

# **Community Services Department**

Sundquist Building • 3482 N. Broadway • Boulder, Colorado 80304 • Tel: 303.441.3560 • Fax: 303.441.4550 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306 • www.bouldercountycommunityservices.org



# Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board October 14, 2022, 8:00 - 10:00am Teams Meeting

#### **Administrative Matters**

8:00-8:20

- Public Comment
- Approval of May and September Minutes
- September Board Brief review

Discussion Items 8:20-9:30

- Meth-related Housing Issues and Implications
  - o Impacts evictions, remediation and neighbor impacts
  - Development of talking points
  - o Holding discussions with elected officials and community members
  - Need for ongoing focus on housing development / sober living and/or treatment housing for the meth population
  - o Exploring a Colorado legislative fix
- Follow-up from County-Longmont City Council meeting: Transitional housing, different forms of sheltering, recovery housing
- Sanctioned Campground Project Proposal

#### General Updates 9:30-10:00

- DOH Letter on Recommendations for Ridgeview
- Update on Tribe
- Landlord / Voucher Issues
- Funding: 1377 Funding and MacArthur Foundation Grant
- City of Boulder High Utilizer Project Update
- County, COB, COL and MDHI Updates
- Rescheduling November meeting due to holiday

## **Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting

Or call in (audio only)

+1 720-400-7859,,386064849# United States, Denver

Phone Conference ID: 386 064 849#

# Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board May 13, 2022, 8:00 - 10:00am Teams Meeting

Informational 8:00-8:20

#### Attendance:

Jim Adams-Berger, Robin Bohannan, Vicki Ebner, Kurt Firnhaber, Jenna Griess, Heidi Grove, Jamie Rife, Joni Marsh, Karen Kreutzberg, DeVon Kissick, Carlene Okiyama

#### **INFORMATIONAL**

**Public Comment - None** 

#### **April Board Brief Review**

- Thistle CEO is now a member on the Housing Exits committee and has committed 5% of units to voucher holders.
- COVID Recovery Center closed in April.
- Monthly Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) extract moving forward.

#### **Special Analysis**

- Changing population:
  - o Q1 and Q2 could suggest that the Longmont numbers have increased because numbers have increased overall.
  - New to community, coming from Denver with 3 or more disabling conditions.
  - Re-did qualifications to look at what is diversion and what is reunification.
  - Concerning that diversion and reunification are down. Ideas for making progress in this area include ongoing dialogue, training, and collaboration.
  - Seeing high acuity and challenges, possibly related to health conditions due to COVID.
  - Seeing an increase in case management resources, impacting our work, we want to make sure we are matching supportive service dollars with units.

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, TGTHR and Mental Health Partners (MHP) are currently participating in pilot between HCPF and DOLA. There are 500 vouchers to go to support those already in housing and those unhoused. Pool of funds to support service could come from American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) funding. National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) sponsoring a bill to put service dollars through Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Suggestion to convene a local group possibly expand to Regional. Increase conversations with elected officials in a formal way. What is the outcome we want from the group? *Robin to schedule a planning session*.

#### Move-on strategy

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless hired a Move On case manager and is working on hiring four more. Monitor the success of this strategy.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### Retreat follow-up

Minutes - no changes needed

#### Cost of Homelessness Joint Study

HSBC working with the Director of Regional affairs for Mayor Hancock on the study of homelessness. Meeting with a professor to create a cross sector team. Regional coordinators might have the data to do the study. Suggestion to use an existing meeting to come together on best practices.

#### HB1377

Department of Local Affairs/Division of Housing (DOLA/DOH), HB 1377 appropriating \$105M to Homelessness. Request to write a letter of support on how the funds can be allocated. List of recommendations from Policy team.

- o Continued support of the Move On strategy.
- Increased funding for Supportive Services case management as well as creative supportive services (HUD will not be including funding for supportive services)
- Increased funding for street outreach
- Increased funding for Rapid Rehousing
- o Property acquisition for targeted populations
- o Increased funding for landlord recruitment

Some things to note: Attend stakeholder meetings and application process/Request for Application last quarter of 2022. There is a 30 day turn around to allocate funds.

Heidi to draft letter with Robin's signature, all in favor of not needing to see draft copying prior to sending to DOH.

#### **ARPA** overview

ARPA groups gave recommendation to Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Affordable housing is one of three priorities. The plan includes investing resources in pipeline projects that will create affordable housing sooner, projects in Longmont, Boulder & Lafayette. Cities of Louisville, Lafayette, Erie, and Superior all have recently or are in the process of putting in place inclusion housing ordinances. This will bring new dollars into those communities and will also bring compliance, administration, and oversight. Proposal to expand existing infrastructure to provide these services, working on draft Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to form relationship with the assumption of using ARPA funds.

Regional housing partnership work over the last few years has been monumentally but with many personnel shortages everyone is working on building leadership.

#### **Recovery Home grant update**

Grant from Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to stand up recovery homes. The grant doesn't require that we start utilizing the funds at any particular time. We can start providing services

before we purchase a house. Currently working with a real estate agent. One property that was in consideration, after learning more from Longmont, turned out not to be the best fit for various reasons. Another property is a good fit but requires extensive rehab, not sure how that rehab will be funded.

If we continue to have problems purchasing a home, we can think about creative approaches to use dollars, we can still bring the services to Boulder prior to having a home so that we aren't delaying services. We are working closely with City of Longmont staff to ensure we purchase a property in an area that provides for the greatest success. Potential to access ARPA funds.

Robin and Jim to work directly with Longmont staff.

#### DOLA voucher discussion

How to open up administrators' dollars outside just MHP? DOH open up RFA to expand number of administrators in county. Will need housing authorities to say they are interested. MHP has declined vouchers because of capacity issues.

BHP approached DOLA 4 or 5 years ago and found out that vouchers not directly from DOLA only allow for a portion of the admin fee and it's not enough to cover cost. Will need more information. LHA is interested and mentioned wanting to make ensure maintaining the relationship with MHP.

Heidi and Jim to share with housing authorities after meeting with DOH.

## Comprehensive funding spreadsheet development In progress.

#### New County parking ordinance – hearing May 19th

The ordinance calls out those who are living in their vehicles; not allowed to inhabit your car as your residence as opposed to parking somewhere. The Commissioners plan to follow up with op-ed on why they support the system approach and why support housing. Noted to Commissioners that HSBC is focused on housing. At least two of the Commissioners has stated that they support HSBC.

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

•Federal budget update, cost of homelessness study, etc.

Concern around cutting federal funds for supportive services. We are continuing to look at how we fund supportive services and will be advocating to DOLA to fund these services. Looking at Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) from a regional perspective, monies under behavioral task force only until 2026. How do we fill the gaps and how do we sustain all this long term? This is all part of larger conversation.

#### **Boulder Housing Partners**

Opening lottery next week, focus is on mainstream vouchers – homeless, at risk of homeless, coming out of institution, add to exists part of the report in the next 6 months, still working on emergency housing vouchers.

#### **Boulder County Housing & Human Services**

Emergency Housing (EHV) on hold to manage the lottery, 10 more EHV to issue, doing Move Up from Rapid Rehousing coming out of Continuum of Care (COC) and Emergency Solutions Granting (ESG) programs. Supportive housing unit moving to a new Housing division that will be created

#### **City of Boulder**

Article in the next few days that takes a look back at what has been accomplished around affordable housing since 2020 - 604 units of affordable housing in just over two years (250 units per year). 1100 units in the pipeline. Vicki's position has been filled and that person, Megan Netwon, will join the next meeting. Megan has 20 years of experience in homelessness. The city is also hiring one new position to help with coordination of services.

Sept. 9 is the annual homelessness update to City Council. In the next month or so, the city will open an Request for Proposal (RFP) to help with the community conversation around service provisions. There will also be two RFPs that will be going out in the next three weeks with ARPA funding to implement peer support programs and programs to support individuals that have been housed. BTHERE has hired all open positions and is ready to go.

#### **Metro Denver Homeless Initiative**

First 90 days are complete. Spending over 100 hours talking to partners. Revamping HMIS training to make it more accessible and self-paced. CE working with C4 doing a presentation of their findings. Revamping council and committee structure to fully engage the community. HUD is working on contracts working first on those that have expired, should be getting them out soon.

