



Court Services
454 West 6th Street
Red Wing, MN 55066



To: Goodhue County Commissioners

Scott Arneson

From: Rhonda VanSchoonhoven

Court Services Director

Goodhue County Court Services is applying for the MN Department of Public Safety 2025 Restorative Practices Advisory Council (RPAC) Grant. The request will be made for \$38,220.00. The application is due 02/10/24.

Restorative Practices Advisory Council Planning Grant

Goodhue County Court Services and RiseUp Red Wing Grant Narrative

4.1.1 Service Area

What is your County, Tribal Nation, or consortium of Tribal Nations and/or Counties that the RPAC will cover?

Goodhue County

Include population level data as you are able.

As of July 1, 2023, Goodhue County, Minnesota, has an estimated population of 48,035 (CENSUS.GOV). This reflects a 1.0% increase from the 2020 census count of 47,582. The county spans approximately 757 square miles, resulting in a population density of about 63 people per square mile (WORLDPOPULATIONREVIEW.COM).

The demographic composition is predominantly White, accounting for 94.1% of the population. Other racial groups include Black or African American (1.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native (1.5%), Asian

(0.8%), and individuals identifying with two or more races (2.0%). Hispanic or Latino individuals constitute 4.2% of the population (CENSUS.GOV).

Age distribution data indicates that 5.5% of residents are under 5 years old, 21.7% are under 18 years old, and 21.3% are 65 years and over. The gender composition is nearly balanced, with females making up 49.8% of the population (CENSUS.GOV).

The county has 21,348 housing units, with an owner-occupied rate of 78.0%. The median value of these owner-occupied housing units is \$269,400 (CENSUS.GOV).

Educational attainment among residents aged 25 and over shows that 93.7% have at least a high school diploma, while 27.9% hold a bachelor's degree or higher (CENSUS.GOV).

Economically, the median household income is \$78,338, with a per capita income of \$50,227. Approximately 9.09% of the population lives below the poverty line (WORLDPOPULATIONREVIEW.COM).

Regarding employment, 64.9% of residents aged 16 and over are part of the civilian labor force (CENSUS.GOV).

4.1.2 Lead Organization

The lead organization will be the catalyst for the RPAC formation but will not accomplish the goal alone. The organization serves as the convener to bring together the other key community members who need to be part of the RPAC. The organization can hold the vision, call the meetings, maintain communication, keep accountability, and maintain momentum on behalf of the people in the community.

Why is this organization in this community the right organization to lead the work?

Goodhue County Court Services (GCCS) established in the late 1950s, provides probation and parole services for adult misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, and juvenile cases, along with investigatory services for court proceedings. Committed to fair and evidence-based justice, the office integrates culturally responsive programming to support client rehabilitation. It utilizes REAM, OJP Crime Prevention, and

NHTSA Ignition Interlock grants and has a director actively engaged with RiseUp Red Wing (RURW) through its board and grant review processes.

Over 30 years ago, GCCS co-founded Red Wing Youth Outreach, now RURW, which supports youth furthest from opportunity through mentoring, leadership development, independent living skills, and restorative justice efforts. As a trusted leader in justice-involved youth support, RURW has deep partnerships with GCCS, extensive experience in restorative and trauma-informed programming, and a proven ability to engage youth and community partners. These strengths make RURW uniquely positioned to lead and expand restorative justice efforts through the RPAC initiative.

How does this organization in the community hold trust and accountability?

RiseUp Red Wing is deeply committed to equity and inclusion, with staff and leadership who reflect the lived experiences of the youth they serve. The majority of RiseUp Red Wing's participants are youth of color and low-income families, and the organization has tailored its programming to meet the unique needs of these communities. Staff regularly engage in equity-focused professional development, including training in implicit bias, racial equity, mentoring LGBTQIA2+ youth, trauma-informed care, and collective impact strategies. This commitment ensures that the RPAC will be designed with an inclusive, community-driven approach that resonates with the youth it serves.

