

IDD HOUSING NAVIGATION

DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING NAVIGATION IN BOULDER
COUNTY

**Rebecca J. Seiden, IDD Mill Levy Program Coordinator
Boulder County Human Services Community Initiative Unit**



IDD Mill Levy

IDD Mill Levy Definition

- **A documented intellectual and/or developmental disability** that is manifested before the person reaches 22 years of age or brain injury acquired as an adult that **results in a disability**.
- A **documented** disability attributed to a diagnosed intellectual disability or related conditions which include cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or other neurological conditions when such conditions result in EITHER impairment of general intellectual functioning OR adaptive behavior similar to that of a person with a diagnosed intellectual disability.
- **Individual must be in process or have qualified for a Medicaid waiver or disability benefit program due to an IDD/BI/Autism diagnosis to receive IDD Mill Levy funding for emergency needs.**

Boulder County IDD Needs Assessment

Housing
Case Management
and Systems
Navigation
Advocacy
Mental Health
Self-Advocacy
Community
Engagement and
Social Connectedness
Community Education
and IDD Awareness
Ongoing Monitoring
and Evaluation

Housing is a fundamental need and a major challenge for our Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Autism, and Brain Injury Community. The Boulder County IDD Needs Assessment indicated that housing is a core service and a priority need. It is a top theme across all stakeholder groups as a basic need that supersedes all others.



Systems Navigation in Boulder County

IDD Mill Levy supports an IDD Mill Levy Systems Navigator as recommended by the IDD Needs Assessment

Individuals and/or families with IDD/Autism/BI attempting to negotiate complex systems often encounter difficulties accessing and receiving needed services when attempting to negotiate complex systems. Most people with IDD/Autism/BI have cross system and multi-system involvement.

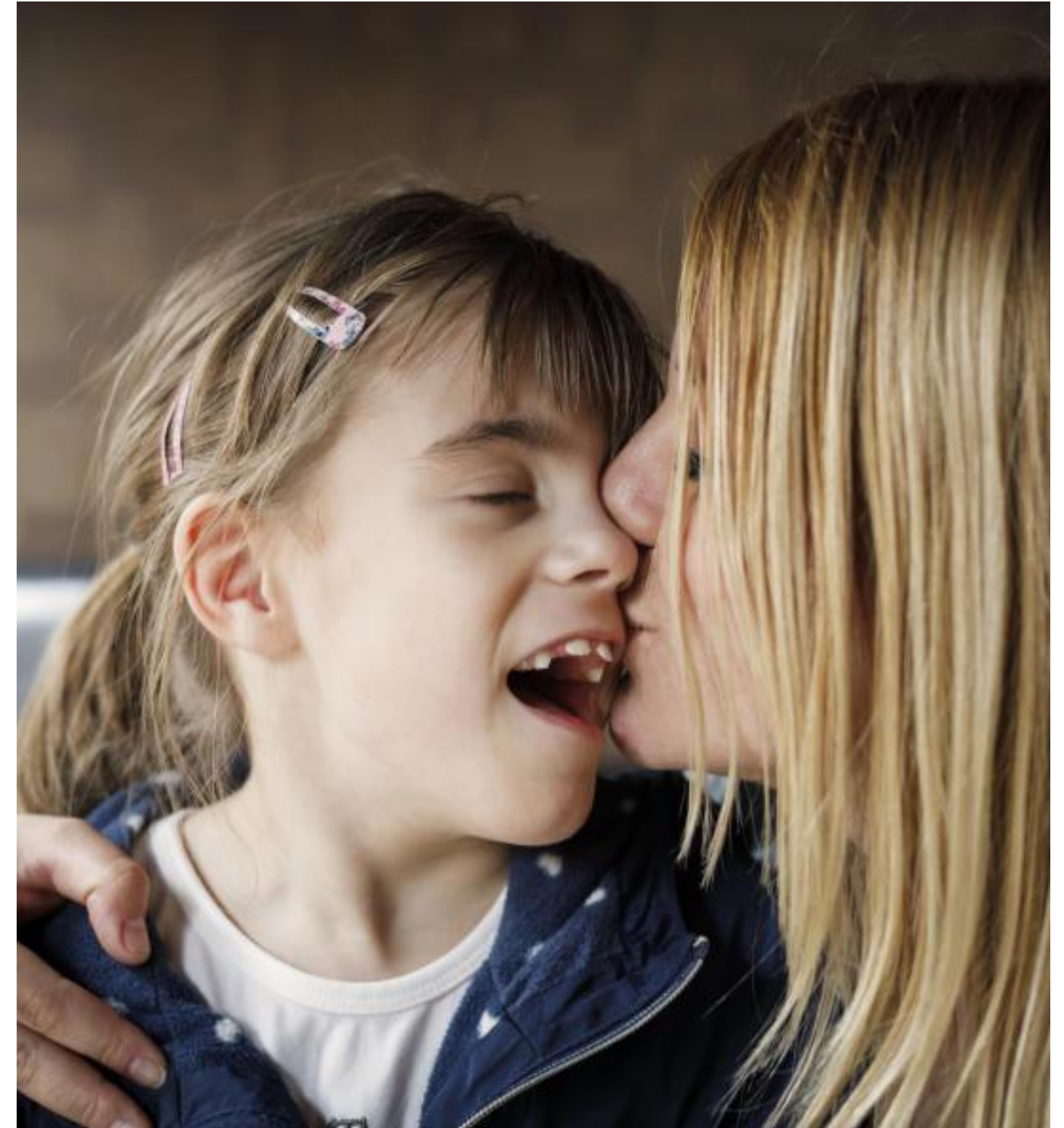
Systems navigation is a comprehensive person-centered approach to aligning and individual with IDD/Autism/BI to individual goals and dreams with the agencies and systems that can support those goals. These systems may include Medicaid, Social Security, Housing LEAP, SNAP, and Waivers.