#### **City of Longmont**

Shelter pilot program with Boulder Community Hospital in the past 6- or 9-months preliminary data shows a savings of 46,000 in emergency depart visits for 11 people. LTHERE contract with HOPE for \$100K of human services funding is moving forward. HOPE is aware that funding beyond this year isn't guaranteed. Michele Waite is retiring as of June 3.

Adjourned, 10am

# Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board September 9, 2022, 8:00 - 10:00am Teams Meeting

#### Attendance:

Jim Adams-Berger, Robin Bohannan, Susan Caskey, Vicki Ebner, Kurt Firnhaber, Jenna Griess, Heidi Grove, Joni Marsh, Megan Newton, Eliberto Mendoza, Carlene Okiyama, Jamie Rife

Introduction of Susan Caskey, new director of Boulder County Housing and Human Services

**Public Comment** – None August Minutes – Approved

#### Informational

Susan Caskey informed the group that Colorado Department of Human Services has decided to support individuals experiencing homelessness through Navigation activities as a part of benefits processes. The implementation of these efforts are currently being worked through.

#### September Board Brief review (incorporate June)

- Boulder County was Certified by Community Solutions for Quality By-Name list with zero margin of error for both Veterans and Single Adults.
- Directors of partners and homeless providers continue to work collaboratively to identify funding opportunities to ensure duplication of services do not occur throughout Boulder County.
- Overall, the number of Coordinated Entry screenings were higher, annually, compared to same timeframe as last year.
- 137 individuals have exited homelessness between January 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022 (an overall decrease of 11% compared to the same timeframe as last year).

#### **Discussion Items**

#### City of Boulder High Utilizer project

Data sharing discussion

Input from group to be leveraged towards influence state legislation, Jaime will send out feedback information to the board regarding prior efforts at the State.

#### Reflections on the 9.1.22 City of Boulder Council Meeting

Update from Kurt Firnhaber. It went well except for the focus on Boulder County. Kurt acknowledged the significant investment made by Boulder County.

Next Steps: Meeting with Boulder County Board of Commissioners and City of Boulder Council Members. MDHI offered to facilitate the meeting.

# Planning City of Boulder Day Shelter Efforts – what does this process look like and potential impacts to HSBC efforts

City of Boulder council set a Day Shelter as a priority back in January. City staff has engaged in community outreach to include service providers and reached out to individuals with lived experience.

#### Some things to consider:

- Will need to go back to City Council and ask for additional funds. Will require either renting or purchasing a building which might also require upgrades.
- Bring Community Court to location connect people to resource
- Day Shelter will serve as the overflow for winter sheltering
- Focus on navigation with some services (showers, laundry, etc.)
- One goal is for navigation and diversion numbers to go up
- Fit within housing first model

Robin pointed out that the County had a day shelter that didn't result in any gains in housing.

Next step: The City has received 264 feedback forms. They are still trying to figure out what should it be, what it shouldn't be, where should it be located, and where it shouldn't be located. Then a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be opened.

#### **Upcoming Funding Opportunities and Next Steps**

Heidi reported that is a lot of ARPA funding available. Still waiting for the Request for Applications for Colorado House Bill 22-1377; hopefully it will open soon. Heidi will facilitate a strategic planning meeting with Executive Directors on September 15, 2022, to discuss collaborative grant applications. They will specifically look at HB 22-1377 and MacArthur Foundation funds with a focus on removing the County and City as serving a passthrough entity and encouraging non-profits to apply directly.

Discussion around the concern that this is one-time ARPA funding and making sure that we are planning for sustainability. The City of Boulder mentioned the possibility of applying for funds to support the purchase of the Day Center.

#### **Recovery Home Update**

The scope of work has been reviewed and approved. Currently waiting on Tribe to provide the required Certificates of Insurance. Once that is received, the County can route the contract for approval and signatures.

- Phase 1 Outpatient services prioritizing CJS client, services will be provided at the Sundquist building.
- Phase 2 Will start once a home is purchased. Tribe put in an offer for Mother House in Boulder and is waiting on two more votes from their board members.

#### **General Updates 9:30**

#### **Boulder County**

Update on Opioid settlement. All the Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) have been received from the municipalities to join the Boulder County Region Council. The first Council meeting will take place on September 22 and focus on setting the stage for the knowledge about the settlement, the role of the Council and presenting data. The first phase consists of funding projects that the Council be asked to review. There are still settlements to be determined. Total funds will last 18 years with the first round at \$1.8M for the first year.

The Council is made up of the Boulder County Sheriff, 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Chief Justice, Boulder County Administrator, Boulder County Housing and Human Services Director, Boulder County Community Services Director, City of Boulder City Manager, City of Longmont City Manager, Nederland Town Manager, and Boulder County Commissioner Claire Levy will serve as the Chairperson.

#### **City of Longmont**

Joni provided an update on staffing. They are posting a new Director of Human Services position. That person will take on the unhoused conversation, Human Services Fund, children, youth and family, senior services, and talking with public safety about mental health services. They will also be posting for another Director that will lead recreation, golf and the library.

#### **City of Boulder**

For the next two months, Kurt will only be working on Mondays while he takes time to rebuild his house in Louisville. He will be back around the middle of November.

#### **MDHI**

Jaime reiterated the excitement that Boulder is the first in the Region to hit Built for Zero quality data and thanked everyone for all the hard work. She will send out the link to provide public feedback on state funding, specifically the required 1-1 match.

#### **Boulder County HHS**

Susan provided an update on the pre-development on the Regional Transportation District (RTD) development site in Superior. They are slowing down a bit to do more community engagement. Also noted that they Willoughby Corner is on track and in fact ahead of schedule for by a month or two.

#### Adjourned 9:45

# HOMELESS SOLUTIONS FOR BOULDER COUNTY: EXECUTIVE BOARD BRIEF OCTOBER 2022

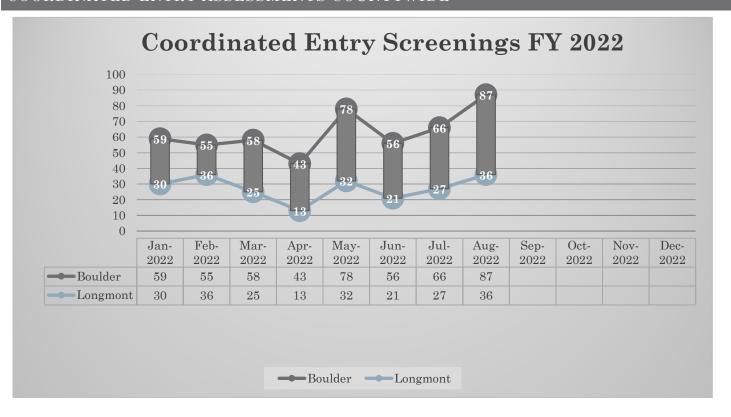
#### NOTE WORTHY UPDATES FOR OCTOBER 2022

- The HMIS data pull was not function correctly. HSBC worked with HMIS fix the extract. Updated and accurate data is reflected in Housing Exits.
- Boulder County will present to the Director and Grant Program Officers for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

#### OVERVIEW OF DATA IN BRIEFING

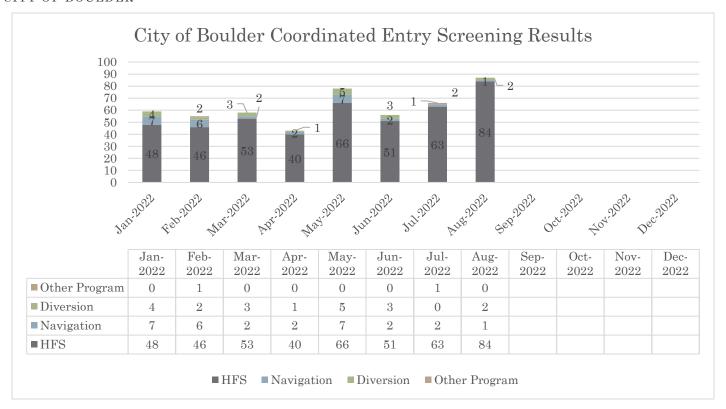
- Overall, the number of Coordinated Entry screenings continue to be higher (both for month of August and annually), compared to same timeframe as last year.
  - City of Boulder was up 11% annually and increased by 16% during the month of August.
  - o City of Longmont was up 12% annually and increased by 6% during the month of August.
- 162 individuals have exited homelessness between January 1, 2022, through August 31, 2022 (an overall decrease of 7% compared to the same timeframe as last year).
  - o City of Boulder had an increase of 50% exit to housing and an overall increase of 4% (annual).
  - o City of Longmont had an increase of 71% exit to housing and an overall increase of 10% (annual).
  - o Decrease of 100% exited from HMIS data system.
- On average, 20 individuals exit homelessness per month for calendar year 2022:
  - o 13 to housing
  - o 7 through reunification
  - o Less than one to other programming such as treatment.

