What will be Covered in Today’s Presentation

• Stearns County Role in Administering Financial Assistance Programs
• The Client Application Process
• Benefit Disbursements by Program and Specific Populations
• Public Health Services to Newly Arrived Refugees
• Answers to Previously Submitted Questions
The County Role in Delivering Federal and State Financial Benefits

The Stearns County Board has high level of responsibility for eligibility determination for benefits but no authority over benefit design, benefit amount or eligibility criteria.
Stearns County Administered Programs:

- Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)
- Medical Assistance (MA)
- MN Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - Public Health
  - Interpreter Services

These funds do not run through the Human Services Department or County budget.
- These services include county levy dollars.
Stearns County Does Not Administer:

- Schools
  - Local School Districts
  - MN Department of Education
  - US Department of Education
  - MN Colleges & Universities (Public & Private)
- Housing
  - Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
  - US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
  - Section 8
  - Salvation Army & Other Shelter Agencies
  - Church of the Week

> These funds do not run through the Human Services Department or County budget.
Stearns County Does Not Administer:

- Law Enforcement (Other than Sheriff’s Department)
  - Local City/Municipal Police Departments
  - Local Fire & Rescue
  - Federal & State Agencies
- Court System (Other than County Attorney)
  - State of Minnesota
  - Public Defenders
  - Judges
  - Court Administrators
- Hospital or Clinic Care
- Immigration or Refugee Resettlement

*These funds do not run through the Human Services Department or County budget.*
Other Counties May Administer

• Hospitals & Clinics
  • Hennepin County Medical Center
  • Douglas County Hospital

• Employment Services
  • Washington County Employment Services
  • Subsidized Employment Services-Supported Work

• Child Care Assistance
  • Basic Sliding Fee Subsidized Child Care
The County Role in Delivering Federal and State Financial Benefits

The Stearns County Board has high level of responsibility for eligibility determination for benefits but no authority over benefit design, benefit amount or eligibility criteria.
Combined Application Form

Do not use this application to apply for health care coverage. The application date or the day your SNAP (food) or cash benefits can start is the date the agency gets your application. We can set your application date if we have your name, address and signature on page 1. For your application to be complete, answer all questions on the application. Tell someone if you need help filling out this application. Be sure to sign and date the application on pages 1 and 9.

PERSON 1 APPLICANT'S LEGAL NAME (last/first/middle)
OTHER NAMES YOU USE (maiden name, nickname, etc.)
BIRTH DATE (mm/dd/yy)
GENDER □ M □ F
ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE (If you do not have an address, write “homeless.”)
APT. NUMBER
CITY
COUNTY
STATE
ZIP CODE
MAILING ADDRESS (If different from address where you live)

PHONE NUMBER WHERE YOU CAN BE REACHED (include area code)
Home: Other:

DO YOU LIVE ON A RESERVATION?
□ Yes □ No
If yes, which one?

DO YOU NEED AN INTERPRETER?
□ Yes □ No

WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED SPOKEN LANGUAGE?

WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED WRITTEN LANGUAGE?

MARITAL STATUS*

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

MOST RECENTLY MOVED TO MINNESOTA (mm/dd/yy)

Date: From:

U.S. CITIZEN OR U.S. NATIONAL?
□ Yes □ No

ETHNICITY (optional)

Hispanic? □ Yes □ No

RACE (optional)*

LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED

WHAT PROGRAM(S) ARE YOU APPLYING FOR?

□ SNAP (food) □ Cash programs □ Emergency Assistance** □ None

* See MARITAL and RACE codes on the top of page 2.
** Before applying for Emergency Assistance, check with your agency regarding funding and specific eligibility criteria.
By signing:

- I understand cash assistance is provided to help eligible families meet their basic needs.
- I understand if I give incorrect information or misuse an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card, I may be prosecuted for fraud. [Minnesota Statute, sections 256.98 and 609.821]
- I acknowledge that since my last application or recertification, I have received my cash and/or SNAP benefits directly or used my EBT card to get my cash and/or SNAP benefits.
- I acknowledge that I have read and understand the “Penalty warnings and qualification questions” section on page 8.
- I acknowledge that my worker gave me a copy of the “Notice of Privacy Practices” (DHS-3979) and explained the “Your responsibilities” and “Your rights” sections on page iii.
- I agree to assign my child support as stated above.
- I agree to the sharing of information as stated on the fraud release information section above.
- I agree to the sharing of information as stated in the Social Security numbers section on page ii.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SIGNATURE OF SPOUSE OR OTHER ADULT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE</td>
<td>DATE</td>
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</table>
## Assistance Application – Required Verifications

