

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

Shelter → Support → Housing



JUNE - JULY 2023

What a Night!





Miss the concert? Watch it here!

Everybody Pitched In!

Our New CEO, Mike Block gave a moving speech about his personal experience at the Shelter, and the Shelter's work midway through the concert. Check it out below!



Once again, thank you David Williard for his time, talent, and generosity that made his birthday benefit concert for the Shelter so successful!



The Shelter staff welcoming committee was ready to answer questions, share about the work they do, and ensure the attendees had a great time!



Last but not least, we thank everyone who attended and donated. Volunteers, donors, and all Shelter supporters throughout the community - we literally couldn't do it without you!

A Big Step Forward

Since the beginning of March, the Shelter has taken a big step forward in helping the chronically homeless folks in our Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program.

The new Housing Retention Team provides medical and mental health support to help those clients maintain stable housing once they've been able to gain it.

Robyn is the Clinical Lead for the program, and she brings with her a remarkable combination of experience and compassion.

She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, and she has worked in a variety of settings to provide clinical support for people experiencing homelessness, including the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, and White Bird Clinic in Eugene, Oregon.

She also has a deep commitment to the work. "I personally really love and care about this population. I've been working with people who are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk for it, for the past 10 years."

How does the HRT program work?

It is loosely modeled on an ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) team, a team approach that has been proven nationally to be the gold standard of care for housing-first support. Robyn provides clinical services, most often in clients' homes, and she focuses primarily on issues that affect a client's ability to stay in their housing.

The Shelter has also begun coordinating with Focus Reentry for peer support, and we have the funding to add a medical nurse through our partnership with Clinica Family Health. In addition, The Shelter plans to hire another clinician soon, particularly in light of the PSH program's upcoming expansion.

Initial results of the Housing Retention Team have been promising. For example, Robyn coordinated with the Clinica outreach team to support clients in receiving necessary medical care in their homes, after they had avoided going to the doctor.



Robyn Steuber, Clinical Lead for the Housing Retention Team

What is Robyn's strongest impression as a newer Shelter staff member?

She noted that people in Boulder may not realize how much of the Shelter's work is in getting people housed and helping to maintain that housing.

"The whole idea of this program comes from a compassionate place of wanting to provide additional care for a client so they can retain their housing... **the Shelter really doesn't want people to return to homelessness.**"



[Learn More About Our Programs](#)

Record-Breaking Demand for Shelter Services

The numbers are growing, and the Shelter is busier than ever before.

The Shelter has remained **full** into the Summer season; a time when we have previously seen a drop-off in the number of people seeking our services. We are rising to meet this demand with every resource possible.

Compared to the same time period for last year, we have had a **9.65%** increase in both bed nights and meals served. For this same six month period, we have accomplished a **43.10%** increase in homeless exits over last year.

In the first six months of 2023 we helped 166 people exit homelessness.

84 people exited into permanent housing and 78 exited through Coordinated Entry.

When people exit through Coordinated Entry, they may be reunified with family, receive short-term rental support, and other assistance. ***This keeps people from entering long-term homelessness. In effect, stopping homelessness before it starts.***



We served 83,398 meals.

Thanks to our hard working kitchen staff and dedicated volunteers, each person staying with us received a hot dinner and breakfast in the morning.

We had 41,699 bed nights.

Bed nights is the total number of occupied beds for the month. ***This means a nightly average of 153 people who weren't sleeping in Boulder parks, paths, or encampments.***



We are incredibly grateful to our supporters and volunteers who help make it possible for us to respond effectively to this increased utilization of our services.


Want to help? Come volunteer!

I can't volunteer; how else can I help?



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