#### COORDINATED ENTRY ASSESSMENTS COUNTYWIDE

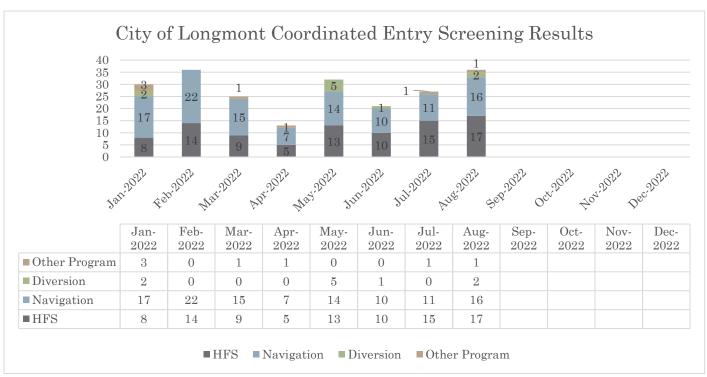


# COORDINATED ENTRY ASSESSMENT RESULTS PER LOCATION

#### CITY OF BOULDER



#### CITY OF LONGMONT<sup>1</sup>



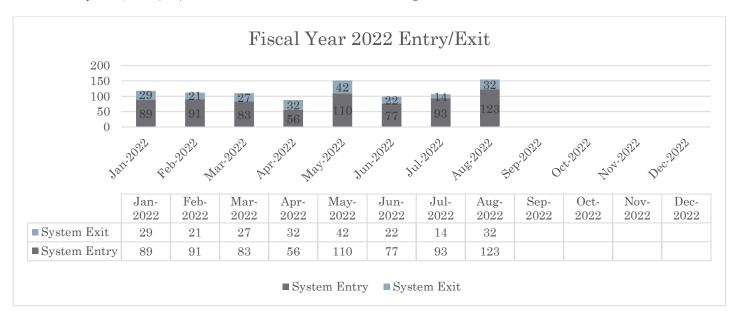
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> One Exit in August 2022 was from Outreach Efforts to Housing and is reflected in Other Program

#### HOUSING OUTCOMES

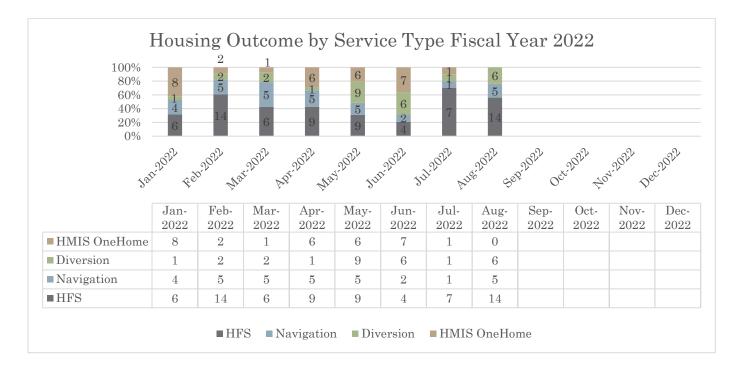
The following data and charts reflect individuals experiencing homelessness who have exited the homeless services system to a stable housing outcome. It is important to note that the data reflected in the following charts reflect Housing Outcomes via system entry and exit are not the same individuals.

#### SYSTEM ENTRY/EXIT AUGUST 2022

Since January 2022, 30% (219) exited homelessness into a stable housing situation.



#### SYSTEM EXIT PROGRAM TYPE<sup>2</sup>



#### HOUSING OUTCOMES FISCAL YEAR BY COORDINATED ENTRY INITIATED SITE 2022

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  2 additional exits were reported from Mother House during the Month of May 2022

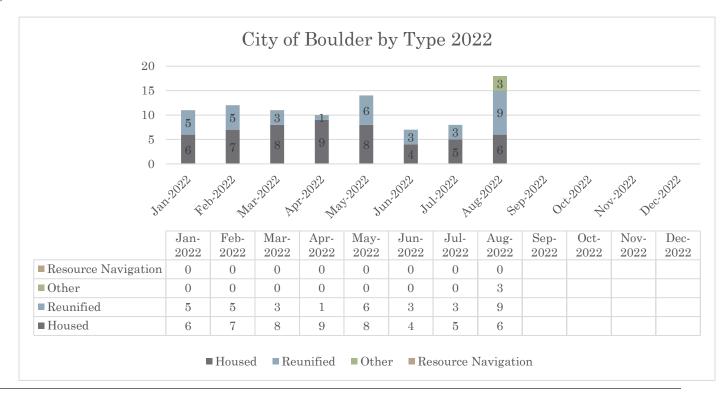
As reflected, a total of 219 individuals experiencing homelessness exited homelessness since January 2022 with 91 (42%) from the City of Boulder, 40 (18%) from the City of Longmont and 88 (40%) Boulder County<sup>3</sup>.



HOUSING OUTCOME BY EXIT TYPE CITY OF BOULDER 2022

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  Boulder County Exits reflect HMIS One Home extract. Municipality of origin is unavailable.

Since January 2022, in the City of Boulder, a total 91 individuals have exited homelessness with 53 (58%) individuals exited to housing, 35 (38%) through Reunification, and 3 (3%) through providing rental assistance (reflected in Other) to remain in housing.

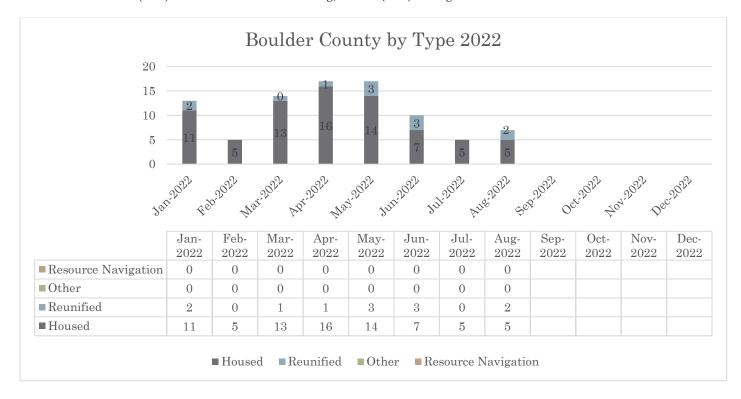


#### HOUSING OUTCOME BY EXIT TYPE CITY OF LONGMONT 2022

Since January 2022, in the City of Longmont, a total 40 individuals have exited homelessness with 24 (60%) individuals exited to housing, 15 (38%) through Reunification, and 1 (3%) through Other program.



Since January 2022, through the OneHome HMIS data system and in Boulder County, a total 88 individuals have exited homelessness with 76 (86%) individuals exited to housing, and 12 (14%) through Reunification.



# RATE OF CHANGE<sup>4</sup>

#### **Boulder County Coordinated Entry Assessment 2021**

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
City of Boulder	52	49	53	48	55	50	65	73	75	61	53	50	684
City of Longmont	41	17	14	19	24	26	19	34	36	22	17	28	297

#### Rate of Change

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
City of Boulder	+12%	+11%	+9%	-10%	+23%	-12%	+2%	+16%					+11%
City of Longmont	-24%	+53%	+44%	-32%	+17%	-19%	+30%	+6%					+12%

#### City of Boulder Coordinated Entry Assessment Referral Outcomes 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Diversion	31	24	28	23	31	35	38	6	3	2	0	1	222
Navigation	3	3	1	2	5	1	6	1	3	3	5	2	35
HFS	18	22	24	23	19	14	21	66	69	56	48	47	427
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Diversion	-90%	-92%	-89%	-96%	-84%	-91%	-100%	-67%					-91%
Navigation	+57%	+57%	+50%	0%	+29%	+50%	-67%	0					+24%
HFS	+63%	+52%	+55%	+74%	+68%	+73%	+67%	+21%					+54%
Other	+100%	0	0	0	0	0	+100%	0					+100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Rate of Change is compared to month of prior year. Annual is compared to rolling annual totals for same timeframe in the reporting year. Items in red reflect lower than the comparative. Grey section in above charts reflect the timeframe when the 6-month residency policy was in place. As a result, please use caution in comparing trends during these timeframes.