### Required Information

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identity of applicant or authorized representative</td>
<td>(driver’s license, state ID, passport, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security numbers of all people applying for help</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residency in Minnesota</td>
<td>(state ID, lease agreement, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income** (paystubs, pension, etc.) or any other money coming into your</td>
<td>household (unemployment, sponsor income, etc.). The agency will verify</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household</td>
<td>Social Security income.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing costs*** (rent/house payment receipt, mortgage, lease, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical costs*** (prescription and medical bills, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relationship to other household members (birth certificates, marriage</td>
<td>licenses, court documents, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking and savings accounts (bank statement, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Value of vehicles (cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, etc.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value of stocks/bonds, certificates of deposit, life insurance,</td>
<td>trusts (statement, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility costs (utility statement, phone bill, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proof of illness or disability (doctor’s statement, etc.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Source: MN Department of Human Services: Combined Application Form (DHS-5223) page i
Agencies we get information from

We must trade facts with these agencies:

- United States Social Security Administration (SSA) – We get records of self-employment earnings, retirement income, survivor’s benefits, disability payments, Social Security (RSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) – We get records of unearned income (like interest and dividends).
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) – We get records of wages and pay and facts on Unemployment Insurance.
- Minnesota Office of Child Support Enforcement
- Agencies in other states that manage:
  - Unemployment Insurance
  - Cash assistance
  - SNAP
  - Child support enforcement
  - SSI state supplements.
Examples of Identification

Department Homeland Security I-94 Arrival & Departure Record

United States of America Permanent Resident Card

Visa

Minnesota Driver's License
Discrimination is against the law.

You have the right to file a complaint if you believe you were treated in a discriminatory way by a human services agency. You can contact any of the following agencies directly to file a civil rights complaint:

The Minnesota Department of Human Services, Equal Opportunity and Access Division, prohibits discrimination in all of its programs because of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, sexual orientation, public assistance status, age or disability. Contact the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Equal Opportunity and Access Division directly at P.O. Box 64997, St. Paul, MN 55164-0997. Telephone 651-431-3040 or use your preferred relay service.

The Minnesota Department of Human Rights prohibits discrimination in public services programs because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or public assistance status. Contact the Minnesota Department of Human Rights directly at Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Freeman Building, 625 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. Telephone 651-539-1100 and Toll Free 800-657-3704. TTY 651-296-1283.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office for Civil Rights prohibits discrimination in its programs because of race, color, national origin, disability, age, and in some cases sex and religion. Contact the federal agency directly at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office for Civil Rights, Region V, 233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 240, Chicago, IL 60601. Telephone 312-886-2359 and Toll Free 800-368-1019. TTY 800-537-7697.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email program.intake@usda.gov.
The Stearns County Board has high level of responsibility for eligibility determination for benefits but no authority over benefit design, benefit amount or eligibility criteria.
December 2014 Monthly Benefit Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Program Description</th>
<th>Monthly Disbursement</th>
<th>Percentage of All Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Assistance (MA)</strong> for Elderly Long Term Care and Disabled, Nursing Home Care, In-Home Waivered Services, Medical Appointments, Procedures and Prescriptions</td>
<td>$32,499,825</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</strong> formerly known as Food Stamps, helps Minnesotans with low incomes get the food they need for nutritious and well-balanced meals. The program provides support to help stretch your household food budget. It is not intended to meet all of your household’s food needs. It is a supplement.</td>
<td>$1,051,291</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
## December 2014 Monthly Benefit Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Program Description</th>
<th>Monthly Disbursement</th>
<th>Percentage of All Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MN Family Investment Program (MFIP)</strong> helps families with children meet their basic needs, while helping parents move to financial stability through work. Parents are expected to work, and are supported in working with both cash and food assistance. Most families have a lifetime limit of 60 months on MFIP.</td>
<td>$617,525</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newly Arrived</strong> refugee adults qualify for Refugee Cash Assistance, Supplemental Nutritional Food Support (SNAP) and health care. Additionally, families with minor children are eligible for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP).</td>
<td>$17,180</td>
<td>Less than 1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
Interpreter Services Requested by Program Enrollment
US Citizenship

