



# CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

# FY2026 PROPOSED BUDGET



## Dover Public Welfare

Presented to the City Council

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# WHAT WE DO

The City of Dover's Public Welfare Department is responsible for providing general assistance to meet the genuine emergency needs of eligible Dover residents in compliance with RSA 165 and city guidelines.





# Four things you should know about Public Welfare:

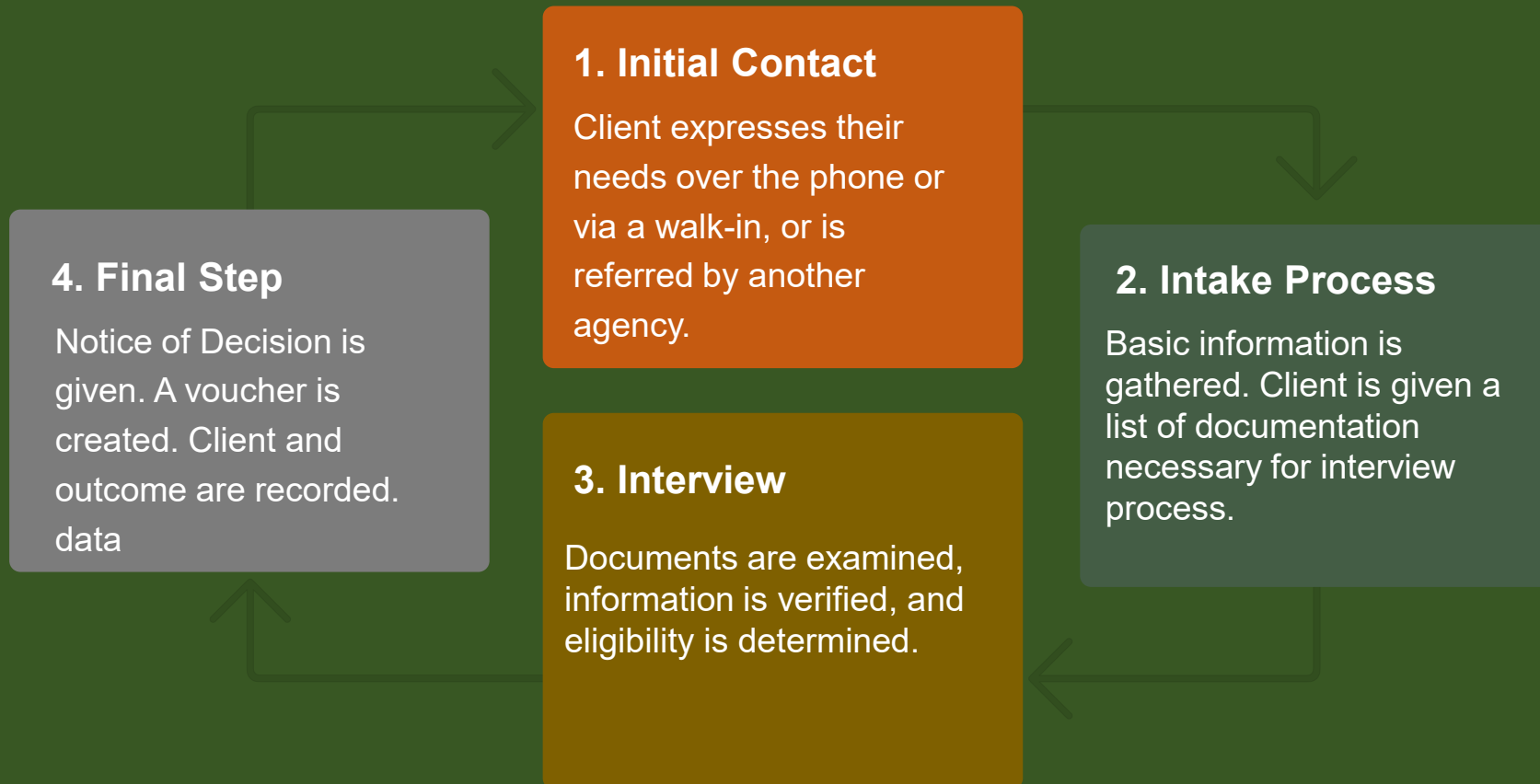
**1** We are the only city department that is required by state law.

**2** We are primarily tasked with helping the residents of Dover.

**3** We assist clients by addressing their emergency needs until they receive other services or income.

**4** We work with many other agencies and organizations to help residents become self-sufficient.

# The Process:



DID YOU KNOW

## **WE DO THIS, TOO?**

- Refer clients to other services and departments.
- Resource gathering and research.
- Community outreach and education.
- Collaborate with other service providers.



# WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Features	FY2025 Actual YTD	FY 2025 Approved	FY 2026 Proposed	Projected Change
Rent	\$161,316	325,000	400,000	25,000
Motel	36,197	100,000	100,000	0
Electric	3,290	18,000	12,000	(6,000)
Heat	369	8,000	5,000	(3,000)
Prescriptions	71	8,000	3,000	(5,000)
Burials	4,200	12,000	12,000	0
Security Deposits	8,845	10,000	18,000	8,000
<b>Total Overall Budget</b>	<b>214,288</b>	<b>481,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>19,000</b>

# Did You Know...

So far this year, Dover Welfare;

- Has had 1,317 customer contacts.
- Served 964 Dover residents.
- Handled 4,742 phone calls.
- Opened 105 new cases.
- Managed 461 active cases.

# Other Welfare Activities;

- Participate in committees and attend meetings around the issues of Local Welfare, Homelessness and Housing.
- Director sits on the Welfare Executive Board as legislative committee chair.
- Attend regular Community Care Team meetings to coordinate services to clients.
- Hosting a UNH Social Work intern.
- Continuously pursue further training to improve customer service.



# A Few Facts and Figures

- Rents have increased 33% in Strafford county since 2019.
- Average rent for a 2 Bedroom apartment in Dover is currently \$2,096.
- To afford this according to the Federal formula that a family should pay 33% of their income for rent and utilities a family needs to have an income of \$75,456 a year.
- In New Hampshire the average income is around \$62,000.
- According to New Hampshire Coalition to end Homelessness in 2024 the PIT count data showed an increase in those experiencing homelessness of 52.1% in New Hampshire.