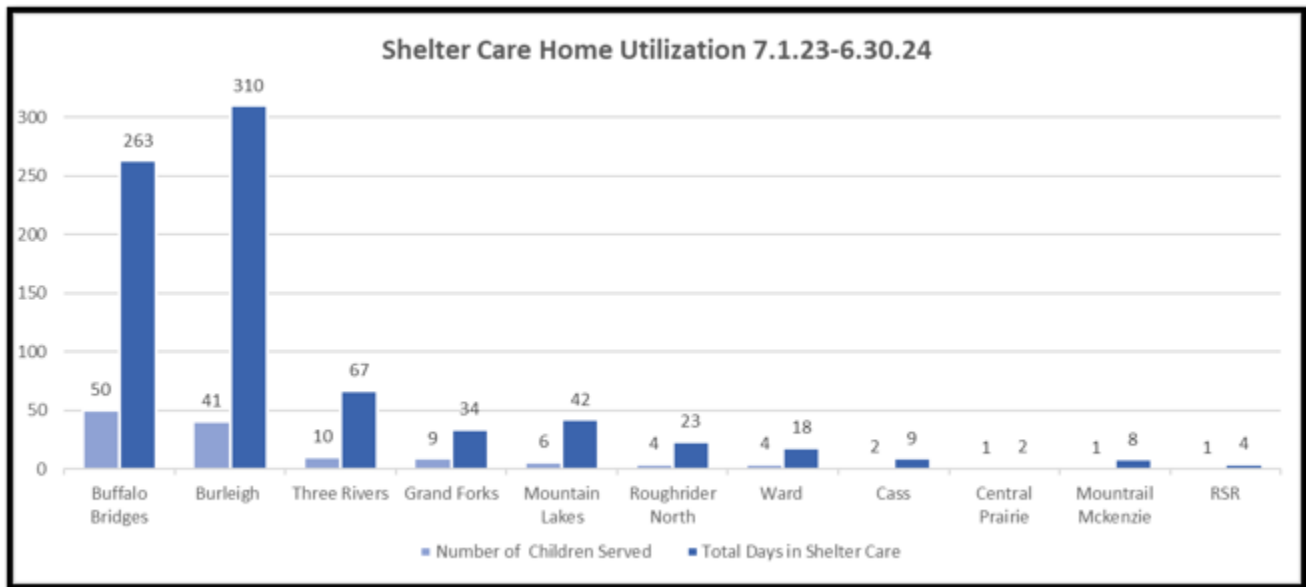




## Respite and Shelter Care- Family Foster Homes

### Shelter Care Provided by a Family Foster Home

Emergency shelter care is available to families working with a North Dakota Human Service Zone. Children and Family Services (CFS) oversees funding to support the costs of placement of a child with an open CPS assessment or actively engaged in an In-Home program. The intent of shelter care is to utilize a licensed foster care provider for no greater than 14 days when present danger exists. Shelter care is prevention and early intervention strategy to address immediate placement needs while supports and services are identified to best serve families in hopes to divert from court ordered foster care.



### Children and Family Services Section

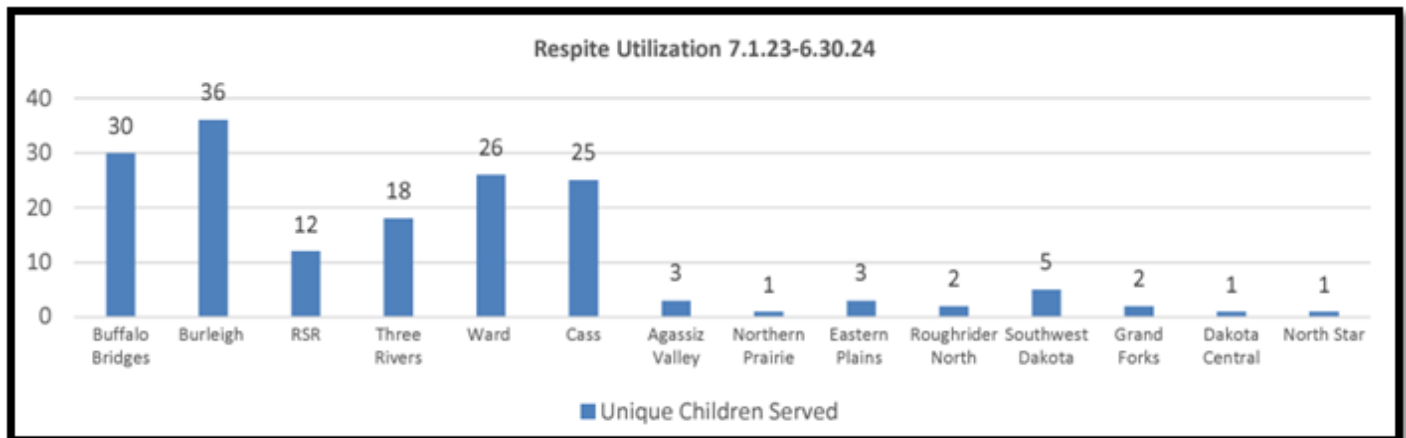
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 325  
 Bismarck, ND 58505-0250  
 Phone: (701) 328-2316 Fax: (701) 328-3538  
 Email: [hscfs@nd.gov](mailto:hscfs@nd.gov)

### That's a fact:

The chart above represents the number of children shelter care was provided to from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. In total, 93 unique children were served, 66 children (71%) were diverted from ever entering foster care.

## Respite Care Provided in a Family Foster Home

Respite care is a prevention support to families involved in ND child welfare programs (CPS or In-Home Case Management). Respite is also used as a support to license foster care providers who are caring for children in their licensed homes. Respite can be provided by a licensed foster care provider or childcare provider, for up to 12 hours a week or up to 4 calendar days per week. Children are eligible for respite who have special medical, mental, or behavioral health needs.



The chart above represents the 165 unique children served through the respite program from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. Many children have been served multiple times, with more than one respite episode but are only counted once. The majority (72%) of children served through the respite care program are children in foster care, while 28% being served are open through the CPS or In-Home program.

From July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, Children and Family Services has expended over \$150,000 to support respite and shelter care efforts, in addition over 57% of the respite and shelter care funding spent was specific to prevention work to ensure children can remain safely in their home with their parent(s) and caregiver(s) and divert them from ever entering foster care.

Children and Family Services has provided several trainings specific to respite and shelter with emphasis on the services being used as prevention to keep children safely at home with family or to stabilize a foster care placement.