US Citizens 80%

20% Legal Immigrants/Refugees

Source: DHS Reports
# Application Language – December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Spoken Language</th>
<th>Needing Interpreters</th>
<th>% needing interpreters</th>
<th>Written Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Somali</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
<td>580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td>87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hmong</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>Oromo</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Arabic</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Laotian</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
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<td>Khmer</td>
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<td>Amharic</td>
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<td>French</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>57.1%</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cantonese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burmese</td>
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<td>ASL</td>
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<td>Korean</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandarin</td>
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<td>Swahili</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
<td>23</td>
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</table>

| | Limited English Proficiency | 1,110 | 849 | 67.5% | 770 |
| | English Speaking | 12,360 | 251 | 2.0% | 6,170 |
| | Missing | 174 | 0 | 0.0% | 3 |
| | Total | 13,644 | 1,100 | 8.1% | 6,943 |

Source: DHS 2011/12 Limited English Proficiency Language and Interpreter Data; Data warehouse
Percentage of Participation by Interpreter Service Request
Minneapolis Family Investment Program & Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program

Source: DHS Reports. Years 2009-2013
5 Year Average-- Number of Times Benefits Issued by Language

TANF: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; MFIP: MN Family Investment Program; SNAP: Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program
Source: DHS Reports 2009-2013 Benefit Summary
Average Dollar Amount Receiving Benefits

TANF: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; MFIP: MN Family Investment Program; SNAP: Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program

Source: DHS Reports 2009-2013 Benefit Summary
## MFIP Three-year Self-Support Index by Racial/Ethnic or Immigrant Group within Service Agency

### January – March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Agency</th>
<th>White Number of Adults</th>
<th>White Percent Success</th>
<th>African American Number of Adults</th>
<th>African American Percent Success</th>
<th>American Indian Number of Adults</th>
<th>American Indian Percent Success</th>
<th>Somali Number of Adults</th>
<th>Somali Percent Success</th>
<th>Non-Somali Black Immigrant Number of Adults</th>
<th>Non-Somali Black Immigrant Percent Success</th>
<th>Hmong Number of Adults</th>
<th>Hmong Percent Success</th>
<th>Non-Hmong Asian Number of Adults</th>
<th>Non-Hmong Asian Percent Success</th>
<th>Hispanic Number of Adults</th>
<th>Hispanic Percent Success</th>
<th>Multiple or Missing Number of Adults</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kittson</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koozic Peace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
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<td>Lake of the Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kittson</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Minnesota Family Investment Program Three-year Self-Support Index by Racial/Ethnic or Immigrant Group – Stearns County January-March 2015

Percentage of Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
<td>907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>54.3%</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somali</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Somali Black Immigrant</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Caseload/Program Trend

MFIP: MN Family Investment Program; SNAP: Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program; MA: Medical Assistance
Source: MAXIS Income Maintenance Reports – Month of January
The County Role in Delivering Federal and State Financial Benefits

The Stearns County Board has high level of responsibility for eligibility determination for benefits but no authority over benefit design, benefit amount or eligibility criteria.
Medical Assistance – What is it?

• Center for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS)
• Medicaid is the assistance for elderly long-term care and disabled, nursing home care, in-home waivered services, medical appointments, procedures and prescriptions.