Recent Data:

- Proportion of referrals from those of Hispanic origin has increased
- Rising trend in 18-24 and 25-54 age groups
- Homeless inside Boulder County and the Mountain Range has seen a significant rise in referrals
- Most utilized systems referred to include Imagine! (now A&I Avenues), Medicaid, Housing Vouchers, SNAP, LTC and DVR.

Age of Person Receiving Services

16-21 years	41.69%
22-35 years	25.08%
36-49 years	16.02%
50-64 years	8.85%
65 years +	6.94%



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Current Living Arrangements

Live with parents/family/friend(s)/guardians in their home	73.87%
Live in a home/apartment with roommate(s)	1.72%
Live alone in a rented apartment	9.98%
Live in a 24-hour staffed setting/group home	.73%
I am homeless	.23%
I live in a Companion Home Model	.37%
I live in a Host Home Model	8.87%
I live in a home that I own	4.93%

Age of Family Member/Parent/Guardia n

Living with 65+ Caregiver

Most concerning trend identified was the topic of transition for clients currently being cared for by aging parents.

Senior Caregivers described insufficient future support for their adult children requiring arrangements for after parental/guardian/caregiver passing.

Rigors of client care are more difficult to facilitate with aging parents, guardians, caregivers that are in charge of all aspects of physical, behavioral, and medical care

Spanish Speaking Participants

Crucial Housing Needs That Are Falling Through The Cracks

Crucial housing needs in conjunction with implementation of service waiver(s), voucher(s), and necessary funding.

A percentage of respondents described housing situations that put their daily health, safety, and wellbeing at risk.

The added variable of the language barrier is making it more difficult for this portion of individuals receiving services to communicate housing issues that are immediate in nature.

Total Waiver Enrollment by Fiscal Year (Statewide Statistics)

Total
Waiver
Enrollment
by Fiscal
Year

Fiscal Year	BI	CCT	CES	CHCBS	CHRP	CIH	CLLI	CMHS	DD	EBD	SLS	TOTAL
FY 2020/21	667	55	2,564	2,245	201	223	223	4,235	7,317	31,189	5,393	53,601
FY2021/22	727		2,753	2,466	293	747	206	4,336	8,122	31,682	5,462	55,173
FY 2022/23	814		3,109	2,653	329	294	186	4,373	8,416	33,005	5,157	57,646
FY 2023/24	826		3,579	2,645	392	334	170	4,279	8,673	32,984	5,225	58,401

IDD Mill Levy Housing Navigator Recommendation

**This population encounters acute housing related challenges.
This position would be beneficial in improving housing stability**

Help community members and their caregivers navigate systems and apply for housing.

Address needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness with a diagnosis of IDD/Autism/BI who reside in Boulder County.

