

# HART Weekly Update

## Homeless Assistance Response Team

August 22, 2023

# 50

Total Active Sites

# 146

Total Occupants

# 113

Total Tents

# 97

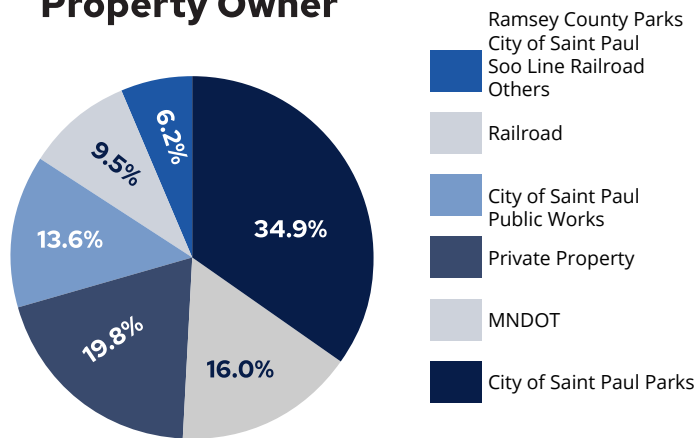
Total Male

# 52

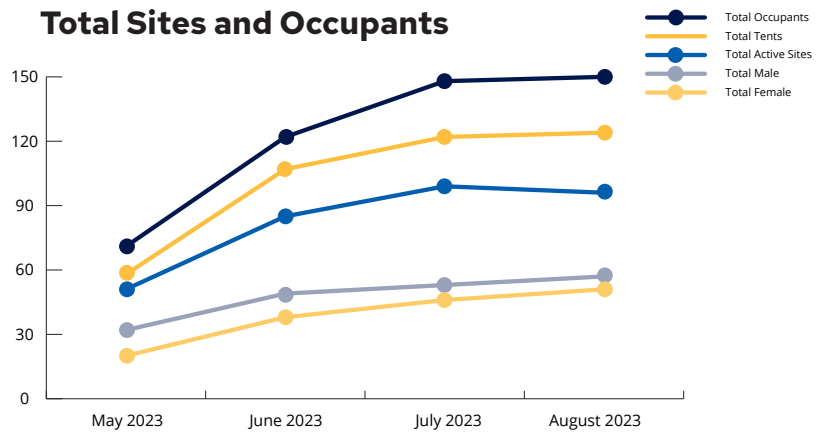
Total Female

### City Data Summary

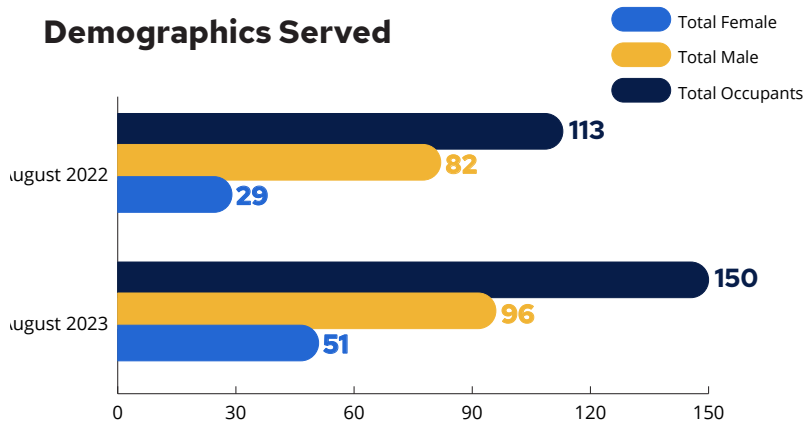
#### Property Owner



#### Total Sites and Occupants



#### Demographics Served



#### HART Contact Information

Andrea Hinderaker, HART Program Coordinator  
 Brian Ganzel, DSI Inspector II, HART  
 Kahari Smith-Brewer, Outreach Worker  
 Sam Stoltz, Outreach Worker

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## What does success look like?



*Breaking Free Outreach spent a day with HART engaging with the individuals preparing for the close of 35E pathway. When preparing to close it is important to recognize the many circumstances that lead to homelessness. This can include survival sex work for people caught in the quicksand of addiction and isolation.*

Often the HART team is asked how we measure success. This is a multi-layered question because person-centered work can rarely fall into a static category of success.

This is what success looks like to HART:

**In the last three weeks, four individuals chose to leave their camp and go directly into treatment with help from Meridian Behavioral Health.**

This is not just success for the four individuals. This is success for all the people who love and worry and pray and hope that their child, mother, father, sibling or best friend finds the support that will lead them to sobriety and back home to the people who are counting on the world to love their loved one as their own — even in their most broken, unlovable state.

**In the past year and two months, HART has assisted over 70 people into housing opportunities.**

This success also highlights the importance of partnerships with Ramsey County and the various housing providers in the community. This success reminds us that relentless engagement means we balance both regulation and compassion. Even if the time comes to move, we still understand that the end goal is to find the right long-term fit.



*Teen Challenge pastors came to engage with individuals on 35E pathway as we prepared to close the next day. When preparing to close an encampment HART is intentional about making sure each individual on site has an opportunity to problem solve their specific situation.*

**HART has closed over 20 encampments over the past year and a half with only two police actions.** Both were the result of existing warrants and last-effort attempts to reset patterns of self-destruction.

The Saint Paul Police Department and HART meet regularly to better coordinate how we can address community concerns as they relate to encampments. This success reminds us that there are so many other city service providers building relationships with our unsheltered community. On several occasions, HART has been notified by an SPPD officer that someone we have been working with has decided “they are ready” and together we make changes happen.

**In the last year, 14 homeless vets were connected to MACV for hotel/housing opportunities.**

Success can often be measured in asking the right questions and doing the necessary research that helps identify missed opportunities. There are many unsheltered veterans who are unaware that they may qualify for opportunities provided by MACV.



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**HART has engaged with 336 unique individuals in the past year.**

The City of Saint Paul is committed to serving all people that call Saint Paul home regardless of what that home looks like. Each individual has a name and a story, and HART cannot put a timeline on how long it will take for hope to take hold, whether in the form of sobriety, mental health support, family reunification or accepting a housing opportunity. But once we meet you — we don't give up.

*When cultural barriers are evident HART expands the network of assistance to those who can be most helpful. To be able to hear the plan in one's own language and also be able to speak freely about concerns and frustrations is an opportunity to reduce stress and open doors of possibilities. Teen Challenge pastors on site shared openly about their journey to recovery, the cultural impact their addictions had on their lives and the true possibility for hope.*



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