

# DOLA'S DIVISION OF HOUSING

Created in statute in 1970, the Division of Housing (DOH) within the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) partners with local communities to create housing opportunities for Coloradans who face the greatest challenges to accessing affordable, safe, and secure homes

## COSCDA Program Managers

### Unsheltered Homeless Needs

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Working with the Colorado State Housing Board, DOH supports projects ranging from homelessness prevention to homeownership:

- Increasing and preserving Colorado's inventory of affordable housing through grants and loans
- Managing rental assistance vouchers
- Collaborative approaches to make homelessness rare, brief
- Regulating Mobile Home Parks & the construction & installation of factory-built structures
- Improving accessibility through review/approval of home modifications
- Housing recovery from natural disasters



**COLORADO**  
Department of Local Affairs



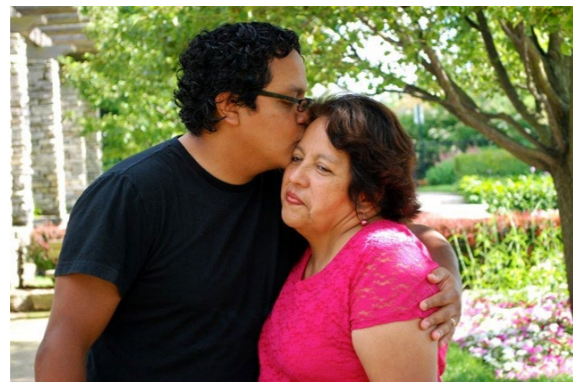
# DOH'S IMPACT IN COLORADO

For every \$1 of state and federal funds awarded by DOH, \$10 is leveraged of other funds.

During SFY 22, DOH capitalized on a 500% increase in funding through historic investments at the state and federal levels to award nearly \$245M to help local communities create nearly 13,000 affordable housing units.

DOH's Office of Homeless Initiatives (OHI) works to ensure everyone in Colorado has a safe, stable, and affordable place to live and thrive. OHI works with communities and across systems to help create and implement comprehensive homelessness response systems.

- Our goal is to [make homelessness history](#) by creating a future where homelessness is rare and brief when it occurs, and no one gets left behind.



# KEY GOALS

STOP HOMELESSNESS BEFORE IT STARTS.

IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS AT RISK & ENSURE THEY ARE SAFE.

CONNECT PEOPLE WITH SUPPORTS THEY NEED TO QUICKLY EXIT HOMELESSNESS.

CREATE ACCESS TO LONG-TERM STRUCTURAL SOLUTIONS.

# CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES

## LEADING WITH EQUITY

*Tackling homelessness through anti-racist practices and community-driven solutions is critical to eliminating racial disparities and inequitable outcomes.*

## REAL-TIME, PERSON-SPECIFIC DATA

*A real-time list of people experiencing homelessness by name can provide a shared understanding of who needs support, whether efforts are working, and how to best target resources.*

## HOUSING FOCUSED

*Helping those experiencing homelessness find stable, secure, and affordable housing as soon as possible provides a foundation to effectively tackle other challenges and opportunities they face.*

## CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

*Screening for social determinants of health across benefit programs, educational systems, healthcare providers, and reentry planning improves care navigation, reduces emergency system utilization, and increases stability.*





# PROVEN SOLUTIONS

&

# PROGRAM COMPARISONS

## PREVENTION & DIVERSION

Programs that identify people at high risk of homelessness and provide supports that can help them to avoid it can help reduce the number of people entering homelessness.

## ANTI-POVERTY SUPPORTS

Programs that provide services, supports, and benefits help struggling households lead stable, productive, fulfilling, and dignified lives. Examples include access to physical and behavioral healthcare, childcare, employment, and nutritional services.

## COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEMS

Standardized and coordinated systems of care over a given geographic area can help ensure that homelessness services are provided equitably, efficiently, and effectively.

## STREET OUTREACH

Street outreach programs can help to identify and help those who feel unsafe in, or are otherwise unable to come into traditional shelters.

## LOW-BARRIER SHELTERS

Shelters without restrictive entry requirements help create spaces in which people can feel safe and connect with resources.

## RAPID RE-HOUSING

Providing families and some individuals experiencing homelessness with steeply declining subsidies for market-rate rental housing can help resolve an immediate financial crisis.

## SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Supportive Housing combines affordable, community-based housing with access to voluntary wrap-around supportive services to help ensure safety and stability for extremely low-income households who face complex barriers and have long lengths of homelessness.

## AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

Ensuring that a given geographic area has enough affordable rental housing to meet its population's needs can help prevent families & individuals from falling into homelessness.

## HOMEOWNERSHIP SUPPORTS

Providing opportunities for low- and middle-income families to purchase homes protects them from rent increases and gentrification that can contribute to homelessness.



**COLORADO**

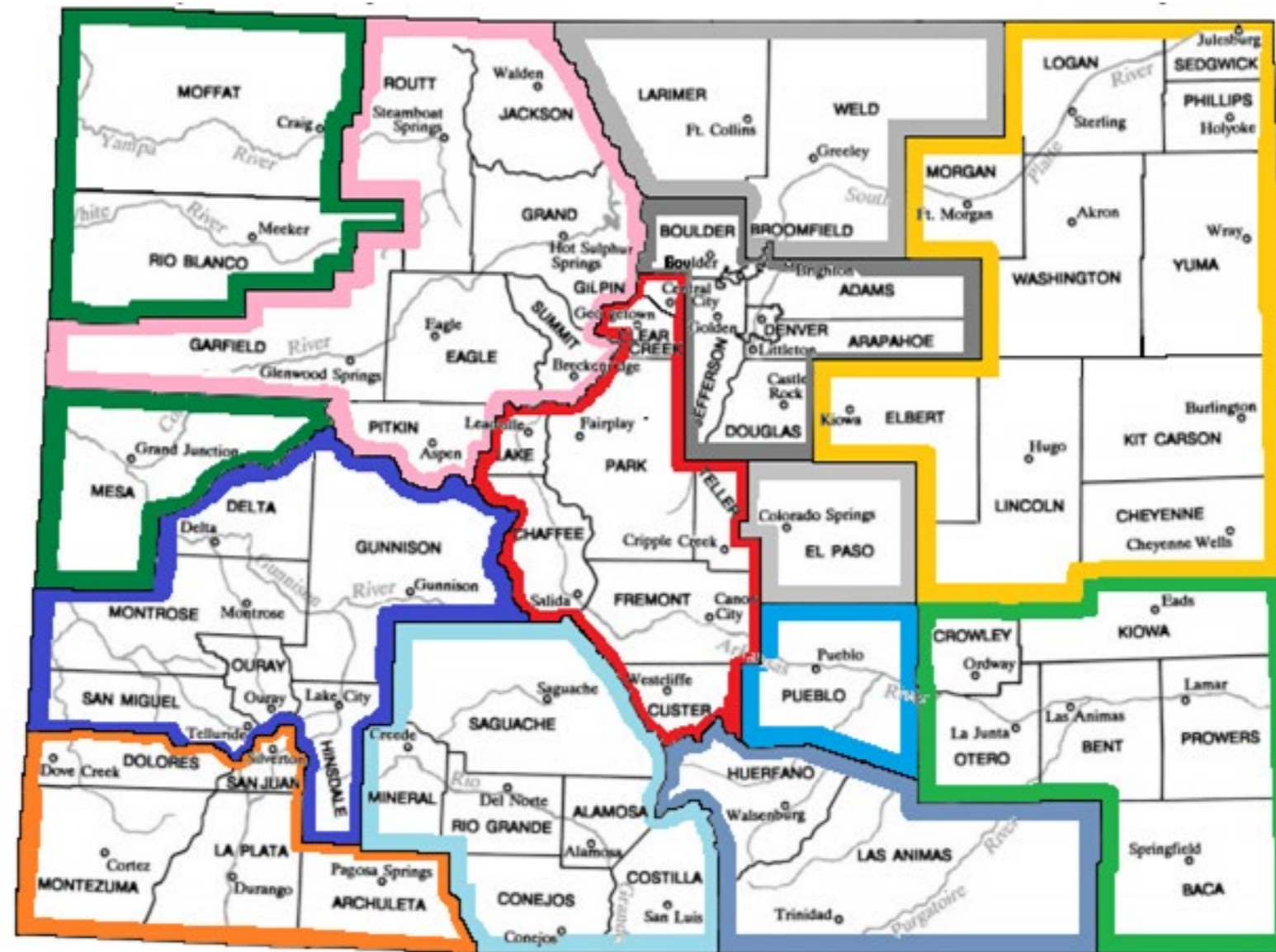
Department of Local Affairs

# SCALING RESULTS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES

Colorado is divided into four (4) Continuums of Care (CoCs), the geographically largest of these is the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoS CoC) which is made up of fifty-four (54) counties divided into ten (10) sub-regions.

