

THE PROVIDER PERSPECTIVE

RUTLAND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

AUGUST 2023

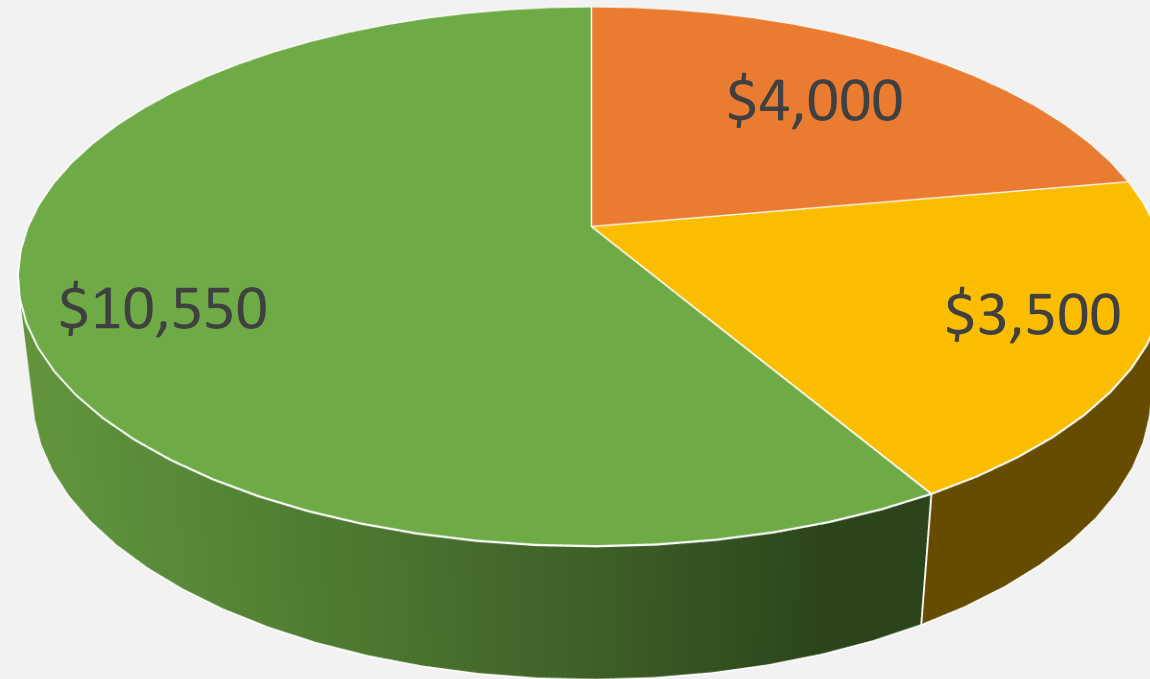
WHAT BEHAVIORS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon
- Repeated elopement from community programs
- Fire setting & arson
- Assault of caregivers, the public, law enforcement and emergency medical personnel requiring medical intervention
- Property destruction resulting in no trespass orders and eviction from multiple properties
- Repeated criminal activity

THE COST OF SUPPORTS (FINANCIAL AND CARE)

- RMHS cost of highly qualified staff to support 3:1 24/7 through contracted staffing firm- \$25,000 per week
- The statewide average vacancy rate of 24% is equivalent to 6 unstaffed hours per day
- Of 320 Developmental Services Crisis Team calls, 75% were for 5 people
- Staffing/Individual ratios for community programming needs to be 1:1, 2:1, or 3:1
- Over 11 months, 3 individuals presented at the Emergency Department 84 times with non medical-related emergencies

One person's average monthly costs for housing and agency support staff



■ DSP ■ Emerg Respite ■ Housing

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Individuals under Act 248 may not feel they have choice and that they can't move off Act 248 --“I would rather go to jail than to be on 248 and have this hang over my head”
- One to one programs can be isolating for those living in them (i.e. social opportunities, mental health treatment)
- Law enforcement cannot respond consistently to “return the person to the program” (i.e. staffing shortages, more emergent circumstances elsewhere)

SUMMARY

- Providers cannot financially afford to stand up programming that is safe and secure
- Providers cannot assure people are adequately supervised considering staffing vacancies
- Communities (i.e. businesses, the public, law enforcement) cannot ensure the public's safety based on the severity of behaviors
- Law enforcement, emergency medical services, and providers devote a disproportionate amount of resource to a very small number of people—which is unsustainable