



Community Services Department

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Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board January 10, 2020 8-10am Baltic Conference Room, 3482 Broadway

Welcome and Introductions	8:00-8:05
Public Comment	8:05-8:10
Discussion with Kristin Toombs, Director of Homeless Initiatives, DOLA	8:10-9:00
Other Items	9:00-10:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• System Updates/Accomplishments• Emerging Issues• City of Boulder 1/7/20 Council Meeting<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Memorial▪ System Discussion• City of Longmont Update• Partner Updates	
Adjourn	10:00

Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board

January 10, 2020 8-10am

Baltic Conference Room, 3482 Broadway

In Attendance: Jim Adams-Berger, Jillian Baldwin, Robin Bohannon, Sarah Buss, Vicki Ebner, Kurt Firnhaber, Heidi Grove, Karen Kreutzberg

Guests: Michael Block, Greg Harms, Kristin Toombs

Discussion with Kristin Toombs

Kristin Toombs is the Director of the Office of Homeless Initiatives within the Division of Housing at the Department of Local Affairs. She noted that the state has increased overall funding for the Division of Housing, with 15.3 million in funds being provided starting in 2017; 3 million of that funding goes to vouchers serving high utilizers. During the last legislative session, additional funds were allocated through House Bill 1245 for development of affordable housing; these funds will be available on July 1, 2020 and will ideally allow for more of the 15.3 million to go to non-development solutions for homelessness. House Bill 1322 could generate up to 30 million for housing development but may be restricted by the Taxpayer Bill of Rights. Other relevant items on this year's legislative agenda include a bill for wildfire mitigation which would provide five grants throughout the state to those interfacing with long-term camping populations, as well as a bill to fund technical assistance and services for supportive housing for the young adult population affected by mental health challenges and the criminal justice system.

The group discussed the evolution of the homeless services system within Boulder County and how that might impact the need for a shift in the way Continuum of Care funds are allocated.

It was noted that the Division of Housing released the Request for Applications for annual Permanent Supportive Housing funds (with services dollars), Tenancy Support Services for existing awarded vouchers, and funds for recovery-oriented housing; letters of intent for these funding pools are due today.

The Division of Housing recently organized a state team to work alongside community teams regarding Built for Zero; this work will inform strategic planning and a possible statewide summit on homelessness later in 2020. Materials informed by stakeholder meetings that took place in the summer of 2019 have been/are being created as well. Throughout this year, the Division of Housing hopes to disburse more information about community-specific strategies and priorities as well as the vision for the continuum of homeless services.

An overview of the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County system was provided. The Board shared the challenges in serving those using methamphetamine, and it was noted that because these clients are not eligible for Housing Choice Vouchers, they can be served through Continuum of Care funds where possible, and other gaps need to be filled by the State; this will be a topic for future discussion.

System Updates/Accomplishments

In relation to the Systems Work Group, beta testing is taking place with the new Diversion elements in Boulder County Connect, and these changes are scheduled to go live this month. The Communications Team is beginning to work on the annual report. The Housing Exits Work Group will be holding a strategic planning session on January 30th. The Management Board has taken some time away from meeting due to the holidays but will be meeting this month. The

Justice Services Work Group is working to cross-walk data to determine system high-utilization and will be looking at the results of this process in the coming weeks. The Outreach Work Group is envisioning how to coordinate outreach efforts across the County moving forward; upcoming, Veterans affairs will be doing additional outreach in Nederland and the Point in Time survey will be taking place at the end of the month.

Emerging Issues

The Daily Camera article regarding those experiencing homelessness who passed away in 2019 is being revised with correct information. In the future, the Coroner's report will be needed before releasing these names in order to verify who was deceased; those who were housed at the time of death should not be included in the list. There was discussion that several agencies in the Denver and Colorado Springs areas may be discharging patients experiencing homelessness from their psychiatric units to Bridge House. Data around this is being gathered and a meeting will take place next week. Due to numerous returns to homelessness, it was discussed that Rapid Rehousing is not the right service for certain high-need clients, despite Metro Denver Homeless Initiative noting that it can be used for all unless proven otherwise. Boulder County data surrounding Rapid Rehousing failures is being tracked, and it was noted that the Emergency Solutions Grant can be used for these clients (instead of Rapid Rehousing funds) when no Permanent Supportive Housing vouchers/support services are readily available.

