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Together We Can End Homelessness

Celebrating Successes in Northern Colorado



St. Valentine Apartments (SVA) in Loveland supportive housing project reached 100% occupancy on 3/29/24. A total of 54 households and 59 individuals have been housed! Since then SVA has been primarily working to support residents with the major transition to being housed through supportive case management, on-site behavioral health services, connections to primary and specialty medical care, and hosting community events. Malana Lopez, Housing Program Manger, gives a "huge shout out to the HWA outreach team. CAHPS, and all of the Loveland-based agencies that really helped to make it happen in such a short time. We couldn't

The City of Greeley Foundations Team has been hard at work since receiving funds in mid 2023 to create an intensive supportive housing program with 60 vouchers dedicated to the most vulnerable unhoused people in the city. To date, 57 people have been successfully permanently housed, the vast majority of whom had previously been unsheltered for long lengths of time.

In the first three months of 2024, the City of Greeley also created the first large scale, dedicated street outreach team to identify, engage and assist those experiencing homelessness in Greeley get connected to supports and resources. Since January, more than 50 people have been engaged with street outreach and connected to services.

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The Murphy Center for Hope held a Ribbon Cutting officially launched on-site health clinic on Thursday, March 28th. More than 120 individuals gathered in the center's day shelter area to commemorate the official opening.

The clinic is funded by a \$1 million COVID-relief grant from Larimer County and operated by SummitStone Health Partners. It uses an Integrated Care model, which is a multi-disciplinary approach providing medical, mental, and behavioral health care with corresponding supportive services. The clinic, while based at the Murphy Center, is open to everyone who is at risk or experiencing

have done it without you all!"

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homelessness regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

Read More Current Hours & Service

Best Practice Spotlight:

Housing First In Action

In honor of the successes in Permanent Supportive Housing in Larimer and Weld Counties, we are highlighting My Place, an audio episode that discusses what cities like Nashville can do to prevent and end homelessness while caring for their neighbors who are still unhoused.

The series talks to national and local guests about everything from best practices to worst failures and hear from people who intimately know the complexities of having nowhere to go. This episode focuses on the Housing First philosophy. What is it? Who does it work for — and not work for?



Listen

Sexual Assault Awareness Month: The Intersection of Sexual Assault and Homelessness

April is **Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)**, a time dedicated to raising public awareness about sexual violence and educating communities on how to prevent it. Sexual assault is a pervasive problem that affects people from all walks of life, but it disproportionately impacts those who are homeless. Homelessness can make individuals more vulnerable to sexual assault, and in turn, sexual assault can lead to homelessness, creating a vicious cycle that's difficult to break.

People experiencing homelessness often find themselves in situations that increase their risk of sexual assault. Lack of secure housing, the need to sleep in public spaces, and limited access to resources can make them easy targets for predators. Furthermore, the stigma associated with homelessness can deter victims from reporting assaults, allowing perpetrators to act with impunity. According to a <u>2006 study</u>, the lifetime risk for violence victimization for homelessness women with mental illness is at least 97%, making sexual violence is normative experience. A <u>2022 paper</u> published on violence against people

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experiencing homelessness noted that 18% of unhoused women in the study had experienced sexual violence in the preceding 6 months.

Sexual assault can also be a precipitating factor in homelessness. Victims may be forced to leave their homes due to threats or ongoing abuse, or they may be evicted because of disturbances related to the assault. Among runaway homeless youth, a <u>2001 study</u> found that 61% of girls and 16% of boys reported sexual abuse as a reason for running away from home. The trauma of sexual assault can also lead to job loss, substance abuse, or mental health issues, all of which can contribute to homelessness.

Help Is Available

The <u>Sexual Assault Victim Advocate (SAVA)</u> <u>Center</u> provides crisis intervention, advocacy and counseling for all those affected by sexual violence in Northern Colorado while also providing prevention programs through community outreach and education. <u>www.savacenter.org</u>



Greeley 921 38th Avenue Greeley, CO (970) 506-4059 Fort Collins 4812 S. College Fort Collins, CO (970) 472-4204 **Loveland** 1570 West 1st St. Loveland, CO (970) 775-2962



Funding Opportunity for Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance

The Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime is accepting applications for the Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program.

The program aims to develop, expand, and/or strengthen funded organizations so they can provide housing and support services to victims of human trafficking, who have a high risk of homelessness.

Specifically, the funding is intended to support:

- Organizations that have experience providing housing services but that limited or no experience serving victims of human trafficking
- Anti-trafficking organizations that have limited or no experience providing housing services to victims of human trafficking

 Organizations that have no experience receiving direct federal funding to serve victims of human trafficking

The funding is also intended to support organizations with a history of providing human trafficking victims with housing assistance and support services or that have a formal partnership with a victim service provider with demonstrated experience.

Applications are due May 6.

Read the Full Announcement

Snapshot: Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) VAWA Requirements for CoCs, CoC and ESG Recipients

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a federal law that, in part, provides housing protections for people applying for or living in units subsidized by the federal government who have experienced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, to help keep them safe and reduce their likelihood of experiencing homelessness. VAWA applies to many HUD programs, including the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs.

HMIS and Data-Sharing for Victim Services Providers and Survivors May 16, 2024 1:00 - 2:30 PM EDT

Coordinated Entry and Housing Problem-Solving for Survivors June 27, 2024 1:00 - 2:30 PM EDT

Contact

VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations Registrar | trainings@hudexchange.info

Read more about VAWA

Join us for our General Member Meeting in May!

Date: Thursday, May 16 Time: 9:00am - 11:00am Where: Virtual

Need a calendar invite? Email contact@nococc.org

Training Opportunity: Statewide CoC and HMIS

Implementation Webinar

The Statewide Colorado HMIS Collaborative is hosting a webinar on the Statewide implementations of coordinated entry. This training will also include a high-level overview of Colorado's Continuums of Care (CoC), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and Built for Zero. HMIS end users new to the system, existing users who would like to know more about the collaborative efforts across the state, and CoC members are encouraged to attend. You do not need to be a HMIS end user to attend this webinar.

When: May 1, 2024 10:30 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada) Topic: Statewide Coordinated Entry Training Register in advance for this webinar: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN eilijZ71QgygW5Xvt9FUtg



Coordinated Assessment Housing Placement System (CAHPS)

CAHPS is the community-driven process to identify, assess, refer, and house all people experiencing homelessness in Weld and Larimer Counties.

Since 2016, the CAHPS process has helped house 1,917 households.

Through CAHPS, the NoCO CoC is participating in the <u>Community Solutions</u> <u>Built for Zero Initiative</u> to reach Functional Zero to end Veteran and Chronic homelessness.

See More CAHPS Data



Make an Impact

Ending homelessness takes the whole community. Donating to the Northern Colorado Continuum of Care supports the system level coordination of services and resources, regional quality data, and strategic alignment across the northern Colorado region.

And your gift helps make it possible.

Donate Today

Sponsor Partners

United Way of Weld County | Homeward Alliance Bohemian Foundation | Community Solutions City of Fort Collins | Larimer County | Housing Catalyst | City of Greeley

City of Loveland | United Way of Larimer County Rocky Mountain Human Services | Family Housing Network | The Matthews House First Bank | Greeley Family House | Jobs of Hope | High Plains Housing Development | Crossroads Ministry A Woman's Place | Alternatives to Violence | Disabled Resource Services | Volunteers of America





Visit our Website

United Way of Weld County | PO Box 1944, 814 9th Street, Greeley, CO 80632

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