• This is not Medicare – Medicare is for over 65 and typically retired persons
• Medicaid is by far the largest percentage of benefits that we administer on behalf of the Federal and State government
• Affordable Care Act (ACA), 2010 – effectively expanded healthcare for adults and children
Medical Assistance Program

Income Eligibility

Federal Poverty Guideline

0% 75% 138% 200% 275%

$18,188 $33,465 $48,500 $66,688

Before - ACA

Medical Assistance Children

Medical Assistance Adults

Minnesota Care

After - ACA

Medical Assistance Children

IMA

Interim Medical Assistance (IMA)

Medical Assistance Adults

Minnesota Care

Dollar amounts are based on a family of 4

ACA = Affordable Care Act
## December 2014 Monthly Benefit Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Program Description</th>
<th>Monthly Disbursement</th>
<th>Percentage of All Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Assistance (MA)</strong> for Elderly Long Term Care and Disabled, Nursing Home Care, In-Home Waivered Services, Medical Appointments, Procedures and Prescriptions</td>
<td>$32,499,825</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
Example of Total Monthly Benefits Issued in Stearns County

- Medical Assistance is 94%
- All other programs make up 6%

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
94% $32,499,825

GRH 0.91%
MFIP 1.90%
GA 0.19%
SNAP 3.24%
MSA 0.15%
Newly Arrived 0.05%

All Other Benefit Programs
6.39% $2,089,757

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
Medical Assistance Benefits Issued in Stearns County – 94% Breakdown

- All Other Medical Assistance Benefits: 90.6% (17,674 persons)
- Waivers: 5.6% (463 persons)
- Facilities: 3.8% (218 persons)

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
Medical Assistance Payment Benefits Issued in Stearns County - December 2014
(These dollars are not run through county budget)

- Medical Assistance is 94% of total monthly benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Monthly Average</th>
<th>Benefit Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td>Fed/State</td>
<td>$5,660</td>
<td>$1,233,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>463</td>
<td>Fed/State</td>
<td>$3,962</td>
<td>$1,834,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17,674</td>
<td>Fed/State</td>
<td>$1,665</td>
<td>$29,431,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18,355</td>
<td></td>
<td>$32,499,825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
All other economic assistance programs are 6% of total benefits issued.

- **MN Supplemental Aid**: 0.1% (538 adults)
- **Group Residential Housing**: 0.9% (577 single adults)
- **SNAP**: 3.2% (10,722 persons)
- **General Assistance**: 0.2% (389 persons)
- **MN Family Investment Program**: 1.9% (773 families)
- **Newly Arrived**: 0.1% (70 persons)

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
### All Other Benefits Issued in Stearns County – December 2014
(These dollars are not run through county budget)

- Food support for 10,772 persons is 3% of total monthly benefits
- Minnesota Family Investment Program serves 773 families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Persons</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Monthly Average</th>
<th>Benefit Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Residential Housing</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$509</td>
<td>$293,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN Family Investment Program</td>
<td>2,430</td>
<td>Federal/State</td>
<td>$254</td>
<td>$617,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newly Arrived (Refugee Cash Assistance)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$245</td>
<td>$17,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Assistance, Single Adults</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$62,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program</td>
<td>10,722</td>
<td>Federal (USDA)</td>
<td>$98</td>
<td>$1,051,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN Supplemental Aid</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$89</td>
<td>$47,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>14,726</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$2,089,757</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FY 2014-2015 Biennium Summary; DHS Reports & Forecasts Division, pg 26 Based on November 2014 Forecast; DHS MAXIS Reports-December
How do clients receive benefits?

(These dollars are not run through county budget)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Average Monthly Benefit</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>% English Speaking</th>
<th>% Limited English Proficiency</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN Family Investment Program (MFIP)</td>
<td>$254/person</td>
<td>Federal / State</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$775/family</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (EBT card)</td>
<td>$98/Person</td>
<td>Federal (USDA)</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assistance (MA)</td>
<td>$1,771</td>
<td>Federal / State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Residential Housing</td>
<td>$943</td>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Assistance</td>
<td>$1,003/May have co-pay</td>
<td>Fed/St state</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Assistance</td>
<td>$116</td>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DHS Reports, Income Maintenance Monthly MAXIS Reports
Public Assistance Funds Impact – Medical Assistance

- $32 million goes to any entity that can bill for a medical service. That includes:
  - Hospitals
  - Clinics
  - Pharmacy
  - Physical therapy
  - Dental
  - Transportation
  - Any medical service billable to MA
  - Occupational therapy
  - Specialty clinics & doctors (i.e. CT scan)
Public Assistance Funds Impact – Food Support

- $1 million spent by recipient at:
  - Grocery stores
  - Farmers Markets
  - Convenience stores
  - Big box stores for eligible items
Public Assistance Funds Impact - MFIP