City of Boulder 1/7/20 Council Meeting

The yearly update on homelessness to the Boulder City Council will take place in the summer months going forward, rather than in January. Community concerns around encampments continue, and there is a need for further solutions, especially regarding those who are not engaging with available services or are short-term residents. The Point in Time survey and other coordinated outreach will assist in providing data around this issue.

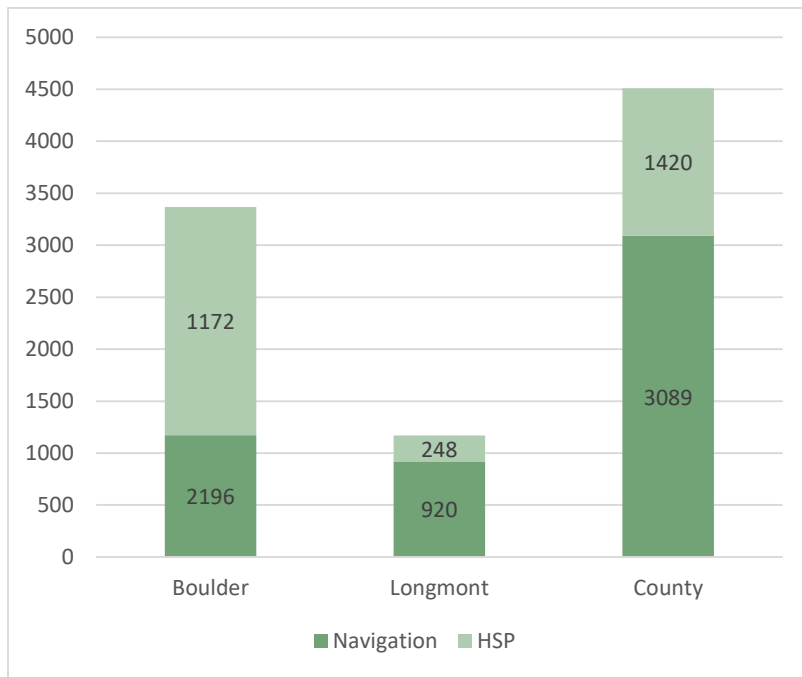
City of Longmont Update

The Longmont Housing Authority will have five set aside vouchers entering the system on February 3rd and plans to release the other set aside 10 vouchers in five voucher increments throughout the year. They are still in discussion with the City of Longmont regarding getting the locally funded voucher program off the ground and are working on both a master lease program for the Briarwood units and a deposit assistance program. The City of Longmont has extended current Navigation Services contracts through February, and the conversation around Safe Lots is continuing; a presentation will be provided to City Council from the Safe Lot pilot team in the near future.

COORDINATED ENTRY

- 4509 screenings have occurred between October 2017 through November 30, 2019 with 68.5% referred to Navigation and 31.5% to Housing Focused Shelter.
- During the month of November 2019, 135 individuals were screened at Coordinated Entry with 73.3% referred to Navigation services and 26.6% referred to Housing Focused Shelter.

PRESENTING CLIENT PROFILE¹



County-wide Screening Results:

- Housing Focus Shelter- 1420 (31.5%)
- Navigation- 3089 (68.5%)

City of Longmont Screening Results:

