

Safe and Healthy Communities: Proposed Homelessness Initiatives



COLORADO
Governor Jared Polis



Guiding Mission

The State of Colorado is focused on supporting communities in creating a robust continuum of proven solutions designed to connect people without stable housing to supportive services, behavioral health and medical care, and housing.

The state invests in best practices now, but not at the scale needed. We have the unique opportunity to bring those best practices and proven solutions to scale.

The Governor's budget submission requests \$200M from the \$700M Economic Development and Relief Funds for community investments in homelessness response.

The need

Doubling of first time homeless experience in Denver shelters in the past year.

9,846

People in shelters, transitional housing, or unsheltered one night in Jan. (2020 HUD Point in Time Count)

14,600+

Individuals estimated to need housing units with services in CO. (2019 CSH)

23,000+

Students experiencing homelessness, doubled-up, or unstably housed.

(2018-19 school year, McKinney-Vento liaisons)

53,000+

Individuals without stable housing covered by CO Medicaid. (2019 HCPF Medicaid data)

Homelessness Proposals

Item	Description
Competitive Grant Program: Safety Net Campuses, Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing Request -- \$100 million	<p>Colorado is currently lacking long-term recovery and housing options for people experiencing homelessness - especially those with substance use disorders and exiting the criminal justice system or other state institutions.</p> <p>Competitive grants program for safety net campuses, and both transitional and supportive housing; add plus up for programs that also serve justice involved individuals.</p>
Denver Recovery Campus (with Transitional Housing) Request -- \$50 million	Modeled similar to Ridge View
Ridge View Recovery Campus (with Transitional Housing) Request -- \$45 million	All other Ridge View services above \$25M, including outpatient services; this includes initial seed for FQHC, mental health, SUD, and medical and non-medical case management services and may support ongoing costs.
Data Collection and Outreach for Homelessness Response Request -- \$5 million	<p>Align and invest in data collection processes and expand outreach/intervention strategies to chronically homeless population; Create lasting structure for efficient coordination of resources. This funding can also support coordinated entry systems which will help connect people experiencing homelessness with the program most likely to fit their unique needs regardless of where they initially seek assistance.</p> <p>This will ensure better coordination between health, justice, and housing systems with the goal of not discharging individuals into homelessness.</p>

Competitive Grant Program - \$100M

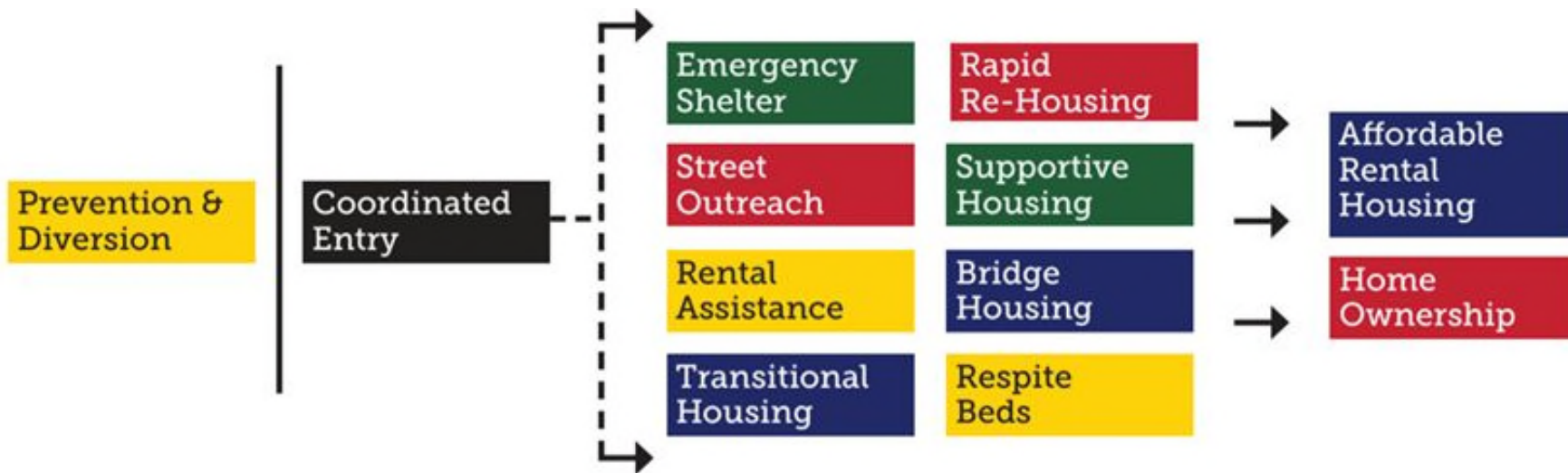
Support investments in community-based continuum of services and supports for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness with complex needs (including behavioral health needs), including:

- Emergency shelters
- Transitional housing
- Recovery care and related residential programs
- Permanent housing with wrap-around services

Grants will be issued for innovative programs that meet the needs of individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Collaborative partnerships with matching funds from local governments, philanthropy, and private partners are expected.

