Every person who passed through these doors in 2013 had a story, and you were an important part of each one of them.

There for me • Samuel now speaks quietly and confidently about his life. Though he certainly has regrets, he is not ashamed of his past - he accepts it and understands he would not be who he is today without it. Samuel first started using drugs at 13 and eventually drifted into life on the streets. But he says the Boulder Shelter was a key source of hope and support through his years of struggle - years that have been hard, but have left him a better man. Now 42, and after making it through the Shelter’s Transition Program, he has been drug-free for five years and has obtained independent housing. Samuel recently completed an environmental training program and is working on getting his GED degree. He says, “The people from the Boulder Shelter were there for me with an open door. The people at the Shelter did not give up on me.”

Someone I could trust • “My way to the Shelter was a long one. There were years of drugs and alcohol and other troubles. I showed up at the Shelter without anything, needing and wanting housing and help, but slow to open up, trust and accept help. Eventually, I found myself a Shelter case manager I could trust. She told me, ‘Let down your resistance!’ And slowly but surely I did. I began to come out of my shell, and pretty soon I began to see myself in a different light. With her help, after a while, I figured some things out. And now I say to myself, ‘What more can I ask for, than to have a sober life and a focus of what I want to do? I’ll just take that, and reach for the stars.’ Truth is, the Boulder Shelter saved my life and changed my life forever.”

Relief and safety • “Today a young man arrived at the Shelter for the first time,” says a Shelter staff person. “On an evening in which snow clouds were gathering for a night of record cold, he sat halfway back on a bench in the Shelter’s intake area with his massive backpack on the seat beside him. I introduced myself to him. In a moment he lifted his head to exhibit the tear-streaked face of a very young man. His grief was real and honest. I asked him, ‘What’s going on in your life?’ He said, ‘I am homeless. Tonight will be cold. I do not want to die.’ I had to regroup. I bit my lip and my hand squeezed my knee. The one thing I knew for sure was that he would find relief and safety here at the Shelter, at least for tonight. And tonight that’s enough.”

The mission of the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless is to provide safe shelter, food, support services, and an avenue to self-sufficiency for homeless adults in our community.
YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE. The Shelter’s 2013 fiscal year (October, 2012 to October, 2013) was a record year for the delivery of services to the homeless in our community. The floods that hit Boulder County in September of 2013 helped push up service numbers as the Shelter opened its winter season early to accommodate the homeless that were displaced by the floods. Many homeless people not only lost their traditional camp sites but also all of their worldly belongings. The record level of Shelter services was also driven by the lopsided recovery from the Great Recession. The disabled and those with limited skill sets and connections continue to struggle to find work and housing. Thus, the need for the Shelter’s basic needs services, as well as its self-sufficiency programs, has not abated. The Shelter board and staff wishes to thank all of its partners, be they financial donors or volunteers (or both), for making it possible to offer the basic necessities of life to the poorest in our community.

Greg Harms, Executive Director

IN 2013, THESE ARE THE PROGRAMS YOU SUPPORTED AT THE BOULDER SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS:

Wintertime programs

• The Winter Sheltering Program offered a warm bed and hot meals from October through April for those who had no other options.

• The Boulder County Cares program is a volunteer driven street outreach effort that canvassed the streets of Boulder during the winter months to assist those who were literally living on the streets.

Year-round programs

• The Transition Program is the sober-only program at the Shelter. Clients in this program must have an income, pay a small fee each week and work with a case manager to get back on their feet.

• The Boulder County Housing First program, run in partnership with Boulder Housing Partners (BHP), provided permanent housing for the chronically homeless.

• The Transitional Housing Program offered scattered site apartments at a reduced rent for up to two years.

• Additionally, the Shelter was open each morning to provide a hot breakfast, access to showers, and other services to those not staying overnight at the Shelter.

...and, much more than meets the eye, including:

• Onsite medical, dental, mental health, and legal services

• An addictions specialist to meet with clients one-on-one

• A benefits coordinator to assist clients with benefits acquisition

• A resource specialist to help clients get connected to community resources

A Place to Live

Founded on the belief that a homeless individual’s first and primary need is to obtain stable housing, Boulder Housing Partners and the Boulder Shelter are working together to construct and operate a 31 unit apartment building, known as 1175 Lee Hill, that will provide housing for chronically homeless individuals, accompanied by the case management and support services that Shelter case managers will provide. Construction began in the fall of 2013, with completion scheduled for late 2014.
HERE THEY ARE. The facts. The figures. But look closer and you’ll find that these are much more than numbers on a page. They represent the lives you influenced, the stories you altered, and the tomorrows you transformed in 2013.

In addition, your 2013 in-kind donations, valued at $108,086.48, substantially supplemented the Shelter’s financial support.

2,379 case management contacts were made, and the mental health worker provided over 1,000 hours of one-on-one client consultation.

17 adults and 4 children were housed in Transitional Housing; 7 clients and their families graduated.

29 clients participated in the Shelter’s Housing First program for chronically homeless individuals. Currently, 23 people are living in permanent housing with case management support through this program.

THE TURNING POINT IN THE STORIES WAS YOU. It was your confidence and support that allowed men and women to view tomorrow with renewed optimism. To all of you who made a difference in 2013, to you who helped rebuild hope and potential and open possibilities for our clients, we say: THANK YOU. Here’s to the turning points!

...was generously donated to the Shelter by the community in 2011.

The Shelter provided 38,892 bed nights and 90,823 meals for 1,179 homeless men and women in need.

Almost 100 people entered the Shelter’s clean and sober program, the Transition Program. More than a third of these clients successfully graduated into stable housing.

The Shelter’s street outreach program made 6,361 contacts with the homeless on the streets and handed out over 9,000 socks, hats, gloves and blankets.

More than 800 volunteers donated over 11,000 hours of their time to a variety of tasks at the Shelter, including cooking and serving meals, distributing bedding and toiletries, and general office tasks.

In 2013, after several years of tepid growth attributable to the recession, Shelter revenues began to rebound. In fact, Shelter individual giving hit an all time high. While expenses slightly exceeded revenue, this shortfall was anticipated and was covered by operating reserves. In addition, your 2013 in-kind donations, valued at $108,086.48, substantially supplemented the Shelter’s financial support.

FY13 Total End of Year Net Assets: $6,322,476

EXPERENCES:

Total $1,812,278

Fundraising $202,584

SHelter Programs $1,393,258

Administrative $216,435

Corporate Gifts and Events $121,318

Foundation Gifts $223,202

Government Grants $628,881

Individual Gifts $735,903

Faith Community Gifts $16,384

Other Private Sources $19,423

United Way $36,219

REVENUE:

Total $1,781,133

Annual Report 2013
This year you can do even more.

Give money for food and shelter by adopting a night of winter sheltering.

Support our year-round self-sufficiency programs by setting up a monthly donation.

Join the Shelter's volunteer team

All easy to set up at www.bouldershelter.org

Foothills United Way