



2021

Annual Report

HOPE RESPECT DREAM CHANGE

District 7 Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) works with community partners to empower people in need through mobilizing and developing community resources by creating opportunities for success.

HRDC is a Community Action Agency (CAA) tasked with addressing the issues surrounding poverty in Montana communities as it uses local resources and solutions to break the cycle.

HRDC assists clients by implementing programs that increase access for all people regardless of race, creed, sexual orientation, religion, culture, or political beliefs and assisting them to achieve self-reliance and economic independence.



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The Board of Trustees for HRDC includes representatives from Business, Local Government, and the Low-income Community. This tripartite board structure ensures representation for all community stakeholders.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

In 2021, HRDC provided services to **14,802** individuals.

742 individuals were sheltered in Temporary Housing and Emergency Shelters.

Certified volunteers prepared tax returns for **830** taxpayers with no tax preparation fees, saving them **\$186,750**.

4,189 individuals received energy assistance.

199 individuals received food assistance through FDPIR, on and around the Crow Reservation and city of Hardin.

In 2021, **46** volunteers provided **3,724** hours of service at a value of **\$106,283**.

HRDC helps community members to regain stability following a housing crisis, or homelessness. The program provides emergency shelter to eligible individuals through rapid re-housing and intensive case management. In 2021, ESG provided **\$529,121** to **256** households, paying **101** security deposits, **123** months of rent, and **76** months of rental arrears.

Yellowstone County Burial

In 2021, HRDC provided **\$73,859** in burial assistance to aid **45** burials.

General Relief

General Relief (GR) provides rental assistance to individuals waiting for SSI, Social Security Insurance, or SSDI, Social Security Disability Insurance approval, in Yellowstone County. In 2021, GR provided **25** households with **\$94,890** in assistance.

Temporary Emergency Housing

In 2021, HRDC assisted in providing temporary emergency housing to **742** individuals. **131** individuals acquired isolation and quarantine, **406** people secured access to low-barrier shelters, **197** Domestic Violence victims were housed at Getaway, and **8** hotel vouchers were provided.

Wheels for Work

Through HRDC's partnership with United Way of Yellowstone County, we serve vulnerable individuals needing transportation to seek or maintain employment. In 2021, HRDC served **189** households, providing **63** gas cards, **63** bus passes, and **40** auto repairs.

Food Bank Support

HRDC works to support local food banks. In 2021, the agency helped provide **6,512** boxes of food.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

HRDC administers the FDPIR in Hardin, Montana serving the Crow Reservation and surrounding area. Through the Government Commodity Program, we provide a variety of nutritious foods. In 2021, **199** individuals received regular food support on an ongoing basis.



ENERGY ASSISTANCE

HRDC administers three energy assistance programs: Weatherization, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), and Energy Share. In 2021, **4,189** households received assistance through public and private funds supporting these programs.

Weatherization

The Weatherization program provides energy conservation services to disadvantaged families by increasing energy efficiency of the household at no cost to participants. In 2021, HRDC's installation crew weatherized **133** homes. HRDC repaired **96** furnaces, replaced **16**, and completed **301** other repairs.

Low-Income Energy Assistance Program

LIEAP supplies underprivileged households with residential energy needed to heat and power their homes. In 2021, **3,308** households received a total of **\$1,951,370** in assistance that included **\$1,654,215** in utility pay and **\$297,155** in energy pay.

Energy Share

HRDC works in partnership with Energy Share of Montana, offering a year-round emergency assistance loan program for eligible households facing an energy emergency. This loan is available only when all other resources have been exhausted. In 2021, **\$381,050** in assistance was provided to **881** households.



The HRDC Alternative Education Center provides one-on-one self-paced tutoring with the guidance of a state certified educator. Participants may complete their high school equivalency, receive personalized college prep, or remedial training in reading or math. Tutoring for the written Driver's License exam is also available.

In 2021, **34** individuals utilized the center. **8** individuals completed their HiSET, **7** participated in college prep activities, **25** improved basic education skills, and **12** received assistance with Driver's License exams.

HRDC administers Youth Employment Programs providing year-round training and work opportunities to prepare young people, age 16-24, for the workforce and long-term economic independence.

Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act

In 2021, **52** youth participated in employment programs. **31** received paid work experience through WIOA.

HRDC provides multiple employment and training programs for individuals through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T), Pathways, and Work Experience Program (WEX).

Pathways

Pathways is a group of interconnected programs that support low-income families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

In 2021, **319** people received transportation assistance, collected **620** utility payments, received **1,952** referrals to community programs and were provided **3,660** hours of case management.

YOUTH & EDUCATION

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



Family Forward

Family Forward is HRDC's bundled services program. The program works off of the belief that families and individuals are most likely to succeed when multiple barriers are addressed at the same time by providing multiple services concurrently. In 2021, the program served **49** households and **97** individuals.