Connect with Housing Authorities and Landlords to develop awareness of housing needs for this population.

Guide and support individuals and families through the housing search process.

Participate in a housing needs assessment process that can identify housing preferences.

Ensures that the experience of homelessness is brief and exiting homelessness is sustained.

Ensuring that the living environment is safe and ready for move-in and assisting with requests for reasonable accommodations as necessary.

Support the infrastructure of being part of the Housing Support team that supports housing needs in Boulder County.

BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

IDD Mill Levy Residential Support Specialist

IDD Mill Levy Residential Support Specialist will work directly with persons with IDD/Autism/Brain Injury

Education and training on the role, rights and responsibilities of the tenant and landlord.

Assistance in resolving disputes with landlords and/or neighbors to reduce risk of eviction.

Linkage to community resources to prevent eviction when housing may be jeopardized.

Assistance with any annual housing recertifications or renewal of lease.

Link between clients and services; work directly with clients and alongside case managers, social workers, and other service providers to address clients' needs after obtaining housing.

Communicate, encourage, facilitate, and support each clients' progress and activities toward housing stability.

Provide early identification and intervention for behaviors that may jeopardize housing, such as late rental payments, hoarding, poor follow-up with physical health, mental health or substance use-related treatment needs, and other lease violations.

Thank you!

Please contact me with any questions

Rebecca J. Seiden, IDD Mill Levy Program Coordinator
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RMHS' Mission Supports Program

**Empowering Individuals with I/DD Experiencing Housing
Instability**

2024 NEURO-INCLUSIVE HOUSING SUMMIT

Housing Navigation for the I/DD Population

Presenter:

**MISSION
SUPPORTS**
A program of RMHS



ARNIE SWENSON

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What Mission Supports Offers

- Identifies individuals in Denver who have an I/DD and experiencing housing instability to help assess eligibility for disability services and benefits.
- Works with eligible participants who need side-by-side assistance, to obtain necessary LTC Medicaid benefits, I/DD determination, medical care, legal assistance, and guardianship.
- Supports self-advocacy and provides transitional case management for those individuals who qualify for I/DD services and benefits.
- Offers service alternatives for those individuals who are not determined to have an I/DD



I got an apartment!

...now what?



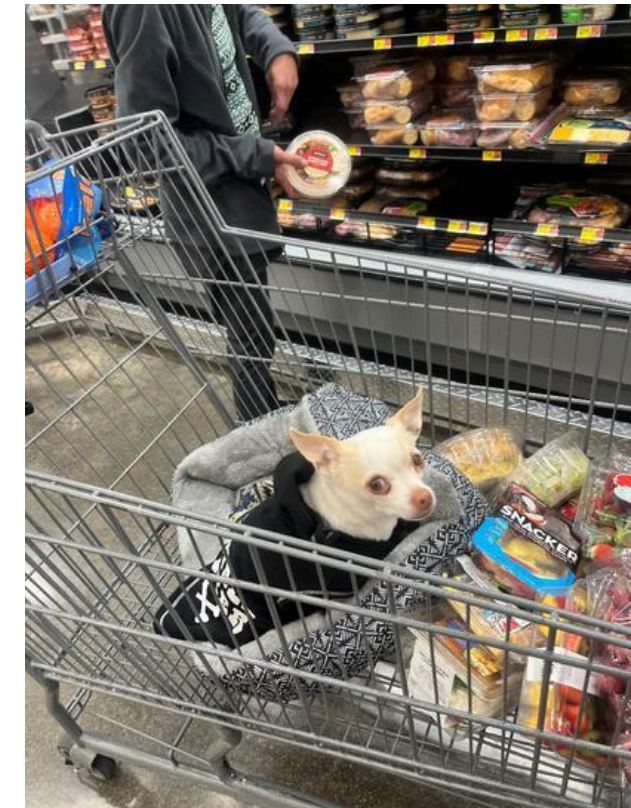
Learn to login to
portal & how to pay
rent

USPS Change of
Address



Unpack & Get Organized

CELEBRATE!



Find your grocery
store & bus stops

The Tightrope of Independence

The Housing Authority was
late on their share of my rent
and now I have a late fee

Weed is supposed to be legal
in Colorado

Someone stole my TV when
they said they were just
borrowing it

I'm out of money

I don't like this apartment

I lost my Keys

Property manager told me I
needed services to stay here

I'm being bullied by my
neighbor

I didn't get my Social
Security deposit



What's Needed?

