



Social Work and Mental Health Update

Wauwatosa Health Department

July 21, 2026



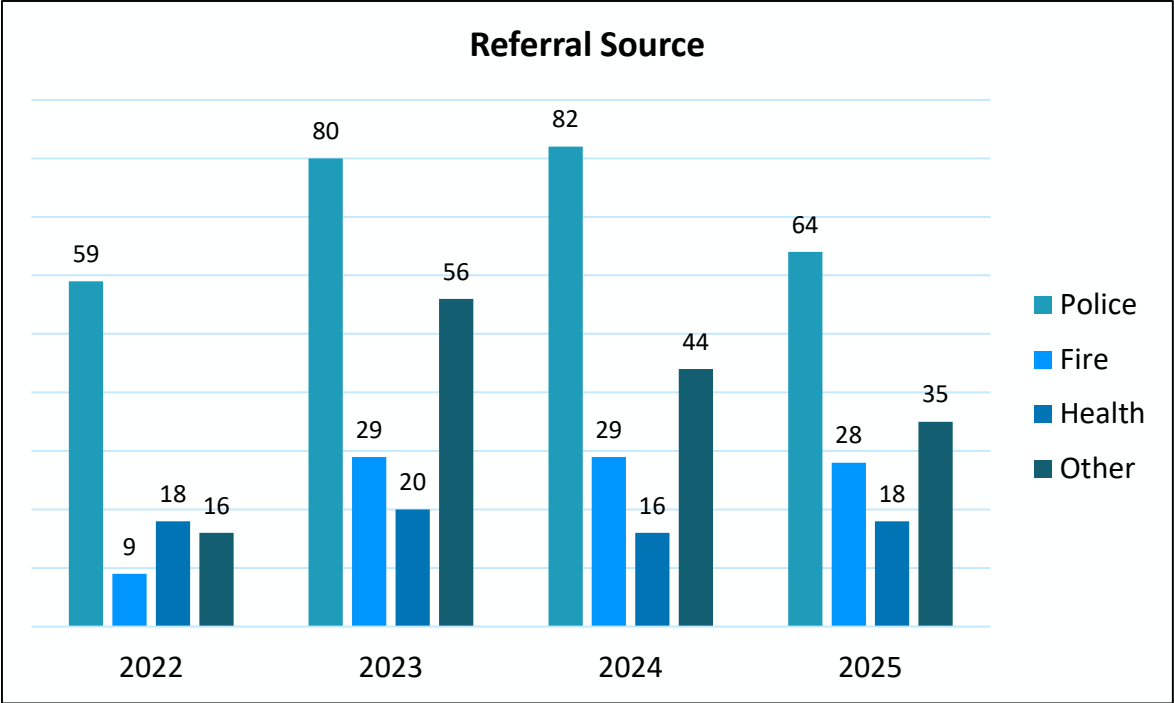
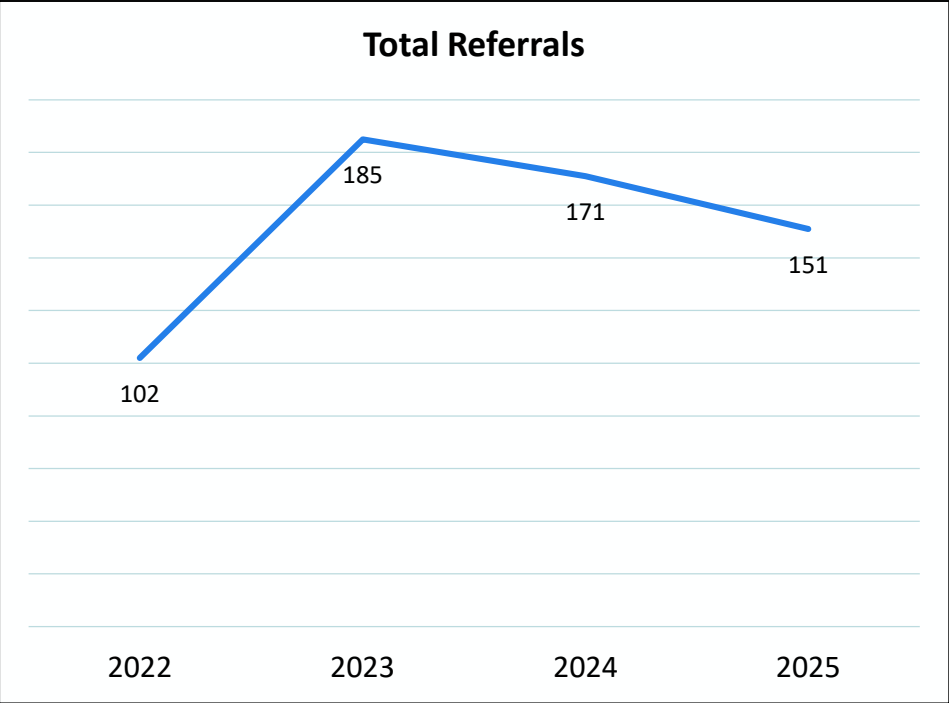
City Social Worker