Each sub-region of the BoS CoC is responsible for the implementation of essential functions within the CoC program.

BoS CoC Regions have worked diligently to meet the CoC functions and have developed creative solutions but face unique challenges to implement proven solutions at scale.



Colorado BoS CoC Regions

Grand Valley

Roaring Fork / Eagle Valleys

Western Slope

Southwest Colorado

San Luis Valley

Upper Arkansas Valley

Northeastern Plains

Southeastern Plains

Las Animas / Huerfano

Pueblo





# SCALING RESULTS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES: CASE STUDY #1

## Youth Housing Programs Request for Applications (RFA) & Next Step 2-Gen

- **Tenant-Based Supportive Housing:** tenant-based State Housing Vouchers with Tenancy Support Services (TSS) funding
  - DOH partners with three (3) organizations to provide supportive housing to youth aged 18-24 who are homeless or would become homeless. Combined, these partners leveraged MTCF/HSP funding to serve 26 households in SFY 22 in Fremont, La Plata, and El Paso counties.
- **Office of Homeless Youth Services Rapid Re-Housing:** Provides time-limited rental assistance and tailored supportive services in order to quickly solve the practical and immediate challenges that households face in obtaining permanent housing.
  - DOH partners with two (2) organizations to provide rapid re-housing solutions to youth aged 18-24 who are homeless or would become homeless. Combined, these partners leveraged MTCF/HSP funding to serve 96 households in SFY 22.
- **Next Step 2-Gen:** Previously operated as the TBRA/HOME program. Provides move-in assistance, temporary rent subsidies, and case management services to families with school-aged children and unaccompanied students 18 years of age or older who are experiencing homelessness.
  - DOH currently contracts with eight (8) organizations to help participants quickly exit homelessness, return to housing, and remain stably housed. 170 public school students and their families were provided with Next Step 2-Gen assistance in SFY 22.
    - MTCH/HSP funding utilized to support the switch to Rapid Re-Housing program model, temporarily expanded with ESG CV2 funds before Next Step 2-Gen Homeless Prevention Program Launched.
- **Host Homes:** Safe, temporary, and welcoming space for youth to live a short period of time, averaging six months, but can be up to a year if needed. During this time, support is provided to the youth to repair relationships and reunify with family (when possible) or identify other permanent housing options.
  - DOH served 26 youth through Host Homes in SFY 22. DOH's Host Homes programs serve Larimer, Mesa, Alamosa, Fremont, Garfield, Morgan, Pueblo, Dolores, Montezuma, San Juan, La Plata, and Archuleta counties.



# SCALING RESULTS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES: CASE STUDY #2

**Pathways Home Supportive Housing Toolkit** - an intensive technical assistance process that helps communities understand and navigate the unique development costs, funding sources, property management techniques, and tenancy supports associated with high-quality supportive housing.

- Since it was introduced in 2014 through partnership between DOH, the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA), and Beaux Simone Consulting, the Toolkit has assisted 50+ organizations create 1,400+ units of high-quality supportive housing across Colorado, **300+ units of which are located within the BoS CoC.**



Journey Home - Cañon City, CO



1st Place on 2nd Street - Montrose, CO



Laurel House - Grand Junction, CO



Espero Apartments - Durango, CO





# SCALING RESULTS: Counting Down to Zero

**Built  
For  
Zero.**



- Built for Zero (BFZ) is a national change initiative made up of 100+ cities and counties in the U.S. that have committed to measurably and equitably ending homelessness, one population at a time.
  - BFZ empowers communities to use **real-time, person-specific data** to coordinate resources, develop strategic investments, and create systems that ensure no one languishes in homelessness and that episodes of homelessness are rare overall and brief when they occur.
- BFZ: Colorado brings together local communities and statewide entities to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness in Colorado.
  - Thirteen (13) Community Teams currently participate in BFZ:Colorado.
  - Six (6) have achieved real-time quality data on homelessness.
  - Three (3) have achieved a measurable reduction.
    - Since October 2019, these communities have housed **3,000+** veterans and chronically homeless individuals.
- In starting with veteran and chronic homelessness, BFZ: Colorado aims to develop the **infrastructure, policies/practices, and resources** needed to create a broader continuum of efficient and effective solutions across Colorado.