- An immediate transitional service model that provides daily assistance to those who have never lived on their own before
- Funding to provide a more comprehensive support to promote increased independence
- Crisis and mental health support to address the stress of moving to a new place
- Program approved service agencies that are prepared for the challenges facing an individual when moving from homelessness to



Thank You!

- Start a conversation with us!
- Find our emails & contact information



SCAN HERE!



BE HOME-IDD: Lessons from Our First Year and Next Steps

By: Erica Hostetler – Program Manager

Bayaud Enterprises

October 2024

Meet the Team

Bill Thomas – Intake Coordinator

Andrew Lee – Intake Coordinator and SOAR Navigator

Kiandrea Dobbins – Lead Housing Navigator

Christine Duong – Housing Navigator

Sandy Lopez – Housing Navigator

Eric Kollwitz – Housing Navigator

Housing Navigator – In hiring process

Dayle Provencher – Mental Health Counselor

Ryan Corrales – Master of Social Work Intern

Erica Hostetler – Program Manager



Program Overview

- BE HOME-IDD is a program funded by the Denver Human Services IDDEAS Mill Levy program
- BE HOME is an acronym: **B**ayaud **E**nterprises **H**ousing **O**ptions **M**ean **E**verything
- Our program has 3 eligibility criteria:
 1. Participants must reside in the City and County of Denver,
 2. Have at least one household member who, if under age 5 has a developmental delay, OR if five and older has an intellectual and developmental disability OR is seeking an I/DD designation
 3. Seeking support with housing and/or home ownership



Program Overview Continued



BE HOME is a partnership between our participants, their support networks and BE HOME staff



First step: Phone screening with intake staff to verify eligibility



Participants meeting all 3 eligibility criteria are offered an intake



Housing Navigation

- Create customized housing stability plan
- Collaborate with client, support networks and community partners to achieve and maintain housing
- Update housing stability plan at least every 90-days and as needed

BE HOME Services

- All clients create a Housing Stability Plan with their navigators
- Services vary from person to person, but *may* include:
 - Advocacy
 - Assistance with documents (birth certificate, social security card etc.)
 - Applying for/keeping public benefits (food assistance, Medicaid)
 - Support with finding housing
 - Assistance with housing forms
 - Connection to community resources
 - Mental health counseling (therapy)
 - Caregiver/Family Support
 - Limited financial support



Key Data
Points
(October
25, 2023
–
Present)

190 total
referrals to
date

Most common reasons for referral: at-risk of homelessness for financial reasons, homelessness, at-risk of homelessness for other reasons