City of Longmont Coordinated Entry Assessment Referral Outcomes 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Diversion	17	7	3	6	6	9	6	1	0	0	1	0	56
Navigation	3	3	4	4	4	5	3	13	5	9	3	21	77
HFS	21	7	7	9	14	11	9	19	31	13	13	7	161
Other	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3

# Rate of Change

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Diversion	-88%	-100%	-100%	-100%	-17%	-89%	-100%	+50%					-82%
Navigation	+83%	+86%	+73%	+43%	+67%	+50%	+73%	+19%					+65%
HFS	-62%	+50%	+22%	-44%	-14%	-9%	+40%	-11%					-6%
Other	+100%	0	+100%	+100%	0	-100%	0	0					+100%

## Successful Exit Percentage 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Average
Percent	23%	27%	28%	42%	30%	25%	30%	17%	40%	35%	34%	27%	30%

# Successful Exit Percentage 2022

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Percent	33%	23%	33%	57%	38%	29%	15%	26%					30%
Change	+10%	-4%	-5%	+15%	+8%	+4%	-15%	+9%					0

# System Exit by Program Type 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Diversion	8	4	6	4	8	8	10	4	3	2	0	1	58
Navigation	2	4	1	4	2	2	2	2	8	3	4	4	38
HFS	7	7	7	11	3	4	8	5	21	9	9	12	103
OneHome HMIS	4	3	5	9	11	5	5	9	12	15	11	4	93
Total Exits	21	18	19	28	24	19	25	20	44	29	24	21	292

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Diversion	-88%	-50%	-83%	-75%	+11%	-25%	-90%	+33%					-46%
Navigation	+50%	+20%	+80%	+20%	+60%	0	-50%	+60%					+41%
HFS	+30%	+30%	-14%	-18%	+67%	0	-13%	+64%					+25%
OneHome HMIS	+69%	+40%	+64%	+47%	+35%	+50%	0	-22%					+42%
Total Exits	+28%	+14%	+30%	+13%	+23%	+43%	+13%	+38%					+21%

City of Boulder System Exit by Type 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Resource Nav	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	7
Other	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Reunification	4	3	2	4	5	4	7	4	9	6	4	4	56
Housed	7	5	5	8	3	5	8	5	15	5	5	7	78
Total Exit	12	10	9	13	9	10	15	9	26	11	9	11	144

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Resource Nav	0	-100%	-100%	0	-100%	-100%	0	0					-100%
Other	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%	0	0	0	+100%					+100%
Reunification	+20%	+40%	+33%	-75%	+17%	-25%	-57%	+56%					+6%
Housed	-14%	+29%	+38%	+44%	+63%	-20%	-38%	+17%					+13%
Total Exit	-8%	+17%	+18%	-23%	+38%	-30%	-47%	+50%					+4%

City of Longmont System Exit by Type 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Resource Nav	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Reunification	3	0	2	1	2	3	3	1	2	1	0	2	20
Housed	2	5	3	5	2	1	2	0	4	2	4	3	33
Total Exit	5	5	5	6	4	4	5	2	6	3	4	6	55

# Rate of Change

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Resource Nav	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Other	0	0	0	+100%	0	0	0	-100%					0
Reunification	0	+100%	-50%	-100%	+60%	0	-100%	+50%					0
Housed	0	-40%	-67%	-20%	+67%	+50%	-50%	+100%					+17%
Total Exit	0	-20%	-60%	-17%	+64%	+20%	-80%	+71%					+10%

## Boulder County HMIS/OneHome System Exit by Type 2021

	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Total
Resource Nav	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Reunification	1	1	1	1	3	2	0	2	3	1	2	1	18
Housed	3	2	4	7	7	3	5	7	9	14	8	3	72
Total Exit	4	3	5	9	11	5	5	9	12	15	11	4	93

	Jan 22	Feb 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Average
Resource Nav	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Other	0	0	0	-100%	-100%	0	0	0					-100%
Reunification	+50%	0	+100%	0	-100%	+33%	0	0					+8%
Housed	+73%	+60%	+69%	+56%	+50%	+57%	0	-29%					+50%
Total Exit	+69%	+40%	+64%	+47%	+35%	+50%	0	-22%					+42%

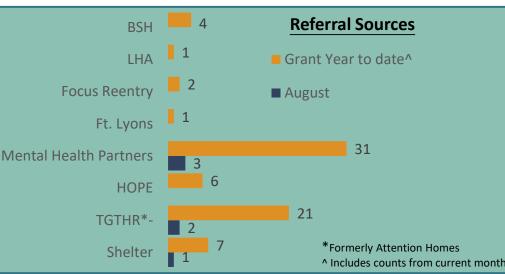
# Characteristics

# **Boulder County Pathways to Housing Stability**

# August 2022 County Data Report

The Boulder County Pathways to Housing Stability (BCPHS) initiative, implemented by Mental Health Partners of Boulder County (MHP), supports adults experiencing chronic homelessness who also have behavioral health needs in finding and maintaining stable housing. There were 6 new referrals for August 2022. All data included in this report are from baseline/intake assessments.

Clients are referred to **BCPHS** from external community services as well as internally within MHP. Referred clients are screened for eligibility into the program. Clients may then be enrolled if they fit the eligibility criteria.



75% have experienced violence or trauma.

Of those, 63% have experienced at least 3 of 4

PTSD symptoms.

August Enrollments: 10

Total Enrollments: 191

Average age: **50** 

Age range: 19-75

**Female: 33%** 

Male: 66%

Race	#	%
Alaska Native	12	7%
American Indian	24	13%
Asian	1	1%
Black	11	6%
Native Hawaiian	2	1%
White	144	80%
Hispanic/Latino	22	12%

65% used tobacco in the past 30 days

ו סע 1. Alcohol

diagnoses: 2. Other stimulants

3. Cannabis

# August | Grant-to-Date<sup>^</sup> # of clients who received housing\*..... # of clients enrolled<sup>†</sup>, still experiencing homelessness........... 35 # of enrolled\* clients who have lost housing at least once..... 6







**128**\*Monthly # includes all clients housed in this quarter, including those with prior

**127** multiple housing events for each client.

†Currently or formerly enrolled

housing

including those who may have lost

instances of housing during the grant.

Grant-to-date # includes all clients housed during the life of the grant, not including

# **Boulder County Pathways to Housing Stability**

# Year 4 Quarter 3 Data Snapshot

The Boulder County Pathways to Housing Stability (BCPHS) initiative, funded by a 5-year SAMHSA-TIEH grant, supports adults experiencing chronic homelessness who also have behavioral health needs in finding and maintaining stable housing. Integrating behavioral health treatment and recovery support services with housing navigation, the goal is to help clients move quickly into housing with access to evidence-based programs and services. The initiative seeks to enroll 69 un-duplicated clients annually (345 over five years) and place an average of 56 clients annually (280 over five years) into housing. Demographic and outcome data are from the National Outcomes Measures System (NOMS) tool. This report presents data for 21 clients who enrolled in the BCPHS program and completed evaluation assessment(s) during Quarter 3 of Year 4 of the grant between June 1, 2022 and August 31, 2022.

otal vs. Q3



33

Clients Screened

497

21

Clients Enrolled

191

5\*

Clients Housed

128<sup>†</sup>

9

Clients Discharged

98

46%

of the 26 eligible reassessments (6- 12- 18- 24- 30- and 36- month) that closed during Q3 were completed.

Discharges

8%

of clients who were discharged to-date had discharge interviews conducted.

# **During Q3 reassessment interviews...**

**94%** of clients agreed or strongly agreed that they like the services they receive.

of clients agreed or strongly agreed that staff were sensitive to their cultural backgrounds (race, religion, language, etc.)

of clients agreed or strongly agreed that the staff at BCPHS believe they can grow, change, and recover.

71% of clients were satisfied or very satisfied with their housing situation.