- $617,525 / month
- Food Support
- Housing Assistance
- Child Care Assistance
- Employment & Training Services

MFIP: Minnesota Family Investment Program
Public Assistance Funds Impact – Newly Arrived

$17,000/month

- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Federally funded
- Up to 8 months from time of arrival
- Goes to recipient to cover household, transportation, clothing, and other needs
County Role in Providing Public Health Services

Refugee Health Assessments
Public Health and Refugee Health Assessments

• While in refugee camp, health assessments are done each 12-15 months
• Once refugee designated to move to primary location, the appropriate agencies are notified including local public health
Refugee Health Assessment
Information Flow

- Quarantine Station/CDC
  - MDH
  - Local Health Dept.
    - Screening form completed & returned
    - Primary provider screens
    - Forwards information to primary provider
  - Local Health Dept. sets up appointment

- U.S. Dept. of State
  - National Volunteer Agencies
    - Local Volunteer Agency
  - International office of Migration

Source: Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
Public Health Department

• Public Health contacts new refugee arrivals to the county
  • Within 5-10 days of notification from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

• Responsibility of local public health
  • Schedule health screening appointment(s)
  • Assist with primary care needs
  • Assure information communicated to refugee and volunteer agency
  • Any follow-up from appointment gets done
  • Forward results of screening to MDH
2009 - 2013 Health Status Data

- Percent screened
- TB Infection (not infectious)
- Hepatitis B infection
- Parasite Infection
- Syphilis Infection
- HIV Infection

Source: Minnesota Department of Health
Public Health Services to Refugees

Source: PH Docs
Review of Previously Submitted Questions
1. The publicized U.S. Refugee Resettlement total for 2015 is 70,000 (however there are numerous additional Government approved legal immigrant classifications which more than doubles this number). How are decisions made and by whom concerning Refugee numbers and from which foreign country they originate when destined for resettlement in MN?

- Each October, the President and Congress sets the number of refugees.
- 2014 = 70,000 refugees
- One half of one percent of the world’s refugee population of 16.7 million
- US Department of State and US Department of Homeland Security decides who gets into the US
- FACT SHEET: The Federal Role in Immigrant & Refugee Integration
  - www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/07/16/fact-sheet-strengthening-communities-welcoming-all-residents
- US Department Health & Human Services – Office of Refugee Resettlement
  - Carl Rubenstein, Director, Division of Refugee Assistance. 202-205-5933 carl.rubenstein@acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr
  - www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr
- US Department of State – Refugee Admissions Shaarik H. Zafar, Resettlement Special Representative
  - www.state.gov/j/prm/ra/
- US Department of Homeland Security
  - The United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) Consultation & Worldwide Processing Priorities

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
2. Of the preceding designated for MN Settlement, who all is involved in making the decision as to the specific number assigned to Stearns County and what kind of metrics are used? Is there some kind of balance related to Country of origin included in the metric?

- Nationally there are nine Voluntary Agencies (VOLAGs) that coordinate refugee resettlement
  - Over 300 local organizations
- Refugees go through a security clearance process
- US Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees & Migration sends a request for assurance of placement to the VOLAGs
- MN Department of Health – State Refugee Program
  - www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/refugee/topics/stategov.html

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
3. Since 2005, how many Primary Refugees (as opposed to secondary) have been assigned to Stearns County annually?

- Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota settled just under 1,000 primary refugees in St. Cloud since 2008
- All of these were reunited with family members who already lived in St. Cloud
- 2016 is expecting 215 primary placements

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
4. What is the foreign country of origin breakdown over each of the last five years?

- Largest refugee population that Lutheran Social Services currently serves in Minnesota is from Burma
- Also served people from Somalia, Iraq, Ethiopia, and the former Soviet Union

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
5. Each Refugee (Primary and Secondary) is eligible for a number of Federal, State and local social program assistance and grants. Upon arrival in Stearns County, what is the average monetary amount each Refugee has access to?

- Receive federal loan for travel expenses to US to be paid back in three years
- Refugees receive a one-time federal grant of $1,125 to cover housing and initial expenses
- Lutheran Social Services receives $850 per individual to do their resettlement work
- Refugees can apply for public benefits if they are eligible just like other residents
- These benefits are not part of the county budget

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
6. Is there an ongoing and regular dialogue existing between Stearns County and the VOLAGS relative to their Refugee Resettlement initiatives and how they form their abstracts?