Technical assistance and grant writing support has been discussed as a component

Continuum of Response



Homeless Management Information System

Ridge View Supportive Recovery Campus - \$45M

Ridge View Youth Services Center is a high quality state owned asset

Provides opportunity to expand upon lessons learned at Fort Lyon Supportive Residential Community in Bent County

Goal is to Invest in a supportive community model that integrates a continuum of recovery oriented services and care (e.g. detox/withdrawal supports), transitional housing, vocational rehabilitation, and oral, physical, and behavioral health services

Leverage local resources and collaborative partnerships

“I could never manage my life when I was drinking. I was always walking the line, what is the next catastrophe? Where do I go? Wherever it was, it wasn’t a place I was able to stay.” Ft. Lyon Resident

Denver Supportive Recovery Campus - \$50M

Similar to the Fort Lyon and proposed Ridge View supportive community models, a Denver-area supportive residential recovery campus that leverages additional resources and integrates a continuum of services and supports to address physical and behavioral health while provided safe space for recovery and rehabilitation

“The never asked me to do anything, but they gave me all the opportunity I needed. This place paves the way if people want it.”
- Ft. Lyon Resident

Data Collection and Outreach - \$5M

WHY:

- 1) Data to understand the need and whether we are reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness.
- 2) Understanding who is experiencing homelessness and what their needs and barriers are is critical to informing strategies and creating an efficient coordination of resources.

AIM:

- 1) Increase capacity across the state to locate, identify, and engage anyone living unsheltered
- 2) Increase capacity to improve the data collection of that effort as well as data from homeless programs

Together, these efforts will enhance our collective and accurate knowledge of who is experiencing homelessness and be that bridge to connecting the services and housing.

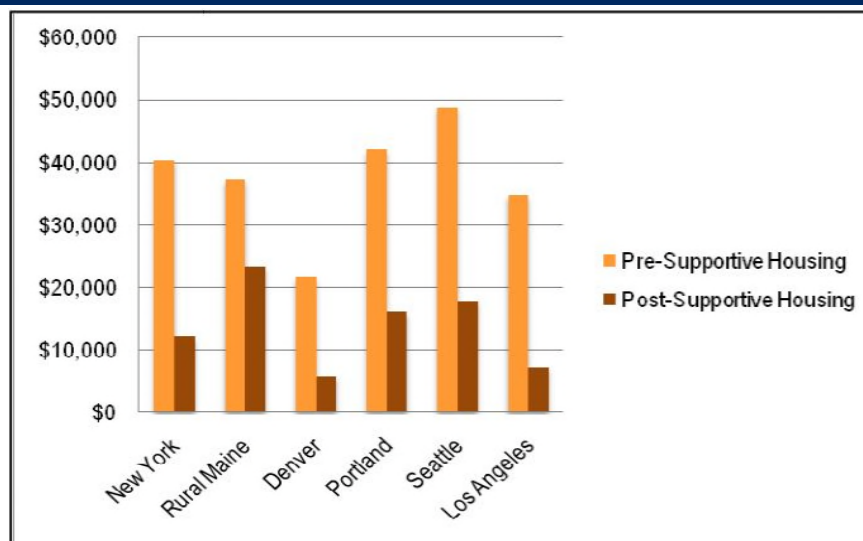
HOW:

- 1) Fund community-based organizations to hire outreach staff who coordinate with existing efforts that engage people living unsheltered. They will ensure an accurate list is created and engage individuals to assess needs to connect to care and housing.
- 2) Fund the Continuum of Care entities to increase Homeless Management Information System utilization.

Housing + Services Cost Benefit

When quality housing-focused services and housing are provided together:

- 85% Stay Housed in DOH programs.
- Denver SIB showed significant housing stability and cost savings.
- Cost Savings Repeatedly Realized:



ER Visits <i>decreased</i> 24% - 34%	Hospital Days <i>decreased</i> 27% - 29%	Psych Admissions <i>decreased</i> 82% - 87%	Medicaid Costs <i>decreased</i> 41% - 67%	Incarceration <i>decreased</i> 42% - 45%	Housing Stability <i>increased</i> 79% - 93%
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ARPA Compliance Guidance

One time spending with de minimis outyear costs	Spends out quickly 12 to 18 months	Provides economic stimulus (jobs, multiplier effect, etc.)	Provides relief to address a gap
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U.S. Treasury Department approved dollars in key areas:

- To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.
- Funds must be obligated before the end of 2024