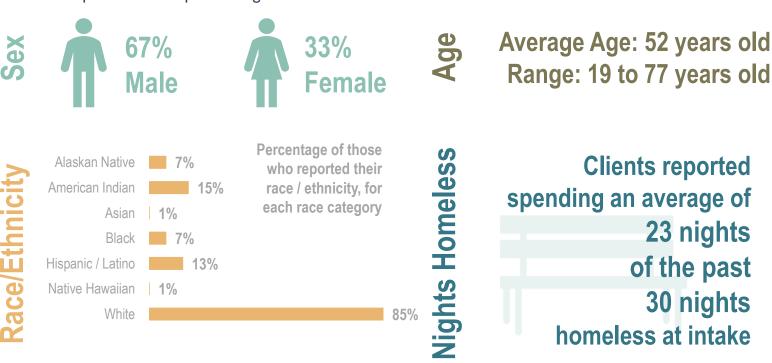
<sup>\*</sup> Includes all clients housed in this quarter, including clients with prior instances of housing during the grant.

<sup>†</sup> Includes all clients housed during the life of the grant, not including multiple housing events for each client.

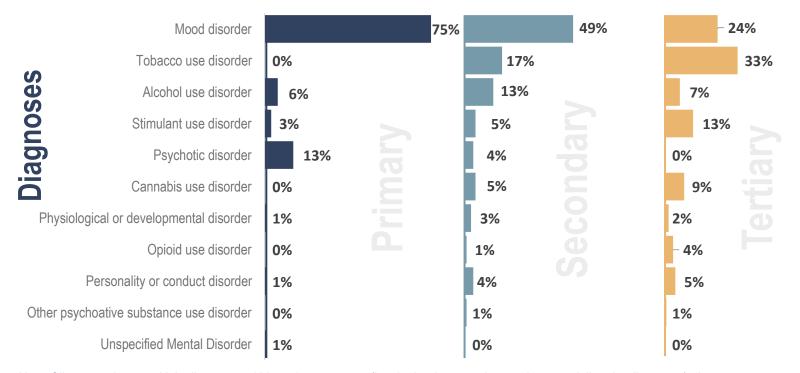
# **BCPHS Client Demographics at Intake**



NOMS Baseline Assessment data are utilized to better understand the demographics and experiences of BCPHS clients at the time they enter the program. Data from 190 baseline interviews were analyzed, though not all clients responded to every question. Non-responses have been omitted in order to provide valid percentages.

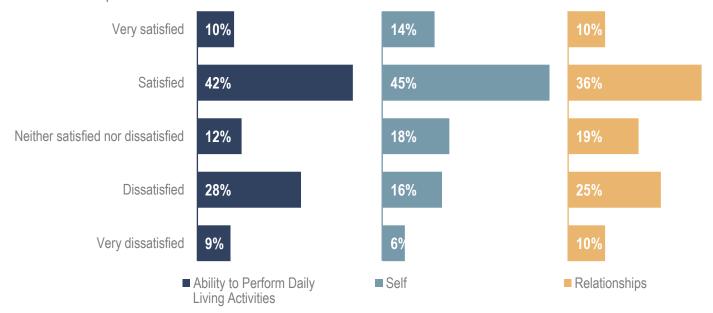


**Primary**, **Secondary**, and **Tertiary** Diagnoses of 108 BCPHS Clients at Intake, Ranked by Overall Highest Prevalence



Note: Clients can have multiple diagnoses within a given category (i.e., both primary and secondary mood disorder diagnoses), thus category percentages may total to greater than 100%. Clients may not have a Secondary or Tertiary Diagnosis. One client was missing diagnoses codes and was omitted. "Other" diagnoses includes Other Psychoactive Substance Use Disorders and Unspecified Mental Disorders.

Client satisfaction with their **Ability to Perform Daily Tasks**, their **Self**, and their **Relationships** over the 4 weeks prior to intake



The majority of clients engaged in tobacco and cannabis use in the 30 days prior to intake.











47% Cannabis 37% Alcohol 8% Cocaine

6% Meth

■ Strongly Disagree

Disagree

Undecided

■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree

62% of clients rated their overall health at intake as "Poor" or "Fair"

Support Systems

**49%** of clients do not have a sense of belonging in their community.

6%	25%	20%	37%	13%
37%	of clients don't hav	ve family or fi	riends who are supportive of th	eir recovery.
7%	27%	10%	42%	13%
45% of clients don't feel they have the support of family or friends during a cr				

7% 27% 10% 42% 14%







#### **Challenges with Methamphetamine and Housing**

**Overview:** Methamphetamine remediation levels in units is managed by Colorado Dept of Public Health and Environment as set forth by Colorado State Legislation and is deemed as a Public Health issue. Smoking Methamphetamine within a unit increases the probability of the unit requiring remediation.

#### **Current Policies:**

- State of Colorado
  - State of Colorado Dept of Public Health has set the levels of .05 grams in a 3.5-inch section of any portion of the home. These include walls, floors, furniture, etc.
- Federal
  - Environmental Protection Agency provides voluntary guidelines for testing levels.
     However, there are no federal standards nor testing requirements.
- National
  - As of 2021, 21 states have implemented testing samplings that will lead to remediation requirements:
    - Washington, Kansas, Montana, Virginia, California, and Wisconsin have levels of 1.5 grams
    - 9 states have standards less than 1 gram: Colorado is one<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Manufacturing versus Use:**

"Studies have shown that the smoking of meth alone can produce levels of airborne meth that may result in a general contamination of the structure in which it is smoked (although contamination levels will depend upon how much meth was smoked and the smoker's technique).4 While EPA originally developed these voluntary guidelines to apply to structures in which meth was manufactured or "cooked," the voluntary guidelines contained in this document may be useful for cleaning up all sites contaminated by meth including "smoking sites" and other "use sites." This may be especially relevant as the number of meth labs in the United States where manufacture occurs has significantly declined in recent years – from a high of 23,703 in 2004 to the lowest reported in 19 years of 891 in 2019.5 Despite the drop in the number of labs seized in the United States, the abuse of meth in this country remains high as does the likelihood of encountering contaminated meth sites"<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Local Impacts:**

The financial burden of remediation cost is extensive and fall on the Public Housing Authorities as the State of Colorado does not provide any reimbursements for cost.

- Longmont Housing Authority is reporting \$500,000 for 2022 in remediation costs.
- Boulder County Housing Authority is reporting (since 2014) 1.6M in remediation costs and loss of rental revenue for 37 units in total.
- Dept Of Housing vouchers do not cover remediation cost for units and the landlord is solely responsible for covering costs associated with remediation.
- Average cost is \$30, 525 (from Boulder County Housing Authority) per incident.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency. August 2021. "<u>Voluntary Guidelines for Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Laboratory Cleanup</u>".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency. August 2021. "<u>Voluntary Guidelines for Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Laboratory Cleanup</u>". Pg.5/6

## **Co-governed sanctioned encampment Proposal**

# Version 2.0 Revised: March 10, 2022

**Proposal summary**: Homeless Cares, a Boulder-based nonprofit organization, in collaboration with both unhoused and housed community members, is submitting this proposal for the establishment of a low barrier, co-governed encampment within Boulder to serve up to 30 individuals experiencing homelessness in up to 20 tents or similar structures. The homeless residents served will be mainly derived from the population of currently illegal campers in Boulder who receive minimal public services.

A co-governed encampment pilot would provide several advantages over the current cruel and futile policy of policing and sweeping illegal camps continuously. As a proactive rather than reactive strategy, it would enable the city to take a more targeted approach to moving individuals out of homelessness, be more cost effective in the long run, and would almost certainly lead to better short-term and long-term outcomes for camp residents. Publicly available information from sanctioned encampments in California, Oregon, and Colorado deemed relevant to a proposed site in Boulder informed many of the suggested best practices in the following sections of this proposal.

<u>Vision:</u> It is well established fact that many homeless individuals in Boulder either cannot or will not access the current shelter options, and, as a result, resort to camping illegally in public spaces. The cogoverned camp is intended to be a low-barrier alternative to shelters in Boulder, and operate with a trauma informed and harm reduction approach. Community residents may include couples, those with pets, and those who may have been expelled from traditional shelters for drug offenses or other issues.