- Stearns County participates in quarterly meetings with Lutheran Social Services
- Attendees include local government, public health, housing authority, schools, social services, businesses and others
- Human Services does not participate in the formulation of nor access their abstracts

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
7. Given Stearns County administers the distribution of various federal and state dollars designated for Stearns County, how much of the total is specifically targeted for refugee resettlement? How much has this total grown annually over each of the last five years? What is the dollar amount in 2015 to be used specifically for refugee resettlement programs? What is the cost to Stearns County to administer these funds and programs?

- The only benefit specifically targeted to refugees is the Refugee Cash Assistance program
- Refugees are eligible to apply for any other financial assistance available to the general public
- Stearns County does not track refugee status for any financial assistance program other than Refugee Cash Assistance
7. Continued

• Refugee Cash Assistance program

Federal Funds Issued in Stearns by Person - Month of January

Source: MAXIS Income Maintenance Reports – Month of January
8. Please share the cost to Stearns County for refugee resettlement related to day care, after school care and the school lunch program. Additionally please help us with the amounts related to refugee resettlement for SSDI, psychotherapy, English speaking translators, necessary by police, fire and rescue departments.

Interpreter Services for Human Services Only

Source: New World

Note: 2015 data is January-August only
9. Upon arrival to Stearns County, what kind of priority is given to housing for refugee resettlement? For any reason are refugees placed ahead of the line of others already waiting for similar housing?

- None. Refugees do not receive any special treatment

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
10. It is our understanding that the refugees employed are allowed some kind of federal government subsidy accrued to the employer. How much is this hourly subsidy and how long is the employer benefited?

- Employers do not received federal subsidies because they hire refugees
- Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit is available to employers for hiring target groups facing significant barriers to employment
  - www.Doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/eligible.cfm

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
11. The Office of Refugee Resettlement Director approved Minnesota’s Public/Private Partnership (PPP) Refugee Cash Assistance program for eight counties in Minnesota. These counties are Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey, Scott and Washington. While RCA is provided by VOLAG affiliates in eight counties, RCA continues to be county-administered in the seventy-nine remaining counties. Given Stearns County is ranked third for SM behind Kandiyohi, why is Stearns County having to pay for program subsidies? Shouldn’t this be voted on by local residents?

- All counties in MN administer federal Refugee Cash Assistance benefits
- Resettlement agencies in eight counties have a special contract with the State Department to administer Refugee Cash Assistance benefits to newly arrived singles and childless couples

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
12. Refugees are not commonly tested for many foreign borne diseases – HIV, Tuberculosis, etc. Other than obvious potential exposure threats, who is paying for related medical expenses?

- All refugees in refugee camps are tested and screened for health concerns annually
- Refugees are eligible for Medical Assistance same as other persons who meets eligibility
- Stearns County Public Health does an initial health assessment and makes referral for first clinic visit

Source: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota
13. Under what conditions might Stearns County entertain a resolution to specifically prohibit the use of foreign law in administrating county services, law enforcement, and county court proceedings?

- Stearns County follows the United States Constitution, federal and state law
NOTE: Federal and State programs for which we understand Refugees are currently eligible include:

- TANF – Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
- Food Stamps – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Public Housing
- Supplemental Social Security Income
- Social Security Disability Insurance
- Administration on Developmental Disabilities
- **Child Care** and Development Fund (Child Care Assistance)
- Independent Living Program
- **Minnesota Family Investment Program, Diversionary Work Program – Federal and State Block Grant Money (MFIP Consolidated Grant)**
- **Refugee Cash Assistance**
- Job Opportunities for Low Income Individuals (JOLI)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
- Postsecondary Education Loans and Grants
- Refugee Assistance Programs (various other)
- **Title IV Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Payments – Title IV-E**
- **Title XX Social Services Block Grant Funds**
Where do we go from here?

• Today’s PowerPoint will be posted on the Stearns County website
• A list of Refugee Resettlement Resources will be posted on the Stearns County Website
• Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will also be posted on the Stearns County Website
Thank You!