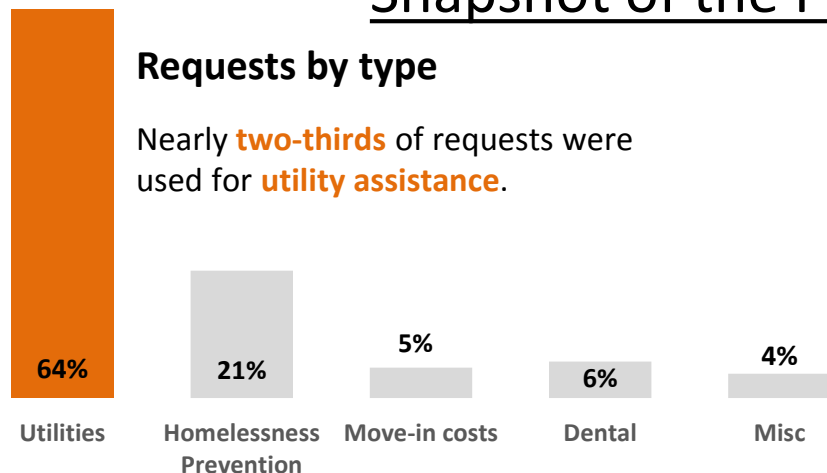


Barrier Busters 2016

Founded in 2004, **Barrier Busters** is a group of over 90 social service provider agencies that are committed to increasing their **communication and coordination**, and **improving services** for Washtenaw County residents in need. Each member agency identifies at least one point of contact (their “**Barrier Buster**”) and facilitates case management between member agencies. Member agencies also have access to the **Barrier Busters Emergency Unmet Needs Fund**, which is a collection of 10 public and private funds that provide direct service providers with access to emergency assistance funds on behalf of their clients. This community fund provides agencies with a more efficient way to prevent homelessness, utility shut-offs, and assist with other emergency costs that threaten Washtenaw County residents’ housing and financial stability.



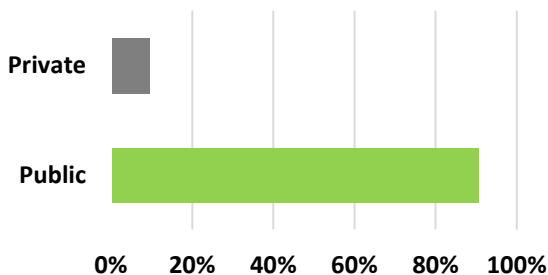
Snapshot of the Program



2016 Funding
\$303,270

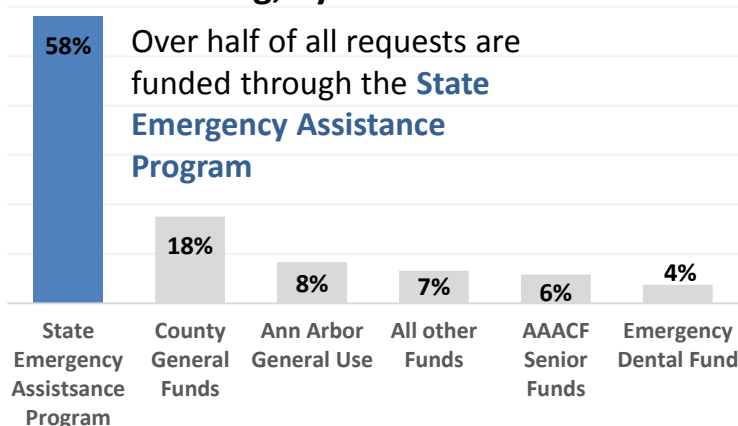
of Requests
378

Private vs. Public Funding



In total, **public sector** funding accounted for over **90%** of Barrier Buster payments.

Funding, by Source



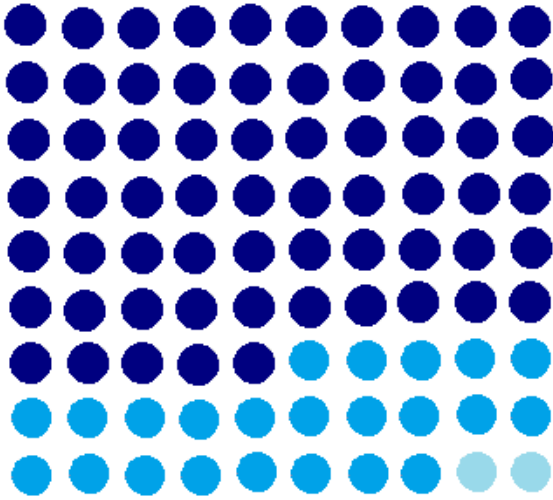
Barrier Busters 2016

The Face Behind a Barrier Buster Request

Average Annual Household
Income of Recipients

\$12,462

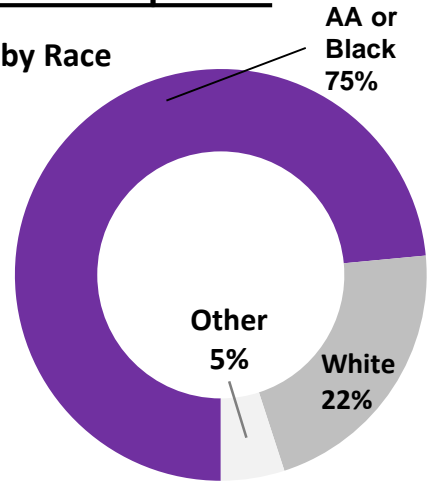
Funding Requests, by location



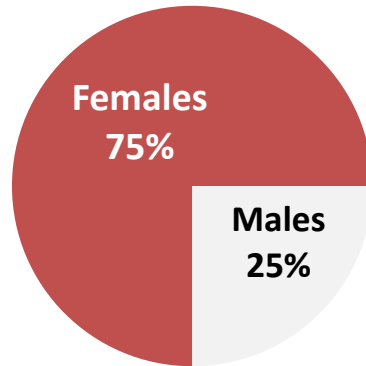
75% of all Barrier Busters requests came from residents of **Ypsilanti**. 23% of requests came from **Ann Arbor** and 2% from all **other municipalities**.

Funding Requests, by Race

75% of payments were made to **African-American or Black households**, which are more than twice as likely to be living in poverty than whites (ACS, 2015).



Funding Requests, by Gender



Three fourths of all requests were made by **female heads-of-household**. This is consistent with previous years.

Lasting Impacts

Barrier Buster assistance provides one-time emergency support that allows County residents to remain **stably and safely housed**.

6 months after receiving assistance, **69%** of households were still current on **utilities**. **88%** of were still current on their **rent**.

Barrier Busters continues to prove itself as a **successful homelessness prevention program** for Washtenaw County residents.