**COMMUNITY  
SOLUTIONS**



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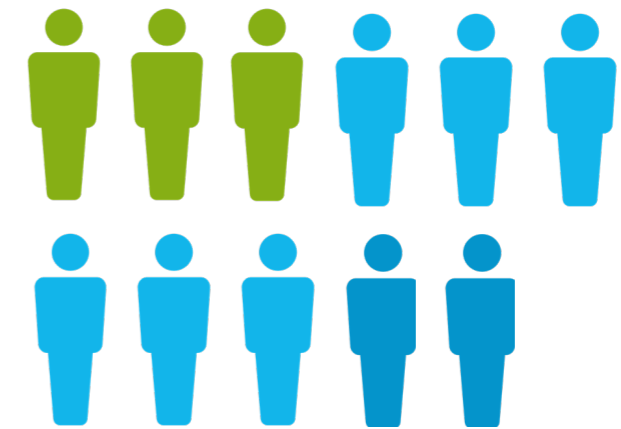
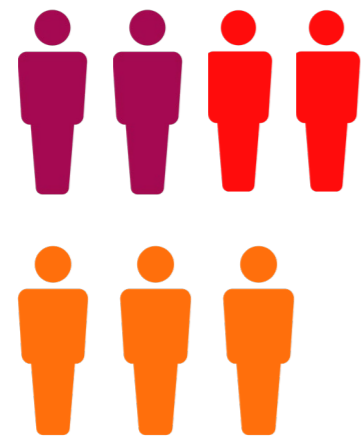


# SCALING RESULTS: Leveraging HMIS to Make the Shift from Static Data to Dynamic Data


INFLOW


ACTIVELY  
HOMELESS


OUTFLOW





 **INFLOW:**  
Newly  
identified

 **INFLOW:**  
Returned from  
housing

 **INFLOW:**  
Returned from  
inactive

 **OUTFLOW:**  
Housing  
placements

 **OUTFLOW:**  
Moved to  
inactive

 **OUTFLOW:**  
No longer meets  
population  
criteria



# SCALING RESULTS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES: CASE STUDY #3

## Fremont County, CO reaches functional zero for veteran homelessness



In May of 2021, Fremont County became the 14th community in the U.S. and the 1st in Colorado to reach Community Solution’s Functional Zero for Veteran homelessness designation.

*“This achievement wouldn’t have been possible without collaboration across the community to work together to identify each veteran in need of shelter and support,” said DeeDee Clement, Executive Director of Loaves and Fishes Ministries. “Our work isn’t done. We understand it will be critical for us to continue working together to protect zero – and continue working toward a future where homelessness is rare and brief for all.”*

- On track to reach “double zero” by reaching Functional Zero for Chronic Homelessness too

Fremont County, as of the [2020 census](#), had a population of 48,939. Rural Fremont County is the location of 15 prisons. Prisoners are counted as part of the county population in the census, and 20% of residents are held in the prisons in the county.