143 Clients
served (110
Households)

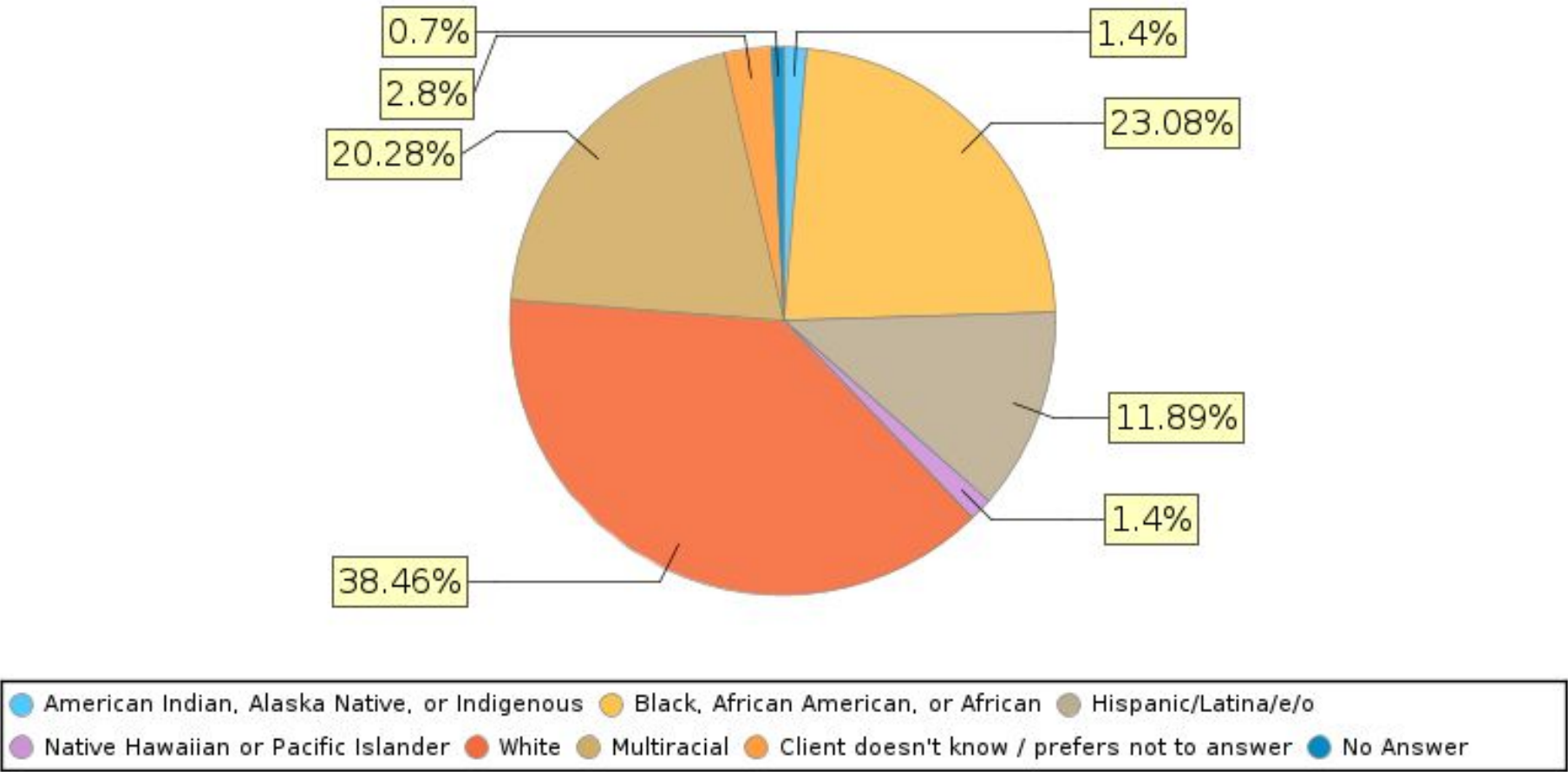
Of 143 clients served, 120 individuals reported having an Intellectual and Developmental Disability. 23 were family/household members of clients with I/DD.

43 clients entered the program while experiencing homelessness

Key Data Points Continued

- 80% of total households served (88 households) reported income of less than \$10,000 per year
- Nearly 50% of total households served (54 households) reported zero income

Race and Ethnicity Chart



10 households moved into new housing with the support of BE HOME



Of the 10 households that moved, 5 exited homelessness

Of the 5 households that exited homelessness:

- 2 obtained vouchers with the support of BE HOME

- 1 household moved into a market-rate apartment

- 2 used vouchers obtained prior to BE HOME enrollment



Of the 10 households that moved, 5 moved from one apartment to another apartment of their choice

- 1 household obtained a housing voucher with the support of BE HOME

- 4 households used vouchers obtained prior to BE HOME enrollment

Lessons Learned In Our First Year

- Partnerships have been key to our success thus far
- Housing vouchers are the most common need for BE HOME clients
- Even those with vouchers and/or those who enter the program housed, still face challenges
- Readily available funding, and the ability to use that funding for a variety of client needs with few barriers has helped keep clients housed



Next Steps for BE HOME

- Continue collaborating with BE HOME clients to find and maintain housing options
- Build out programming for clients with aging caregiver concerns as well as those seeking home ownership
- Continue learning from the I/DD community and other service providers to better fill gaps
- Refine our processes
- Create and strengthen community partnerships





To make a referral:

- Email our referral form to:

BEHOME-IDD@BayaudEnterprises.org

- And/or Call our intake line: 720.979.2645

Other questions or comments? Please reach out to me directly

- Email:

Erica.Hostetler@BayaudEnterprises.org

- Voice/Text: 720.412.4543



Questions?



THANK
YOU

Denver Residents

IDDEAS Advisory Council

Denver Human Services

Rocky Mountain Human
Services

Community partners