Needs/GAPS Analysis Assessment to strengthen program planning, improve service coordination, and guide strategic decision-making.
3. Continue conducting on-site evaluations and desk monitoring's of all funded agencies, performed by the Health and Human Services Staff.
4. Maintain the requirement for monthly meeting attendance and updates from all funded agencies.
5. Review quarterly reports from all funded agencies to monitor progress and outcomes.
6. Continue alignment with the Continuum of Care Organization to support coordinated service delivery and active participation from community stakeholders.
7. Enhance outreach efforts through regular communication, community engagement, and collaboration with partner agencies to increase awareness of available services and initiatives.
8. Maintain monthly coordination of presentations and guest speakers for public council meetings, featuring funded agencies, community partners, and Health and Human Services staff.
9. Issue a Request for Proposal, evaluate application submissions, and develop a funding methodology for FY27 through the eCivis portal. Priorities will be based upon data collected through the 2026 HHS Comprehensive Needs Assessment, the needs assessment completed by UF Health St Johns in addition to staff knowledge of service gaps and needs.