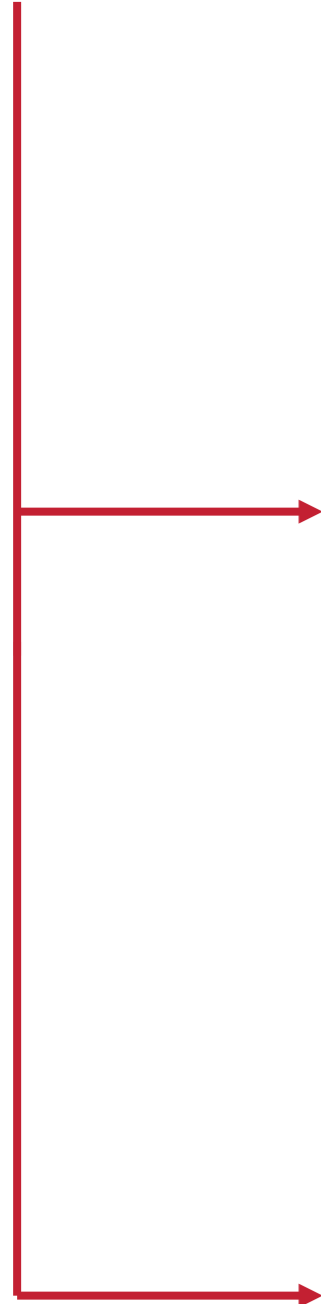


# SCALING RESULTS: Funding Resources

- **Marijuana Tax Cash Fund (\$15.3 million)**
  - Homeless Solutions Program
    - State Housing Vouchers (SHVs)
    - Tenancy Support Services (TSS)
    - Colorado Rapid Re-Housing & Reentry (COR3)
    - HOST Homes
    - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Award Expansions
- **Statewide Supportive Housing Expansion (SWSHE)**
  - Partnership w/ Colorado's Medicaid Agency in an effort to learn more about the types of supportive services that help Medicaid members with complex needs get into and maintain supportive housing
- **HB22-1304 (\$138 million) + HB22-1377 (\$105 million) - ARPA**
  - Transformational Affordable Housing, Homeownership, & Workforce Housing Grant Program
  - Transformational Homelessness Response Grant Program
- **Proposition 123**
  - DOH will receive 40% of funds via transfer to Affordable Housing Support Fund
    - \$58 million from 2022-23 budget year (transferred July 1, 2023)
    - \$116 million from 2023-24 budget year (transferred July 1, 2024)



- Transformational Homelessness Response Grant Program



ELIGIBLE PROGRAM MODELS AND ACTIVITIES					
ELIGIBLE PROGRAM MODELS	PROGRAM MODEL ACTIVITIES				
	Check mark indicates whether program model allows for activity				
<p>Applicants apply for activities through a program model and must review the <a href="#">OHI Homelessness Program Model Comparisons</a> for details about each model and related activities</p>	Supportive Services	Operations	Educational, Vocational, & Work-Based Learning Opportunities	Recovery Care & Related Residential Programs	Rent and Financial Assistance
<b>STREET OUTREACH</b> is non-facility based and is the act of engaging people experiencing unsheltered homelessness where they are.	✓	✓	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	-
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER</b> includes facilities for which the primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter to people experiencing homelessness and which do not require guests to sign leases or occupancy agreements and do not charge rent.	✓	✓	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	-
<b>TRANSITIONAL HOUSING</b> is an intermediate step between emergency crisis shelter and permanent housing. It is more long-term, service-intensive, and private than emergency shelters, yet remains time-limited to stays of 3 months to 3 years.	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
<b>BRIDGE HOUSING</b> is temporary housing for those who have been matched with a permanent housing resource to safely reside while waiting to move into housing.	✓	✓	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	-
<b>EVICTION &amp; HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION</b> provides financial assistance and/or supportive and legal services to prevent households from being evicted and entering emergency shelters and/or experiencing homelessness.	✓	✓	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	✓
<b>RAPID RE-HOUSING</b> provides financial assistance and/or services for households to quickly exit homelessness by securing permanent housing.	✓	✓	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	✓
<b>PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (PSH)</b> is a housing model that provides households non-time limited rental assistance, the rights of tenancy, voluntary tenancy support services, and links to other supportive resources.	✓	✓ 11/29/2022: Operations funding support is limited to existing Supportive Housing projects that are currently open and operating.	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See supportive services section in Program Model Comparisons document	See PSH Request for Applications (RFA)
ELIGIBLE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES					
<b>DATA COLLECTION, MANAGEMENT, ANALYSIS, AND SYSTEM INTEGRATION</b> includes efforts related to collecting, managing, and analyzing data and/or integrating data systems to advance communities' homelessness efforts. Proposals may be related to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), an HMIS comparable database, and/or other coordinated activities that use data to strengthen communities' understanding of and response to homelessness.					
<b>COORDINATION</b> includes coordination across communities, regions, and/or the state at-large, including but not limited to case conferencing, coordinated entry systems, capacity-building and infrastructure, cross-sector partnerships, and other strategic activities to advance a community's/region's homelessness efforts.					
<b>RESOURCE UTILIZATION ACCELERATION</b> relates to enhancing the utilization of currently available resources, increasing the speed of connection to resources for eligible households, or otherwise ensuring that homelessness response systems connect households to resources as efficiently and effectively as possible.					





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**Thank You!**

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