



Together We Can End Homelessness

Save the Date: General Membership Meeting 1/18/24

Please join us for our bi-monthly CoC Membership Meeting!

Date: Thursday, January 18

Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

Where: Virtual

Happy New Year! We will be reviewing our 2023 accomplishments, and sharing our goals for 2024. We will deep dive into committee work of the CoC, the Built for Zero efforts, and recent and upcoming changes to CAHPS!

Need a calendar invite? Email kpryor@nocococ.org

Seeking Members for CAHPS Prioritization & Assessment Task Force

This Task Force is dedicated to re-imagining our community's assessment tool (currently the VI-SPDAT) and prioritization criteria for CAHPS.

Key Information:

- We are looking for 10 members, with prioritization for certain sectors/experience (outlined on the flyer)
- Pre requisites for selected members to participate include completing "Administering the VI SPDAT" training (if you have not done so already) and watching three Equity focused trainings (each is approximately 1-1.5 hours long)
- Committing to attend in-person meetings for at least six months (the second Wednesday of every month @9am, location TBD)

Want to join?! Please complete and submit an **interest form**. **The deadline to submit is end of day Tuesday, January 23rd**. The CAHPS Steering Committee will review applications for selection. Please note: even if you are not selected for Task Force involvement, there will be opportunities to participate throughout this

year long process. These opportunities will be communicated with as much advance notice as possible.

Interest Form

Informational Flyer

2024 Membership Contribution Drive

Thank you for your dedication and engagement as a Northern Colorado Continuum of Care (CoC) partner. So far in 2023, the CoC:

- Helped house nearly 300 people experiencing homelessness,
- Coordinated more than a dozen committees and workgroups,
- Engaged the region’s city councils and county commissioners on issues of homelessness,
- Provided *free* trainings to CoC Partners on best practices,
- Created a new website full of resources and information,
- Provided infrastructure and technical assistance needed to maintain real-time data on homelessness

To be successful in the important work that benefits our entire community, the CoC relies on financial contributions from CoC Partners like you. **The CoC Governing Board kindly requests partners make an annual financial contribution to support the continued work of the CoC.** Partners who contribute financially are considered “highly engaged members,” which is noted in letters of support from the CoC to funding opportunities and is considered during the CoC Program rating and ranking process.

Your annual financial contribution makes the following possible:

- The **Coordinated Assessment Housing Placement System (CAHPS)** – the process by which people experiencing homelessness are connected to a variety of housing resources.
- The **Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)** – the shared data platform, free to users, that increases coordination of homelessness services to house people quicker.
- **CoC Administrative** capacity towards coordinating committees and workgroups and leading regional efforts to address homelessness.
- **Technical assistance** and administrative support for state and federal funding opportunities.

2024 CoC Partner Contribution Suggestions

Individual community member with lived experience: \$0

Small non-profit (budget < \$3M): \$200 - \$1,000

Large non-profit (budget >\$3M): \$1000 - \$5,000

Other large agency: \$5,000 - \$10,000

Municipality/County: \$10,000 – \$25,000

These are suggested contributions. Any amount is gladly accepted.

Donate

- Facilitating **meetings, trainings, speakers and other benefits** for CoC Partners.



The Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grant NOFO

Through this NOFO, HUD is awarding Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) grants to support selected communities in either improving existing or establishing and implementing a response system for youth homelessness. The grants will focus on systemic change to either improve or create response systems for youth homelessness by funding projects that create and build capacity for Youth Action Boards; collect and use data on at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness; develop strong leaders within a community; and improve the coordination, communication, operation, and administration of homeless assistance projects to better serve youth, including prevention and diversion strategies. Communities may either establish or improve existing response systems for youth homelessness through the following objectives:

- Improve the capacity of youth in the community: Developing peer support models, including training, project design, and implementation; creating Youth Action Board training, including government rules, leadership, and other skills; community training and outreach on how to work with youth and integrate youth leadership in an authentic way.
- Establish partnerships: Bringing together system partners who also work with youth who are living in unstable housing. This could include partnerships with Tribes and cultural organizations in the community, K-12 schools, higher education, juvenile justice, child welfare, employment services, etc.
- Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as the Coordinated Entry Systems (CES).
- Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

Due: February 15, 2024 through Grants.gov

[Link to Grant Application Details](#)



Naming the New Youth Shelter

Planning and development of the new northern Colorado regional youth shelter is proceeding well. The shelter, which will be housed in the former Monroe Early Childhood building in Loveland, will address the immediate needs of unaccompanied youth throughout our community. The new facility is a collaboration with several partners, including Thompson School District, The Matthews House, Poudre School District, Thompson Education Foundation, Larimer County and several local nonprofit organizations. It will be operated by The Matthews House and is scheduled to open next fall.

Now, we need your help in naming the shelter! Below is a link to a survey that can be used to provide your naming suggestion. **All suggestions must be submitted by January 14th.**

Survey links:

English: <https://kwuspefi4i9.typeform.com/to/bLHmWOiT>

Spanish: <https://kwuspefi4i9.typeform.com/to/CpASGSol>

For more information about the youth shelter, please visit: <https://www.themathewshouse.org/youth-shelter/>



The Point in Time Count is January 30th!

The NoCO CoC will be conducting its annual Point in Time Count of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on Tuesday, January 30th.

Want to help?

- Donate
 - \$5 gift cards to King Soopers or Walmart
 - Hand/Feet warmers
- Volunteer

- The CoC is looking for volunteers who have experience working with vulnerable populations to help survey for the PIT Count
- Contact kpryor@nocococ.org if you are interested to discuss more details

[Read 2023 PIT Count Report](#)



SNAP Advocacy Opportunity

Hunger Free Colorado participates in the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger's Project Team "SNAP Advocacy for the Houseless." The group has been researching and raising awareness of the Restaurant Meals Program. Restaurant Meals is an opt-in program from the USDA that allows states to expand eligible SNAP purchases for certain SNAP participants.

When implemented it would allow for Coloradans who are unhoused, living with disabilities, veterans, and older adults, to use their SNAP benefits at participating restaurants. This would also allow them to purchase hot meals in the participating restaurants. This program only supports the populations mentioned and is not a solution to the "hot foods" prohibition that prevents all SNAP participants from buying hot and prepared meals at grocery stores.

The Blueprint is submitting [this letter](#) to the Governor's Office early 2024 to demonstrate support and continued partnership with Colorado Department of Human Services to make this possible in Colorado. [Please consider signing](#) on as an organization or individual to show your support in this being a priority in next year's state budget!

Email Greta Allen, Policy Director at gallen@endhungerco.org with any questions.



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 1,786 households.

Through CAHPS, the NoCO CoC is participating in the [Community Solutions Built for Zero Initiative](#) 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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