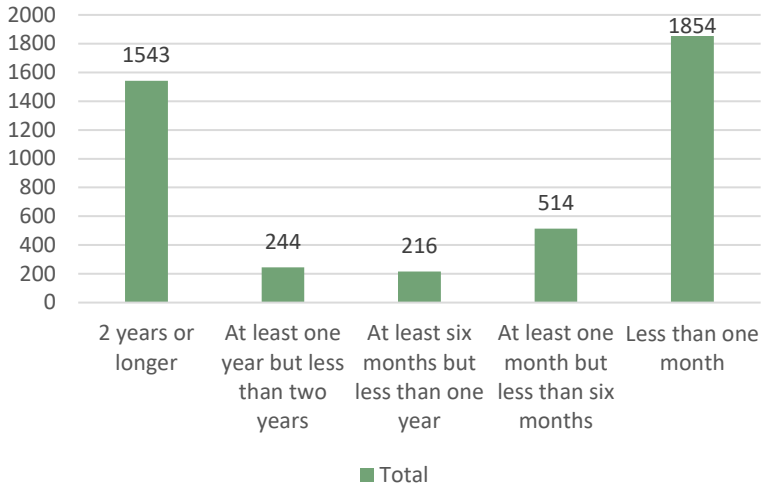
- Housing Focus Shelter-248 (5.5%)
- Navigation- 920 (20.4%)

City of Boulder Screening Results:

- Housing Focus Shelter- 1,172 (26%)
- Navigation- 2,196 (48.1%)

¹ Data reflected is cumulative from October 1, 2017-November 30, 2019

Length of Time BOCO



2 years or longer in Boulder County- 1, 543 (35.3%)

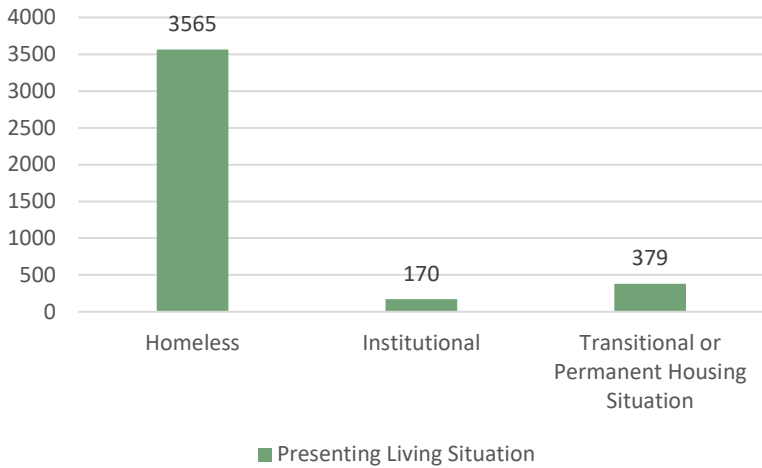
At least 1 year, less than 2 years in Boulder County- 244 (5.6%)

6 months in Boulder County- 216 (4.9%)

At least 1 month, less than 6 months- 514 (11.8%)

Less than 1 month- 1,854 (42.4%)

Presenting Living Situation

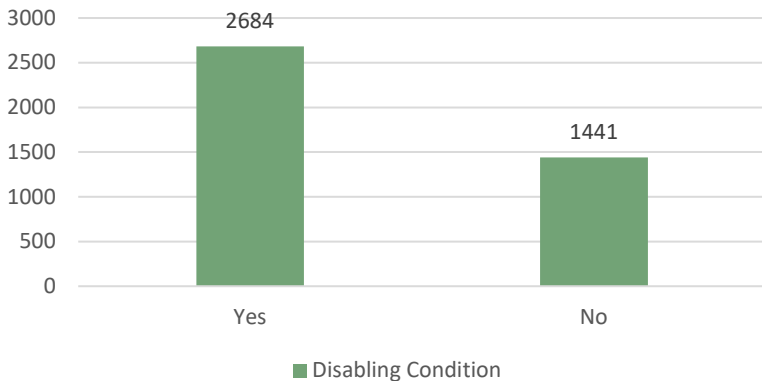


Homeless Situation- 3,565 (86.7%)

Institutional Situation- 170 (4.1%)

