

Goodhue County
Outside Agency Funding Request Form

Budget		Estimated 2026	Estimated 2027
Revenues			
	Fundraising	\$ 150,000	\$ 160,000
	Grants:	\$ 50,000	\$ 55,000
	State/Federal Funding:	\$ 1,245,000	\$ 1,245,000
	Other Revenue:		
Total Revenues:		\$ 1,445,000	\$ 1,460,000
Expenses			
	Salaries:	\$ 1,025,000	\$ 1,040,000
	Benefits:	\$ 185,000	\$ 195,000
	Professional Services:	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500
	Services & Charges:	\$ -	\$ -
	Supplies & Materials:	\$ 120,000	\$ 125,000
	Other Expenses:	\$ 185,000	\$ 200,000
	Capital:		
Total Expenses:		\$ 1,523,500	\$ 1,568,500
Requested Funding From County:		\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
Number of Staff		26	26

HOPE Coalition



28 May 2025

To: Ms. Andrea Benck
Goodhue County Administration

From: Sara Kern
HOPE Coalition

Re: Goodhue County Outside Agency Funding

Attached is HOPE Coalition's request for Goodhue County Outside agency funding and budget.

For additional information please contact Sara Kern at 651 388-9360 ext. 9 or skern@hope-coalition.org.

Thank you!

HOPE Coalition respectfully requests \$7,500 per year for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 to support a continuum of services that benefit Goodhue County residents, reduce strain on local systems, and create measurable cost savings for the county. These funds will help ensure continued delivery of housing advocacy, shelter access, emergency assistance, and victim services—offered in close coordination with law enforcement, Health & Human Services, and other county agencies.

HOPE Coalition serves approximately 2,000 individuals each year across Goodhue and Wabasha Counties. Our services address some of the most urgent and costly crises impacting residents, including domestic violence, homelessness, sexual assault, and poverty. We are often called in at critical points—after a violent incident, at the point of eviction, or upon release from jail. We are proud to offer compassionate, coordinated, and cost-effective responses that stabilize individuals and families while reducing burdens on public systems.

Our responsiveness and strong partnership with the county have helped prevent several potential system-level crises. One notable example occurred when a local facility serving vulnerable adults was forced to close unexpectedly. The county reached out to HOPE for assistance distributing emergency grant funds to impacted individuals. Our team responded the same day, helping stabilize the situation before a larger crisis unfolded. This rapid coordination reduced what could have been an overwhelming burden on county systems and allowed for a smooth, person-centered transition.

In the past year, HOPE provided emergency shelter to domestic violence survivors and their children, responded to sexual assault survivors across age groups, and helped hundreds of people access or maintain safe housing. Our 24/7 advocacy team supports individuals in crisis at hospitals, in courtrooms, at police departments, and throughout the community. We work side-by-side with law enforcement and Goodhue County Health & Human Services to support clients whose needs might otherwise escalate into more costly or complex involvement with county systems. When we can intervene early—with gas for a medical appointment, short-term shelter, or help navigating a CPS case—the outcome is better for the individual and for county resources.

Over the past several years, we've strengthened our collaboration with the county by helping expand access to sexual assault forensic exams right here in Red Wing. In partnership with St. Croix Valley SART, we've established local access to trained sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs); a service previously only available in Rochester or the Twin Cities. Survivors no longer have to travel hours for care. We also coordinate transportation to and from forensic exams, alleviating that pressure from already stretched law enforcement teams. This approach ensures survivors get the care they need, investigations move forward efficiently, and no additional burden is placed on county departments.

Our services also support individuals leaving the Goodhue County Adult Detention Center who would otherwise exit with no housing, no money, and no plan. Our team provides shelter, transportation, and referrals, helping them return to family or stable housing outside the county without requiring further system involvement. These interventions are fast, targeted, and prevent unnecessary strain on law enforcement, HHS, or emergency housing programs.

HOPE is uniquely positioned to offer this kind of flexible, coordinated response. Our advocates often stabilize a situation before it becomes a crisis. In doing so, we:

- Reduce repeat involvement with jails, CPS, and emergency services
- Minimize the need for law enforcement to respond to repeat calls
- Help clients move toward long-term stability
- Act as a bridge between county departments, reducing case complexity and staff burden

We know public dollars must be used wisely. That's why HOPE maximizes every dollar we receive, delivering immediate results and long-term savings. For example, a motel voucher to prevent homelessness may cost under \$100—far less than the cost of a jail stay, hospitalization, or long-term shelter placement. These small investments save taxpayer money and protect already limited county resources.

Like many organizations, HOPE Coalition is facing significant budget constraints. Without continued support from the county, we will be forced to make difficult decisions that will ultimately reduce the number of people served in our communities. Your support allows us to remain a responsive and reliable partner—helping residents in crisis, supporting public systems, and reducing the cost of inaction.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing partnership in building a safer, more stable Goodhue County.