Does this organization have experience mobilizing cross sector stakeholders for efforts centering on young people?

Yes, both RURW and GCCS collaborate with local schools, social service agencies, and youth organizations to provide holistic support to at-risk youth. The leadership at both organization serve on countywide committees and grant review panels, ensuring alignment with broader youth justice and public safety efforts. Through RPAC, RURW and GCCS will leverage these existing partnerships to coordinate resources, implement data-driven strategies, and sustain restorative practices across multiple systems.

RURW is the right organization for us to contract with to lead this work because of its deep community roots, expertise in youth development and justice collaboration, grant management capacity, cultural competency, responsiveness to community needs, and strong strategic partnerships. As a trusted convener, RURW can effectively bring together key stakeholders, facilitate restorative justice

implementation, and drive systemic change in Goodhue County. Their leadership ensures that RPAC will be youth-centered, community-driven, and built for long-term impact.

GCCS leadership will be an essential partner in convening the local juvenile justice officials, ensuring that they are actively involved members of the RPAC.

4.1.3 Staff Capacity

The work will be short-term, intensive planning time, both within your community and within the grantee network. It will be critical that the lead organization is able to devote a key staff member, at an appropriate decision-making capacity, to participate in the work. The staff lead can expect to do one-on-one meetings with community members/organizations (depending on the size of your community, this could mean 10-20 meetings), build RPAC (likely meeting monthly) and attend monthly coaching or statewide advisory committee meetings with other counties. This role may also create a communication strategy to keep community members engaged in the work.

Name/Role of who will lead the work and a short professional bio of experiences that connect to this work.

Alicia Whaley will serve as the lead staff member for this initiative, overseeing the development and implementation of the RPAC. As Program Manager at RURW, Alicia Whaley has extensive experience in youth development, restorative justice, and community engagement, making them well-suited to lead this intensive planning process.

With a background in juvenile intervention and prevention programs, mental health, trauma-informed care, and cross-sector collaboration, Alicia Whaley has worked directly with court-involved youth, schools, probation services, and local government agencies to create restorative alternatives to punitive discipline. Their leadership in mentorship programs, conflict resolution initiatives, and community-based youth services aligns directly with the goals of RPAC.

How will this fit into their role or the goals of their position?

The RPAC aligns seamlessly with the Program Manager's role at RURW, directly supporting the organization's mission to empower youth, reduce justice system involvement, and foster community collaboration. This initiative enhances their ability to drive systemic change for at-risk youth in Goodhue County while remaining within the scope of their existing responsibilities.

How many hours (weekly) will they be able to devote to this work?

The Program Manager will be able to devote an estimated 10-15 hours per week to this initiative. This time allocation ensures a dedicated focus on the RPAC while maintaining alignment with their broader responsibilities at RURW. Breakdown of Time Commitment (Weekly Estimate):

Stakeholder Engagement & One-on-One Meetings (4-5 hours/week)

RPAC Coordination & Meeting Facilitation (3-4 hours/week)

Statewide Advisory Meetings & Coaching Sessions (2-3 hours/week)

Communication & Community Engagement (2-3 hours/week)

Program Evaluation & Continuous Improvement (1-2 hours/week)

This structured approach ensures that RPAC receives the necessary leadership and dedicated planning time while remaining integrated within RURW's broader mission and programming.

Given that person's salary, how much time would that mean per month?

40-60 hours

4.1.4 Cultural Competence

Describe your agency's commitment to conduct activities or provide services in an accessible, welcoming, and respectful manner that is culturally sensitive and honors and values diverse life experiences.

Describe how the ethnic, racial, economic, cultural, and geographic diversity of your agency's leadership staff, board of directors, and staff reflects the participants you intend to work with.