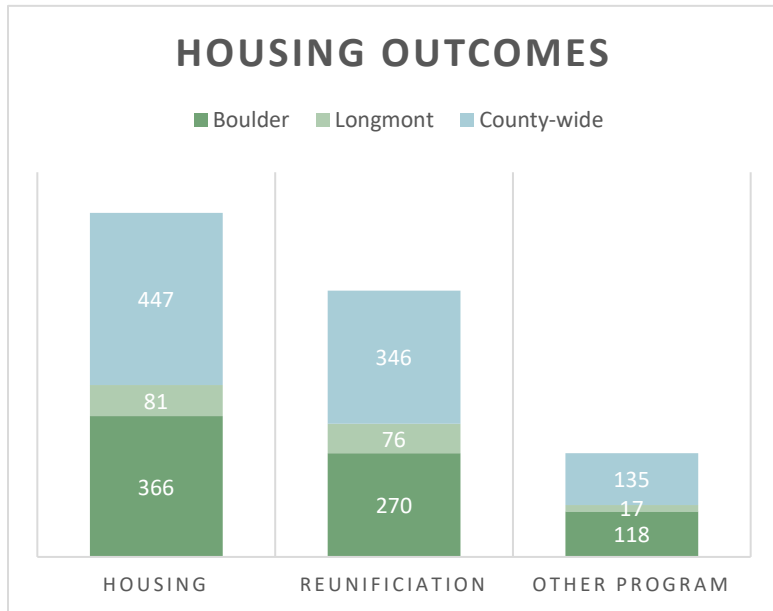
Transitional or Permanent Housing Situation- 379 (9.2%)

Disabling Condition



Reporting Disabling Condition- 2,684 (65.1%)

OUTCOMES



Total County Systems Exit Outcomes- 928

Housed- 447 (48.1%)
 Reunification- 346 (37.2%)
 Other Program- 135 (14.5%)

Boulder Systems Exit Outcomes- 754

(81.2%)
 Housed- 366 (48.5%)
 Reunification- 270 (35.8%)
 Other Program- 118 (15.6%)

Longmont Systems Exit Outcomes- 174

(18.8%)
 Housed- 81 (46.5%)
 Reunification- 76 (43.6%)
 Other Program- 17 (9.7%)

WORK GROUP UPDATES

- The Systems Work Group has been actively testing the new data elements for Coordinated Entry with Diversion services in BCC and have found minimal data challenges. The group will continue to monitor, identify and report any challenges as Diversion services are phased in to current programming.
- The Communications Work Group is currently working on long-term strategies post November Executive Board meeting feedback.
- The Housing Exits Work Group will be holding a strategic planning session on January 30, 2020 (hosted by Attention Homes at their new facility). The focus of this extended meeting will be to identify areas of systems enhancement, gaps in housing inventory, and long term planning for the group to incorporate for the next few years.
- The Management Board will begin to work on strategic visioning beginning January 2020 as well as exploring ways to monitor the integration and refinement of Diversion services.
- The Justice Services Work Group will meet for the second convening in mid-January. The cross walk of data has begun and will continue to be analyzed throughout the process.
- The County-wide Outreach Coordination Work Group will meet for the third convening in mid-January to begin the process of creating shared outcome matrices.
- Veterans Affairs is closely working with HSBC to identify ways to better streamline and collaborate our work. HSBC participated in a Outreach Mapping to identify needs across the region.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- Point-In-Time 2020 will occur on January 27, 2019.

CELEBRATIONS

- Attention Homes is 100% leased with 41 (including sibling unit) individuals successfully housed.

DATA PROVIDED BY BOULDER SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS LEE HILL SITE

Client Profile of Tenants Fiscal Year 2019:

- 93% of participants report suffering from a mental health problem
- 73% of participants report suffering from a physical disability
- 53% of participants report a substance abuse problem.
- 97% report the existence of at least 2 disabling conditions

Tenant Outcomes Fiscal Year 2019:

- 100% of the residents have income including the 9 who entered the program with no income.
- 84% of participants have been housed for over 2 years.
- 71% of participants have been housed for over 3 years.
- 56% of participants have been housed for over 4 years.

Tenant Exit Fiscal Year 2019:

- 2 exits during the reporting period.
 - 1 exit to unknown destination.
 - 1 exit as result of death.