City Social Worker | Background

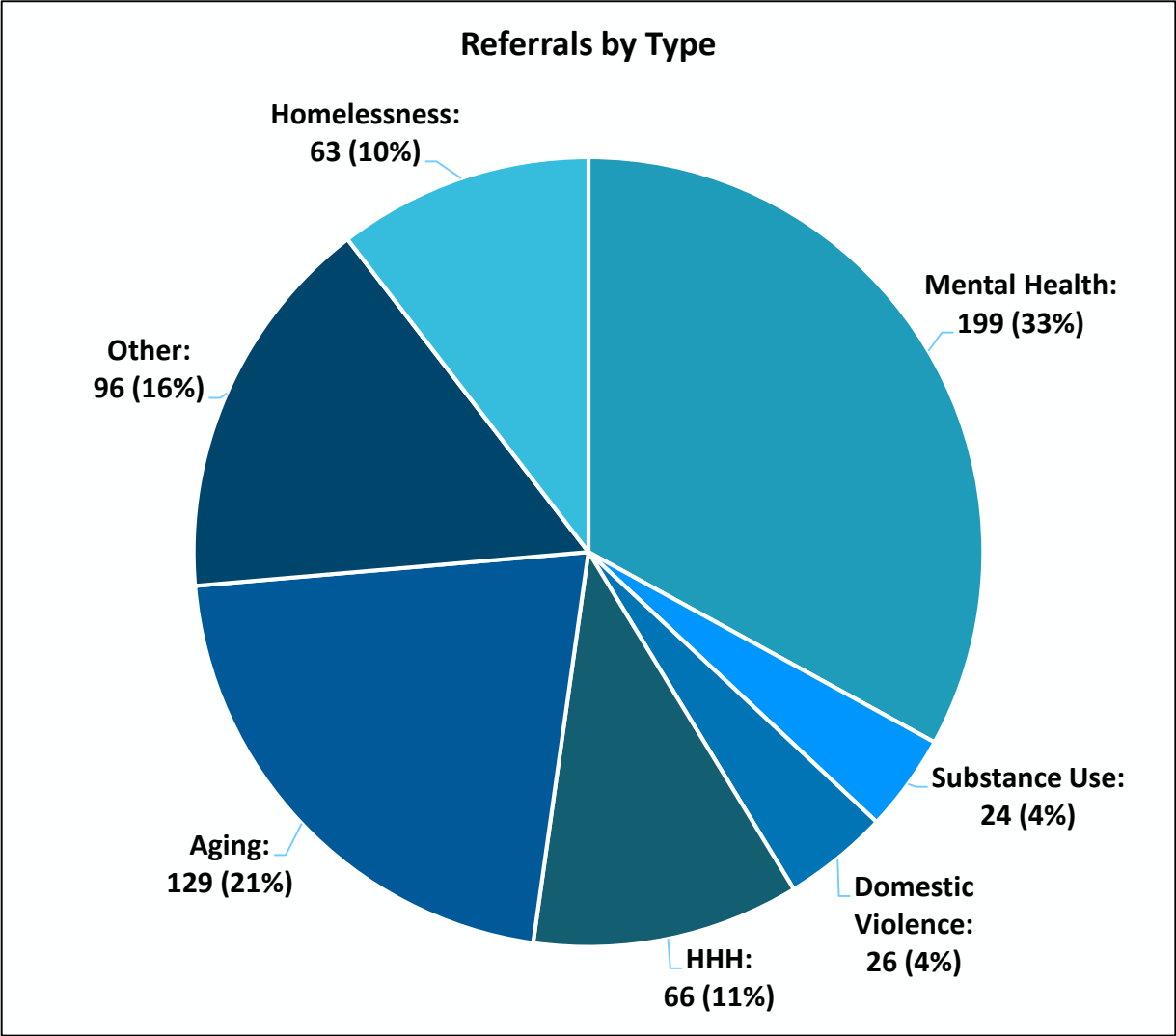
- ARPA funding + budget process
- Community mental health needs and priorities
- Position shared across Health, Police, and Fire

