Governor's Task Force on the Protection of Children

Joint Child Maltreatment Screening

Presented by:

St. Cloud Police Department Stearns County Human Services

January 30, 2015



St. Cloud is the largest population center in the state's central region. Though mostly in Stearns County, St. Cloud also extends into Benton and Sherburne counties.

Stearns County Population: 152,063 City of St. Cloud Population: 66,219

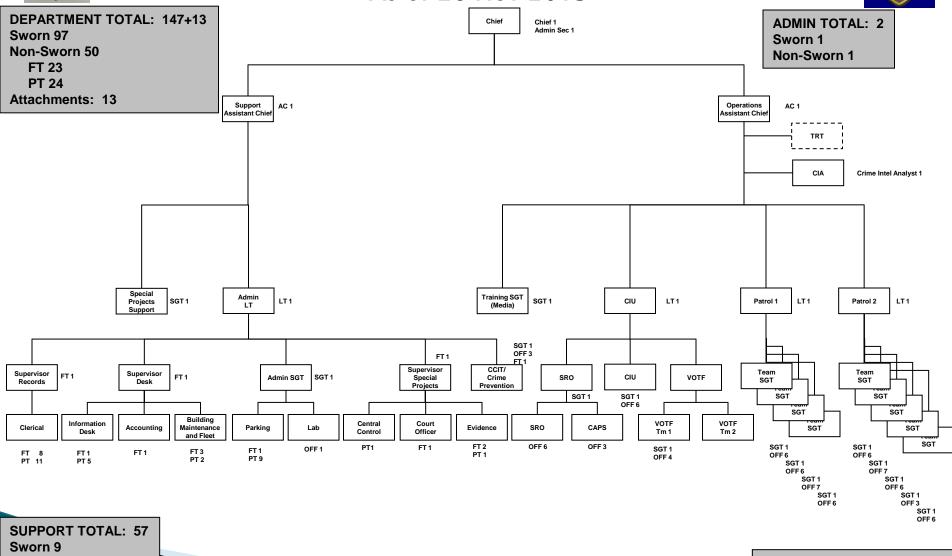
Stearns County: 52,978 Sherburne County: 6,849 Benton County: 6,392



SCPD DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



As of 26 Nov 2013



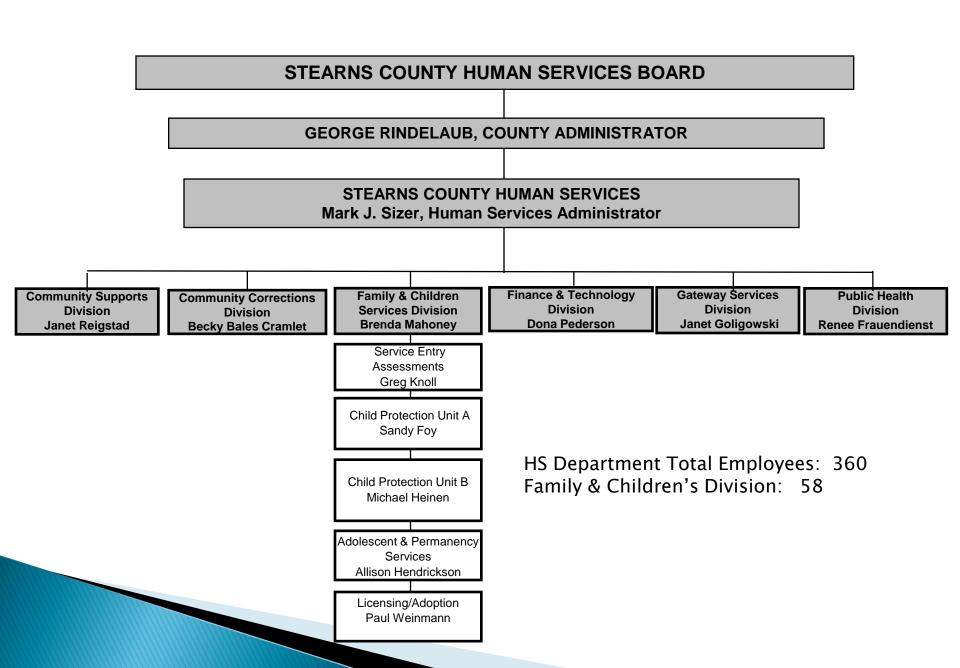
Non-Sworn 48

FT 21 PT 27

Attachments: 0

OPERATIONS TOTAL: 88+13

Sworn 87 Non-Sworn 1 Attachments: 13



Human Services Intake Process:

- Service Entry Unit
 - Staffed by social workers trained in intake and interviewing
 - Reports of child/adult maltreatment
 - Requests for services
- Reports alleging imminent risk
 - Screened immediately
 - Law enforcement notified
- All other reports assigned to coverage supervisor for screening

Cross-Reporting with Law Enforcement:

- All intakes alleging child maltreatment are considered "reports"
- All reports cross-reported to law enforcement per MN Statute 626.556
- Average number of reports received per year: 1950
- Approximately 950 (50%) reports cross reported to SCPD

Child Maltreatment Screening Process:

Child Maltreatment Screen Team: Meets at 8:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, Friday afternoons, and as needed

Screening Team Composition
HS Supervisor II and/or Division Director
SEU and/or Child Protection Assessment Social Workers

Team Decisions by consensus

Decision based on:

Minnesota Statute 626.556
Associated Criminal Statutes
State Child Maltreatment Screening Guidelines
Consideration of past county and state history of services

Joint Screening Process with Law Enforcement:

- SCPD present during review of reports
- Sharing of information as allowed under MN Statute 626.556
- Opportunity to discuss additional information
 - Law Enforcement data
 - Follow up by law enforcement if applicable
 - Criminal information
 - Past history of involvement
- Independent determination of action by each department

Benefits of Joint Screening:

- Increased safety of children and social workers
- Improved information sharing resulting in improved screening decisions
- Immediate assignment of Police Officer
- Increased efficiency and decrease in redundancy
- Improved coordination in joint assessments
- Improved understanding of roles
- Improved relationships between law enforcement and human services

Why it works:

- Volume of child maltreatment reports
- High concentration of reports in one law enforcement jurisdiction
- Geographical vicinity of departments (2 blocks away)
- Size of departments
- Established screening process
- History of collaboration
- Respect for individual determinations by each department

Considerations for Applicability to other Jurisdictions:

- Geographical locations of departments
- Number of law enforcement departments within the county
- Size of departments and number of child maltreatment reports received
- Available staff resources

Questions Questions

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