BUNDLED
SERVICES

Youth Homeless Demonstration Project

HRDC provides assistance to homeless young adults ages 18-24, providing low-barrier housing with rental assistance, intensive case management, and bundled support services. This program's goal is to eliminate youth homelessness and provide permanent housing while participants work towards self-sufficiency. In 2021, HRDC placed **4** participants in permanent housing, receiving **49** months of rent, **4** security deposits, and **75** supportive services were issued, including transportation vouchers, phone minutes, and HiSET tests.

Early Childhood Provider Services

HRDC provides oversight for all early childhood provider training in the regions' **14**-county and **2** Tribal Nation service area. The agency's certified trainers provide instruction, consultation, and classroom education to child care providers. In 2021, **144** individual training courses were offered. **703** child care providers attended **472** hours of training.

Child Care Assistance

Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship Program provided **\$7,758,179** in scholarships to children at "qualifying care providers." In 2021, **1,223** families, including **4,188** children received scholarships.



Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The purpose of CACFP is to improve infant-child health and development through balanced nutrition. HRDC administers the CACFP reducing the cost of child care while ensuring children receive healthy and nutritious food. In 2021, **33** childcare programs were reimbursed **\$235,732** for nutritious meals and snacks served to **547** children.

Elementary Out of School Time Child Care Scholarship for Families

In 2021, Montana provided one-time scholarships to working families of children entering 1st through 5th grade. Scholarships helped cover the cost of out-of-school summer programs or child care for summer months. A total of **349** families with **468** eligible children received scholarships totaling **\$865,046**.

CHILD CARE



HRDC strives to move people out of poverty by providing temporary, transitional, and permanent housing. HRDC administers a variety of Housing Programs to help all participants reach economic independence.

Harmony House

Harmony House provides services to pregnant and parenting mothers ages 16-21 and their children. HRDC also offers an off-campus version, Transition in Place, with the same services as Harmony House for anyone 16-21, homeless, pregnant, and parenting. In 2021, Harmony House provided residence for **13** young mothers and their children. Transition in Place assisted **7** young families in obtaining employment and paid **32** months of off-campus rental related bills.

The Home Center

The Home Center is a collaborative community resource made up of agencies, financial institutions, and businesses to provide educational information and instruction on housing and financial topics. In 2021, **356** individuals attended participated in First Time Homebuyer Counseling. **37** participants completed budgeting and credit modules.

Housing Choice Voucher

HRDC administers Rural Section 8 vouchers in five counties, excluding Billings. We assist participants with securing safe and affordable housing. By working with owners and landlords, HRDC's certified inspectors verify units meet requirements prior to rental payments on behalf of the tenants. In 2021, **139** households received **\$739,014** in assistance including **1,439** months of rent, **145** utility payments, **56** housing inspections, and **6** security deposits.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA is a unique Home Center service that targets families with an adjusted gross income less than **\$56,000** providing them with no-cost tax preparation. State and federal taxes are prepared utilizing IRS certified community volunteers. Those with incomes less than **\$66,000** can file their own e-taxes with the assistance of a certified tax preparation specialist using the HRDC computer lab.

In 2021, **23** VITA volunteers assisted **830** taxpayers generating **\$1,188,818** in refunds and tax credits. In addition, the program saved taxpayers approximately **\$186,750** in tax preparation fees. Together these figures totaled **\$1,375,568** going directly back into our communities.

HRDC recognizes the long list of individuals, organizations, and businesses who have assisted the agency in building better communities and moving people out of poverty. These generous donors have given their time, money, and in-kind contributions helping HRDC assist and empower people in need.



Client services are funds leveraged in the Community through HRDC's program operations and client benefits paid by the state directly to clients or on their behalf not flowing through HRDC.

Child Day Care Assistance	\$7,898,482
Low-Income Energy Assistance	\$2,210,712
Section 8 Housing (estimate)	\$798,142
Pathways Client Direct Assistance	\$72,504
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Total Financial Assistance	\$10,979,840
Crow Reservation Food Distribution	\$92,814
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Total financial and commidty services	\$11,072,654
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This total was paid in subsidies that went directly back into our communities.

Revenues

Program Grants	\$10,890,018
Fees for Service	\$269,555
Contributions	\$9,317
Interest	\$255
Miscellaneous	\$36,240
Rental Income	\$24,738
In-Kind Contributions	\$7,145
Net Assets Released	\$73,019

Total Revenue	\$11,310,287
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Program Expenses

Community Development	\$357,584
Emergency Food & Housing	\$2,224,518
Energy Programs	\$2,542,558
Employment Assistance	\$1,600,449
Family Development	\$3,738,212
Fundraising	\$347
General & Administrative	\$819,649

Total Expenses	\$11,283,317
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HRDC Main Office

7 North 31st Street, Billings, MT 59101
Office 406.247.4732 | Fax 406.248.2943

Energy Assistance, Harmony House, Alternative
Education, & Youth

3116 1st Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101
Office 406.247.4778 | Fax 406.247.4791

HRDC's Home Center

3124 1st Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101
Office 406.206.2717 | Fax 406.206.2716

HRDC Satellite Office

501 North Center, Hardin, MT 59034
Office 406.665.3500 | Fax 406.665.1395

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

409 North Crook, Hardin, MT 59034
Office 406.665.2523 | Fax 406.665.1026

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