The overall goal of the project is to provide members of this population with a safe and secure area to camp along with appropriate services and oversight at a relatively low cost that also respects the dignity and autonomy of each individual. The intention is to create a stable environment for individuals to recuperate from the trauma associated with homelessness, and focus on physical, mental, and emotional healing before identifying next steps to creating a sustainable life that makes sense to them.

The co-governed encampment will operate as an intentional community. Similar to a co-housing community, residents will attend regular meetings, participate in discussions, and vote on policies that will govern the community. Unlike a co-housing community, however, residents will be in a transitional phase with a focus on finding long-term stable housing solutions and sustainable lives in community.

<u>Mission</u>: The proposed encampment is designed to center the needs, experience and wisdom of the resident community in developing community agreements and operating procedures for the camp in collaboration with a contract manager appointed by the city. Residents will discuss and agree by consensus on the community rules governing behavior and on mechanisms of accountability. Oversight will be provided by camp leadership and indirectly by the contract manager and Homeless Cares. The contract manager will meet periodically with camp leadership to ensure proper monitoring and implementation of the project.

Professional peer support specialist training will be provided for camp leadership. All residents will engage in workshops on cooperative consensus based decision-making which will enable them to participate effectively in determining camp policies and processes. As a result, residents will benefit from a supportive community structure that includes bi-weekly resident meetings, trained peer oversight, and service providers to help connect residents to community resources and housing. Additional resources focused on creative pursuits or alternative health care, for example, will be made available to residents based on their interests, and the availability of those resources in the Boulder community. All residents will have opportunities to engage in exploring potential work/employment options.

#### **Co-governed Encampment Definition and Description**

A sanctioned co-governed camp is an assembly of tents, structures or vehicles established on publicly-owned or publicly-leased land or facilities, with the consent and oversight of the municipal jurisdiction, and in accord with mutually developed procedures and responsibilities. Co-governed camps function autonomously with a democratically elected on-site leadership structure that interacts with a city-commissioned contract manager. The contract manager role is to coordinate intermittently with encampment leadership, and serve as the bridge between the encampment community, and city and county contacts for services, needs, communications, and monitoring and data collection. Decisions concerning site facilities, location, site amenities, site layout and design of co-governed camps must occur through a fair, equitable, and democratic process involving encampment residents in coordination with the contract manager.

Co-governed camps are an efficient and cost effective means of providing immediate, temporary, transitional, transitory, or semi-permanent shelter for persons experiencing homelessness. By requiring minimal publicly-provided administration, successful sanctioned co-governed camps offer significant economic benefits for the city while increasing the self-worth, dignity and quality of life for the unhoused.

Beyond the economic advantage of co-governed camps, there are other good reasons to consider this approach. Similar to managed encampments such as Colorado Village Collaborative in Denver, there would be criteria for admission to co-governed camps, but the culture of such camps is more akin to that of an intentional community such as a housing cooperative. Co-governed camps are more than just a place to reside temporarily. They can be a place where knowledge, skills, relationships, and connections to the broader community develop naturally because the group must collectively organize and act to operate the encampment in collaboration with others.

## **Project Design Goals and Objectives**

Operational Structure: Management, governance and oversight services will be provided sufficient to
ensure that the encampment serves as a safe, low-barrier alternative to illegal camping in public spaces
or vehicles.

Camp leadership, Homeless Cares, and the Contract Manager work synergistically and cooperatively to manage the project and meet project goals. Camp leadership, consisting of a camp manager and an assistant, will be elected by all residents of the camp through a consensus based decision-making process facilitated by trained volunteer consultants. Camp leadership will be responsible for enforcing the community agreements, as determined by the residents, in a consistent, unbiased and trauma informed manner. Peer support specialist training will be provided for camp leadership. The initial core group of residents will define policies and processes on behalf of all future residents, and the resulting community agreements will be revisited periodically as needed to discuss and determine whether they are the best fit for the community. Likewise, camp leadership will be voted on periodically as determined in the community agreements. Through participation in the consensus based decision-making process, residents agree to accept and actively support mutually agreed upon community goals. Homeless Cares, the operating partner, will meet regularly with camp leadership, assist in conducting regular resident and community meetings as needed, and provide direct support to the onsite management team and contract manager as needed. The contract manager, commissioned by the city, will coordinate with the onsite camp leadership team periodically as determined necessary to oversee contracts, collect data, and monitor project implementation. The contract manager will not interact directly with camp residents. In addition, a community advisory committee consisting of several individuals with significant experience in homeless services, and a resident governance committee made up of current and past residents who've been recently housed will provide guidance and relevant insights to the governance team.

<u>Note</u>: Homeless Cares will develop a logic model depicting intended short-term and long-term outcomes of the project with measureable outputs and indicators in collaboration with the contract manager who will be assigned to monitor the project and collect data for the City of Boulder on the performance of the co-governed encampment pilot project. Homeless Cares will offer support in performing both formative and summative program evaluation activities as needed, or in identifying and collaborating with professional volunteer consultants to conduct evaluation.

2) Social Service Providers and Community Volunteers: There will be a strong focus on consistent outreach and engagement services and supports that respect the experience, dignity, and human rights of those receiving them, and an emphasis on locating suitable housing and appropriate work options.

<u>Coordinated Entry</u> - All potential residents of the encampment will be required to sign up with Coordinated Entry (CE) before becoming a member of the community. According to the Boulder Coordinated Entry website, services include "shelter, help identifying housing options, basic-needs

services, case management, and more." Once the initial CE assessment is conducted, individuals "will be referred to the most appropriate services given your needs." Typically, individuals are referred to the Boulder Shelter or The Lodge, or in some cases to a diversion option. In order for CE to work effectively for residents of the encampment community, however, some adjustments may be necessary.

Since CE is so aligned with the processes and procedures of the Boulder Shelter, the Shelter determines who will receive case management services based on the ability and willingness of individuals to consistently engage in those services over a long period of time. As a result, many individuals do not receive significant, or any, case management services since they fall short of this requirement. As a condition of requiring residents of the encampment to participate in CE, Homeless Cares requests that case management services, particularly as they relate to achieving housing, be made available to all residents who consistently fulfill their responsibilities to engage in those services with a case manager. A dedicated case manager for the encampment *may* be necessary (.5FTE) to develop\_individualized permanent housing plans, in consultation with consenting residents, to support their transition out of the encampment and into permanent, stable housing.

However, one of the objectives of the co-governed camp pilot is to provide support to residents who want to consider alternative options for housing beyond waiting for a housing voucher with supportive services that may never materialize (e.g. roommate situations and stable work, housing co-ops, work/live collectives, ADU options, establishing permanent communities on private property, etc.) Homeless Cares will seek out opportunities to make connections with resources in the community to explore creative options for long-term housing.

Also, the encampment could potentially be another referral option for CE. In that case, CE may be able to conduct an additional brief assessment to determine if individuals appear to be a good fit for the encampment community, and then refer them to the camp manager for intake assessment.

<u>Social Services Partners</u>: Homeless Cares contacted service providers within the first week of March, and several have already indicated interest in participating in the sanctioned encampment project.

Mental Health Partners – Community Outreach Manager, Jennifer Hyder, indicated that MHP would be interested in scheduling a particular time each week for an outreach worker to be onsite providing support to the residents of the camp, and the team could also serve as a referral source. Some of the services MHP offers according to their website include referrals for assistance with benefit applications, individualized and group counseling, and other supportive services. Homeless Cares will meet with Jennifer in early April to learn more and discuss details.

**St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry** – ED, Shelly Dierkling, responded that St. Benedict would definitely like to be involved in providing services onsite to residents. For the past 15 years, St. Benedict has operated free clinics in Boulder County regularly, notably at the Sunday dinners provided by local congregations in Boulder serving the homeless population. Services provided by St. Benedict include vaccines, blood pressure checks, diabetes/glucose monitoring, acute illness/trauma treatment, nurse

consults, MD/NP consults, wound care, and foot care. In addition, the organization regularly supplies personal care items, over the counter medications, and referrals to medical providers and human services

Clinica – Emily Barnak, the Clinica Family Health Homeless Outreach Coordinator, leads a team that provides medical care in community settings at various locations around Boulder, with the goal of building trusting relationships and ultimately connecting patients to a medical home that fully encompasses physical and mental health needs. Although Emily is not certain what the capacity of the team will be in the future, she expressed support for the encampment pilot and urged me to contact her in the event we are able to move forward with it.