RURW is committed to equity, inclusion, and accessibility, ensuring all youth feel welcomed, respected, and valued. Using a trauma-informed and culturally responsive approach, RURW actively engages youth in shaping programs that reflect their experiences. Services incorporate restorative practices, mentorship, and community engagement, with materials available in multiple languages and spaces designed for accessibility. Staff and leadership undergo continuous professional development in implicit bias, trauma-informed care, racial equity, and LGBTQIA2+ inclusion, fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all participants.

RURW ensures that its leadership, board, and staff reflect the diverse backgrounds of the youth served. Many staff members grew up in the community and participated in RURW programs, bringing lived experience and authentic connection to their roles. The board includes leaders from diverse racial, economic, and professional backgrounds, ensuring broad representation in decision-making. With a deep understanding of the challenges faced by rural and low-income communities, RURW tailors programs to meet these needs. Committed to breaking down barriers and fostering belonging, RURW works to ensure that all youth have the opportunity to thrive.

Describe how the lived experience of your agency's leadership staff, board of directors, and staff is reflective of the participants you intend to work with.

RURW's leadership, board, and staff bring personal and professional experiences that align with the youth we serve. Many of our team members grew up in Red Wing or surrounding communities, providing a firsthand understanding of the social, economic, and systemic barriers faced by local youth. Several staff members were once participants in RURW programs, giving them direct insight into the challenges and opportunities within the community.

Our board of directors includes individuals with backgrounds in education, juvenile justice, social services, and community advocacy, ensuring diverse perspectives that inform our work. Many have experience working with youth from historically marginalized communities, reinforcing our commitment to equitable and culturally responsive programming.

Additionally, RURW's leadership reflects the racial, economic, and cultural diversity of the youth we serve, including individuals from Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other communities of color. Our team understands the importance of representation and culturally relevant mentorship, ensuring that young people see leaders who share and respect their lived experiences.

This alignment allows us to build trust, create meaningful connections, and develop programs that genuinely address the needs of youth and families in Goodhue County. By integrating lived experience with professional expertise, RURW ensures that its approach is responsive and effective in supporting young people as they navigate challenges and build brighter futures.

Describe your agency's relevant experience working with the target population.

RURW has decades of experience supporting youth furthest from opportunity, including those involved in the juvenile justice system, experiencing poverty, or facing systemic barriers. Founded initially as Red Wing Youth Outreach in partnership with GCCS, RURW provides mentorship, skill development, and advocacy to at-risk youth in Goodhue County.

Programs focus on restorative justice, leadership development, independent living skills, and family engagement, serving court-involved youth, youth of color, LGBTQ+ youth, and those facing instability. RURW collaborates with GCCS, schools, and community agencies to coordinate resources and implement trauma-informed, culturally responsive practices.

With lived experience and professional expertise, RURW's team ensures programs are inclusive, effective, and grounded in community needs. Through evidence-based strategies and strong partnerships, RURW is well-equipped to reduce system involvement and empower youth toward positive futures.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Application: A-RPAC-2025-GOODHUCS-006

Budget Item Program Component: RPAC: Goodhue County Restorative Practices Advisory Council and Initiative

Budget Category: Contracted Services		
Budget Description:	Award	Match
Restorative Practices Advisory Council Program Manager Contract with RiseUp Red Wing to provide convening and facilitation services for the creation and ongoing leadership of the Goodhue County Restorative Practices Advisory Council. average 10 hours per week x 60.00 per hour x 52 weeks: \$31,200	\$31,200.00	
Stipends for community-based council members RiseUp Red Wing will recruit, train, and support community members who are Restorative Practices Advisory Council members. These community members will receive stipends, transportation fees/mileage reimbursement, and childcare reimbursement for their involvement in the council. 6 community-based members and \$50 per hour they are in training or in meetings. Estimate 12 hours of training and 6 hours of meetings in year 1. = \$5,400.00 Child care and transportation: \$15 per event, 18 events: \$1,620.00	\$7,020.00	
Budget Item Program Component Total:	\$ 38,220.00	\$ 0.00
Total:	\$ 38,220.00	\$ 0.00