- Referrals from Police, Fire, Health, and others
- Resource navigation and referral to services
- Short-term case management services
- Data and record management
- Communication

City Social Worker | Social Worker Role



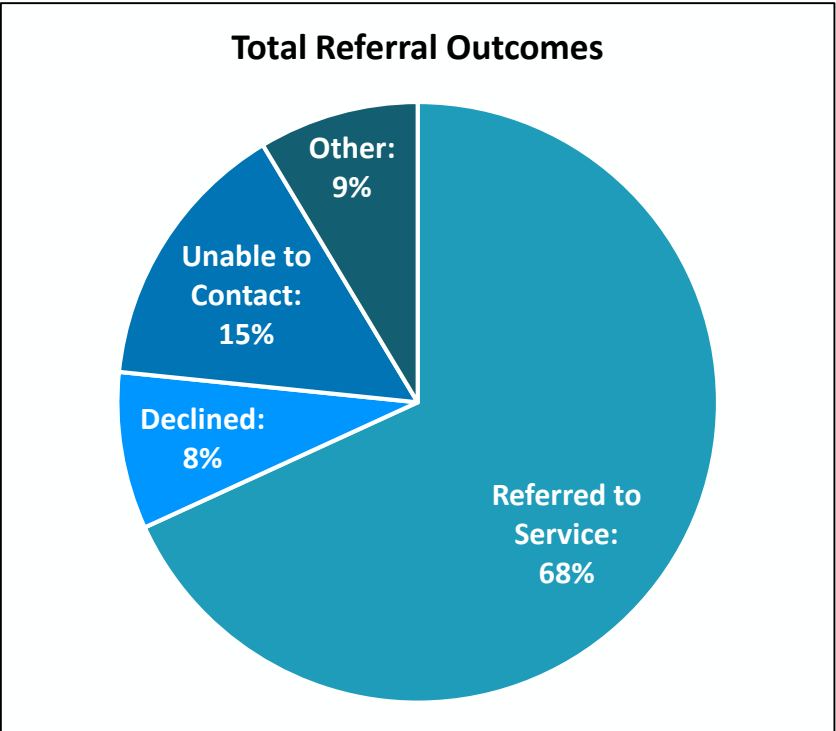
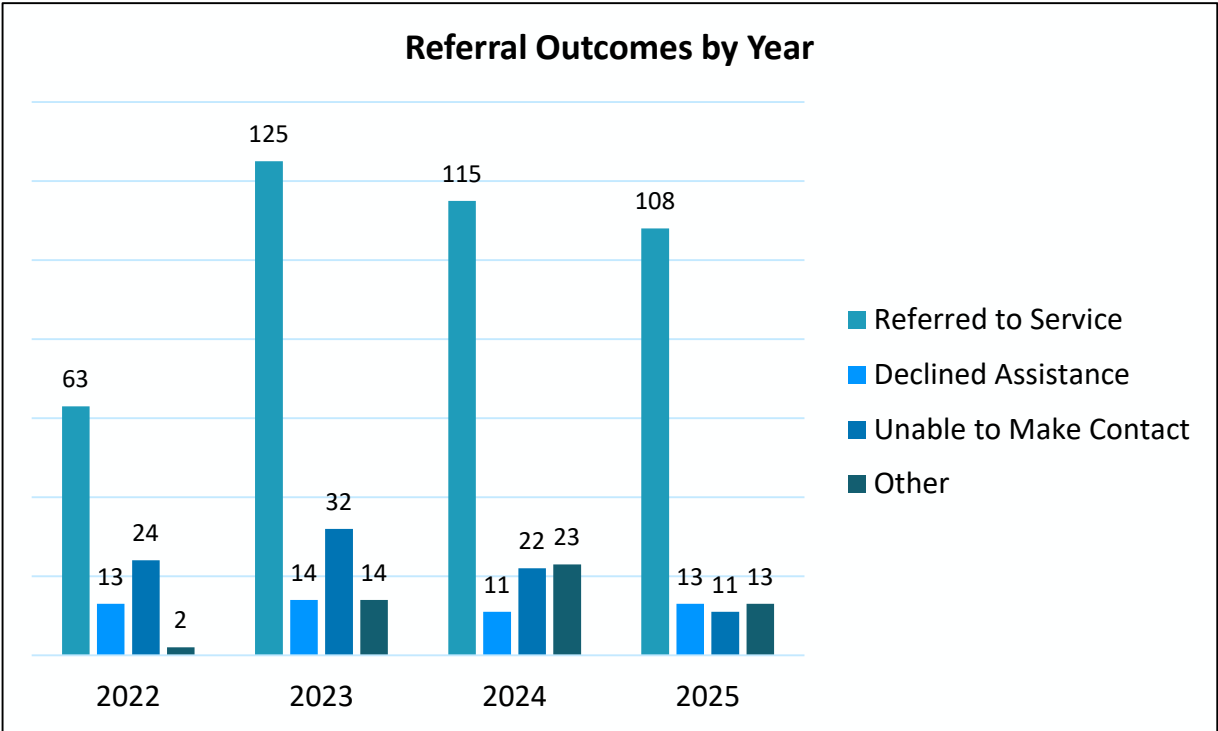
City Social Worker | Social Worker Role