Resident Peer Support Specialists – Homeless Cares will provide funding for peer support specialist training for the camp leadership (consisting of the camp manager and the assistant camp manager). This training will be provided each time a new camp manager or assistant is elected. Colorado Mental Wellness Network offers peer support training for \$450 which entails 72 hours of training over a three week period. Classes are currently conducted online. Ideally, training will be completed prior to beginning the camp leadership positions.

Other services provided by community volunteers — Since the authorized co-governed encampment will most likely govern internally via a consensus-based decision-making process, residents will require basic training in the process. Homeless Cares has communicated with some knowledgeable consultants in the community who are trained in group decision-making processes, group dynamics, intentional communities, and conflict resolution practices. Several have indicated that they are willing to volunteer some time to help residents and leadership understand how to implement these strategies effectively in their meetings and practices.

In addition, Homeless Cares and camp leadership will strive to identify and recruit a variety of volunteers who are able to provide enrichment activities, workshops, training, and various opportunities in the community designed to meet the needs and aspirations of camp residents. We intend to empower residents by facilitating meaningful work opportunities both within the camp and in the broader community.

**3) Staffing and Job Descriptions:** Team member, volunteer, and consultant roles, duties, and reporting relationships are described below.

Homeless Cares – The role of the organization is multifaceted. Homeless Cares/NOPI will act as the operating partner that signs the contract with the City of Boulder and assumes ultimate responsibility for the successful operation of the encampment. However, Homeless Cares will not be directly responsible for governing or overseeing the encampment, but will work in a strong support role for those who are responsible, namely the camp leadership, residents, and the contract manager. As noted, one important task is to support both the camp leadership and the contract manager in fulfilling their job duties, and especially to be available to camp leadership for support in leading resident meetings and following

through to address issues discussed or that arise at other times in the camp. Homeless Cares will be available on an "on call" basis for the camp leadership at all times. The contract manager or camp manager may also request the assistance of Homeless Cares in following up with service providers and ensuring they are providing contracted services in a timely fashion. A second major job duty Homeless Cares will undertake is volunteer recruitment, management and coordination of the volunteer schedule. This will require significant time, at least during the first few months, on the part of Homeless Cares to develop relationships and help maintain schedules on an ongoing basis. A third job duty will be to assist the camp leadership team in recruiting, assessing, and conducting intake of potential new community residents. The fourth major responsibility for Homeless Cares will be to assist the contract manager with program evaluation activities as needed. For the above duties, Homeless Cares requests a monthly stipend in the same amount as the camp manager.

The other roles and responsibilities undertaken by other team members and organizations required to ensure the successful operation of the encampment are summarized in the table below. <u>Note</u>: table does not include contractors required to build site facilities or provide utilities.

Organization/Team Members	Role	Duties	Reporting relationship
Homeless Cares	Operating Partner – Homeless Cares is a contractor of NOPI and signs contract with City	Liaison, assist with volunteer recruitment and coordination, resident recruitment, evaluation	Camp Leadership, Contract Manager/City of Boulder, NOPI
NOPI	Fiscal sponsor of Homeless Cares, operating partner	Accounting, insurance, banking, signs contract on behalf of Homeless Cares	N/A
Contract Manager	Liaison between City of Boulder and the camp leadership	Oversight, monitoring evaluation, contract management	City of Boulder
City of Boulder	Indirect oversight via contract manager	Meet with contract manager, agree on evaluation metrics	N/A
Camp Leadership	Camp Manager	Lead meetings, intake assessment, enforce community agreements, coordinate with contract manager to monitor camp conditions, volunteer management, dispute resolution, site security	Homeless Cares and Contact Manager (informally, in partnership)
Camp Leadership	Camp Assistant Manager	Assist manager with above duties, ensure camp cleanliness	Camp Manager

Camp Leadership	Camp Manager and Assistant Manager Peer Support Specialists	Meet with all camp residents to determine needs and refer to appropriate services,	N/A
Mental Health Partners	Community Health Workers	Provide mental health services, referrals to benefit services	Contract Manager, Homeless Cares, camp leadership
Clinica	Outreach Nurse	Provide medical health services and referrals	Contract Manager, Homeless Cares, camp leadership
St. Benedict Health and Healing	Mobile outreach clinic	Provide health services, referrals, personal care supplies	Contract Manager, Homeless Cares, camp leadership
Case Manager	Connect residents with Housing First	Individualized housing plans, referral to services	???
Consultants	Provide training and expertise in intentional communities, conflict resolution, meeting facilitation, etc.	Provide workshops, mentoring, contract negotiation, etc.	Homeless Cares
Community Advisory Board	Advise team members on relevant issues	Attend regular, periodic meetings, provide input to leadership team	Homeless Cares, camp leadership
Resident Steering Committee; Resident Governance Committee	Elect camp leadership, advise team members on relevant issues	Attend regular, periodic meetings, provide input to leadership team	Camp leadership, Homeless Cares

4) Community Agreements and Co-Governance Policies Developed by Residents: The initial resident group would ideally comprise six to ten members which would also compose the encampment steering committee responsible for electing leadership and developing community agreements.

#### Some recommended policies and processes to be developed prior to habitation:

- Processes for governance and operation must be developed democratically by camp residents.
   Self-determination is critical to buy-in and the success of the camp. Camp leadership is elected.
- Clear rules and procedures for how new residents may join community
- Policy on causes for removal from camp, including harmful actions and behaviors
- Clear and well-defined expectations of camp residents
- Policy regarding substance dependence and use, dry and sober, mental affliction, etc.
- Policy on gender issues
- Policies regarding acts of physical violence among residents and pets, how to respond, and mediation processes, agreements of when to involve police
- Policy on visitors

- Policies for trauma-informed dispute resolution
- Methods, procedures, and timing for democratic determination of camp leadership
- Methods of leadership and interaction with residents meeting schedule, discussion of needs and issues, voting among residents, governance methods, conflict resolution, adherence to conduct and residency agreements.
- Development of camp rules and agreements by residents
- Enforcement of camp rules and agreements
- Camp leadership is tasked with service responsibilities and accountable to the Community Agreement, including coordinating with the contract manager
- Camp leadership is responsible for facilitating peaceful cohabitation in the community and cooperation in maintaining healthy and orderly environment
- Camp leadership is held to high standard and must act ethically and treat all residents fairly.
- Residents can propose how they would like to contribute to the camp based on their skills or abilities
- Contributed labor from community residents should not be viewed by the city or contract manager as a cost-saving measure, and where appropriate and agreed upon by residents and contract manager, stipends (not countable as income) should be issued.

#### **Functions of the Contract Manager**

- The contract manager is legally commissioned by the city to coordinate with camp leadership and residents in contracting and coordinating services and utilities, monitoring successful and safe site operations, and collecting and reporting designated data.
- The Contract manager is the "communication link" between Camp Leadership and residents, and city & county agencies, managers, and departments for needs, supplies, requests, scheduled actions, adopted policies, and policy interpretations.
- The contract manager, in coordination with camp leadership, assures that all residents are
  enrolled in the Coordinated Entry program of Boulder County, and helps facilitates the
  occurrence of regular visits by appropriate Continuum of Care professionals and specialists,
  including attainment of applicable social benefits, housing searches, and housing placements.
- The contract manager assures the scheduling and reliable follow-up of service providers to the camp, which may/should include transportation assistance, garbage pick-up, servicing of sanitation facilities, and maintenance, at least weekly, of sanitation, potable water, handwashing stations, shower truck, and power services.
- The contract manager provides communication technology to connect Camp residents, including a paid cell-phone for use by Camp Leadership.
- The contract manager delivers any agreed non-income compensation to camp leadership and/or other resident roles on a regular, mutually agreed basis.
- The contract manager respects the elected leadership, does not supersede camp leadership, and has a communication policy of respect with camp residents.

- The contract manager interacts primarily with camp leadership, not with camp residents,
- The contract manager should partner with camp leadership to coordinate quarterly open meetings of camp residents and the surrounding community, with invitations distributed within ¼ mile of the camp. Meetings should occur in open communal areas in an atmosphere of openness, transparency, and mutual respect.

## 5) Site facility implementation, logistics

**Timeline:** Implementation beginning in early summer and ending with commencement of operations in late fall of 2022 would provide adequate time to recruit resident members and provide member training and orientation; develop the community agreements, processes and procedures for operating the camp; coordinate with the city and appointed contract manager; recruit community volunteers and in-kind services; coordinate with service providers; and plan, design and build the site. A refined timeline will be negotiated as part of the scope of work.