- Police Department / CART
- Fire Department
- Health Department
- Library
- Other City Departments

- Established relationships with community partners:
 - Health care
 - Treatment centers
 - Long-term care
 - Milwaukee County
- Improved referral navigation
- Case collaboration opportunities
- Systems-level change

City Social Worker | Defining Success



- Case study examples:
 - Aging
 - Human health hazard / hoarding
 - Homelessness

- Improved referral pathways
- Monthly reports
- Quarterly videos
- Systems-level collaboration



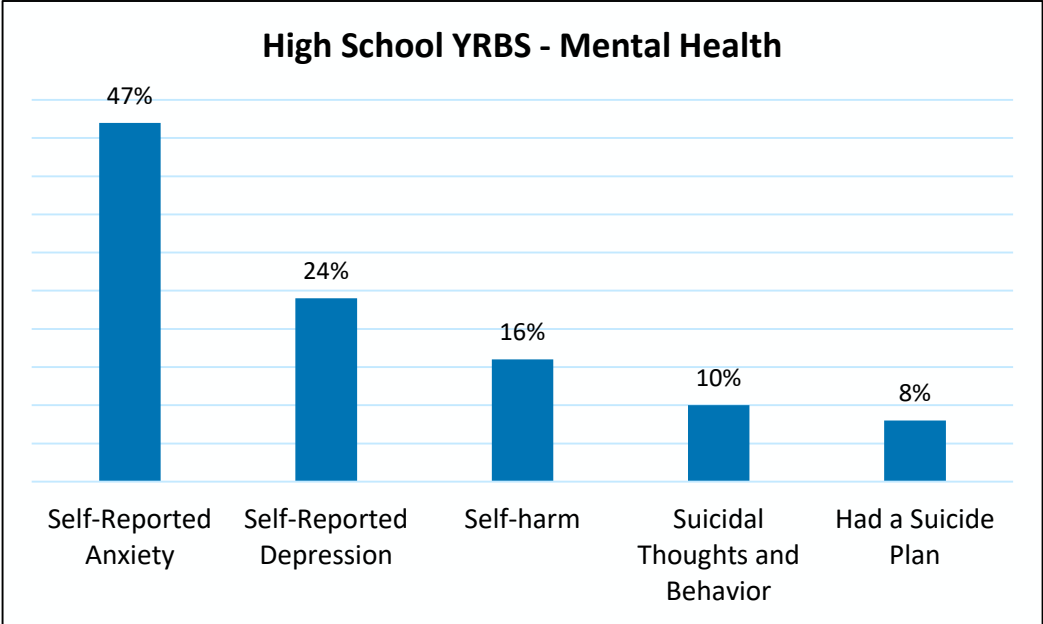
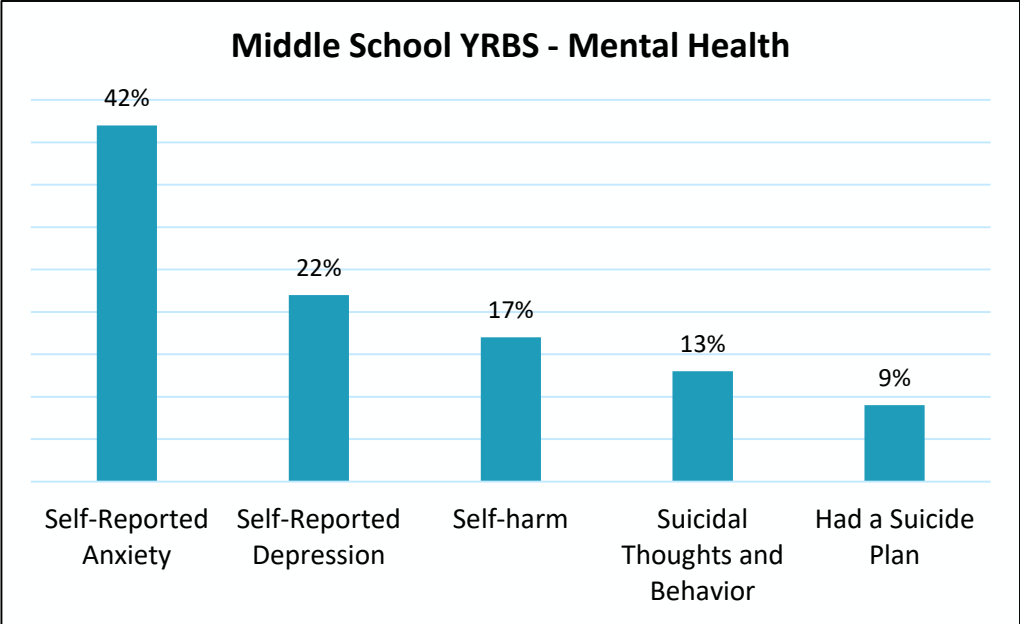
- Alignment with City Strategic Plan and Health Department Community Health Improvement Plan priorities
- Sustainable funding
- Ongoing collaboration with Police and Fire Departments

Youth Mental Health Social Workers

Youth Mental Health Social Workers | Background

- ARPA funding process
- Partnership with the School District
- Community youth mental health needs and priorities

Youth Mental Health Social Workers | Youth Mental Health in the Community



2025 Wauwatosa Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Results

Youth Mental Health Social Workers | Social Worker Role

- On-site in Wauwatosa elementary and middle schools + Pilgrim Lutheran
- Provide short-term one-on-one counseling
- Facilitate social-emotional learning and behavioral skill-building groups
- Assist with McKinney-Vento students and families
- Provide external resources and referrals for families
- Support attendance initiatives in the schools
- Conduct home visits
- Host summer groups and events

- Wauwatosa School District
- School Resource Officers and CART
- Municipal Court
- Wauwatosa Library
- Treatment and community resource partners

Youth Mental Health Social Workers | Defining Success

- Improved referral pathways and resource navigation
- Systems-level collaboration and change
- Short-term goals:
 - Individual improvement in knowledge of social, emotional, and/or behavioral self-regulation skills
 - Connecting families to resources to address unmet needs
- Long-term goals:
 - Increased connectedness
 - Increased self-esteem and coping skills
 - Decreased suicide risk
 - Decreased self-harm
 - Reduced levels of anxiety

- Community-based services
- Expand social-emotional learning and behavioral skill-building groups
- Host events and provide spaces to build social connection among youth
- Provide ongoing family support and resource navigation
- Continue and grow community partnerships
- Additional opportunities for expanded programming

- Alignment with City Strategic Plan and Health Department Community Health Improvement Plan priorities
- Sustainable funding
- Ongoing collaboration with community partners

The background is a solid blue color with a low-poly, geometric pattern of various triangles and polygons in different shades of blue, creating a textured, crystalline effect. The word "Questions?" is centered in the middle of the image.

Questions?