<u>Note</u>: A detailed work plan/scope of work outline will be developed describing how work will be accomplished including implementation objectives, responsible party, and timeline for completion once the scope of work and tasks have been determined and contracts assigned. A Gantt chart will be constructed by the contract manager or by Homeless Cares in collaboration with the contract manager, delineating these relationships and timelines in a comprehensive visual graph

**Camp Location:** TBD – Preference: a parcel of land that is relatively flat of at least an acre in size, proximate to at least one bus line, and easily accessible from the main road. Appropriate zoning and ordinances applicable to site use to be determined by city.

**Camp Duration:** TBD – Preference: at least a one year period for the pilot project with option to extend contract if project is successful in meeting key objectives (see Operating Structure and Program Evaluation sections)

#### Layout and Design – minimum essential needs

- Up to 20 tents on platforms, or small structures, both with additional storage sheds or compartments, or a separate secured storage building
- At least one indoor, or weather-protected outdoor, communal area with tables for socializing, a second communal area for food preparation and storage, and a third smaller space for private meetings.
- Sanitation facilities and water (see below)
- Accessible entry area with secure parking for bikes and carts

#### Site facilities and services – minimum essential needs

- Portable heaters, lighting, device charging stations (provided by alternative power sources and/or generators)
- Potable water
- Sanitation: showers or access to offsite showers, porta potties or toilet trailers, hand washing station, solid waste collection
- Trash collection, designated trash area with containers and fencing.
- Mail delivery and storage area
- Laundry service can be provided by homeless cares
- 24 hour security provided by camp volunteers, with fencing and gates to provide additional security

## 5) Budget Estimate (initial/ongoing)

Since each camp is unique, costs vary according to context and are usually spread across multiple agencies and contracts. But as an example, Dignity Village, a community consisting of 43 built structures in Oregon, has an average daily cost of \$4.28 per person. It is located on a city-owned 2 acre parcel of land that is free of charge, but they pay about \$2000/month for water, electricity, garbage pickup and portable toilets. The city has allowed them to connect to their sewage system for shower water disposal. They also purchase food and bus passes as a group. The budget below, however, is based on the operating costs for a Colorado Village Collaborative sanctioned campground.

Estimated one-time set up cost – to accommodate 30 residents						
Tents, sleeping bags (for 30)	10,000					
Tent platforms	5,000					
Heaters for personal tents	4,500					
Personal storage lockers	1,000					
Shade tents (Qty 2, size 20x20)	10,000					
Heaters for shade tents	3,000					
Temporary Power Connection (design, permit,	\$15,000					
installation)						
Shower/laundry trailer - Note: these services can	be supplied by Homeless Cares during the pilot					
Battery Generator (Qty 2)	\$2,800					
Touchless Sanitizing Stations	\$450					
Lighting	\$2,000					
Tables and Chairs	\$500					
Total	54,250					

Operating costs for six months						
Contract Manager (.50 FTE)	18.000					
Case Manager (.50 FTE) if necessary	18,000??? (if newly hired dedicated staffer)					
Stipend Homeless Cares	3,000					
Stipends for labor, gift cards	8,000					
Restroom rentals	In Kind					
Hand washing sink	In Kind					
Food/meals	20,000					
Bus passes	In Kind					
Trash (2X/week)	1,200					
Propane for shade tent heaters	10,000					
Drinking Water	1,500					
Cleaning supplies	800					
Total	80,500					

#### 6) Program Evaluation Plan

#### Short-term intended outcomes:

The camp will be designed as a place of healing, growth and transition. Residents will develop greater knowledge of cooperative communication and collaborative decision making processes. Residents will gain increases in self-confidence, self-efficacy, self-esteem, self-determination and satisfaction from participating in community decision making and operation of the camp.

Other potential outputs and indicators to be determined by the city could include basic descriptive statistics such as:

- # of individuals residing in the encampment
- # of individuals enrolled in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- # of calls for police assistance to the camp
- # of successful referrals to supportive services

#### **Long-term intended outcomes**:

Residents' experiences in the camp will lead to the development of skills and abilities necessary for navigating challenges and identifying viable solutions, identifying and obtaining resources, and building self-sufficiency in future living situations. Main goals are to transition to a more permanent living arrangement, and to potentially find suitable work. By learning to work effectively with a variety of service providers, community members both within and outside the camp, and volunteers working on special projects, residents will be able to develop networks and resources that can help them determine what the next steps should be for them. Exploration of options in a safe and stable encampment

environment may also inspire members to identify creative housing alternatives (housing co-ops, ADUs, etc.) in addition to whatever housing options become available through Boulder's Housing First program.

- # of successful exits to temporary or permanent housing or similar adequate situation
- # of individuals obtaining employment or engaged in education program

#### Impact:

The impact of a successful, cost effective, co-governed camp on the broader community could be very significant. If the pilot proves to be sustainable in Boulder, it could transition into a more long-term or permanent program, and perhaps even be replicated to divert many dozens of individuals from illegal and unsustainable camping in public spaces. The cost of policing, camp clean-ups, emergency room visits, court costs and jail time would all be significantly reduced. Equally important, the camp would be a prime example of how different stakeholders can work together cooperatively and collaboratively to achieve the common good in a way that respects the dignity and autonomy of unhoused individuals.

#### **Evaluation Methods**

- Designated data collection and reporting by contract manager in collaboration with camp leadership
  for purpose of monitoring successful and safe site operation. Collecting and reporting of designated
  data related to operations and performance of camp, and compliance of residents to established
  processes and procedures.
- **Key stakeholder interviews.** Interviews to be conducted on regular periodic basis by trained volunteer of key stakeholders including camp leadership, contract manager and city manager, service providers and camp residents
- Written questionnaire distributed to participants of quarterly open meetings (see contract manager description.) Questionnaire designed to obtain feedback on topics and issues related to functioning of camp.



# **Community Services Department**

Sundquist Building • 3482 N. Broadway • Boulder, Colorado 80304 • Tel: 303.441.3560 • Fax: 303.441.4550 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306 • www.bouldercountycommunityservices.org



October 6, 2022

Ms. Alison George, Director Colorado Division of Housing 1313 Sherman St. Room 500 Denver, CO 80203

RE: Considerations regarding SB 211: Ridge View Campus

Dear Ms. George,

Homeless Solutions for Boulder County (HSBC) is an intergovernmental collaborative with representation from Boulder County, the cities of Boulder and Longmont, and several housing authorities that works to address homelessness across Boulder County in partnership with not-for-profit organizations.

As Chair of the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board, I am writing this letter on their behalf to formally request your consideration regarding prioritization populations for access to the newly designated Ridge View treatment campus as adopted by the General Assembly through SB 22-211: Repurposing the Ridge View Campus into a Supportive Residential Community for People Experiencing Homelessness.

Through our collective work, the Executive Board of HSBC has identified a challenge related to individuals experiencing homelessness with active addiction to Methamphetimes. Historically, the Fort Lyons campus has not accepted individuals with with these specific substance addictions and requires a 30-day sobriety period prior to entry. As a community, we are faced with many challenges related to this substance specifically as active use, despite harm reduction approaches, in units may result in environmental impacts that harm neighboring residents and are costly to mitigate. We are currently assessing the financial cost burden of remediation related to methamphetime residue and we expect that this will be substatanial.

We are requesting consideration for access to these desperately needed treatment services to not exclude individuals who have a diagnosis of Methamphetime addiction and there is not a requirement of sobriety prior to acceptance into the services offered at Ridge View.

Additionally, we are asking that the State consider mechanisms that ensure individuals transitioning from Ridge View do not return to homelessness and that they will be able to maintain their Housing and Urban Development (HUD) criteria of homelessness as the 90-day institutional setting (loss of chronicity) rule is a barrier to permanent housing solutions.

The HSBC Executive Board has identified these as critical considerations that will help to ensure homelessness is both rare and brief.

We welcome additional questions or conversation that might help to advance priortiziation of these areas. Please feel free to contact me directly at (303) 441-3996 or at <a href="mailto:rbohannan@bouldercounty.org">rbohannan@bouldercounty.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Robin Bohannan, Director of Boulder County Community Services and Chair of Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board