



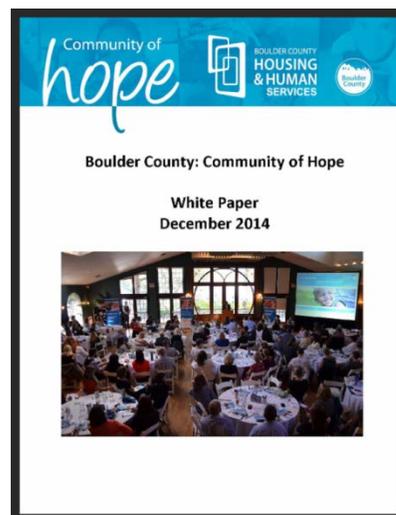
Moving toward a more family driven, prevention oriented, and holistic safety net

We have been busy over the past few weeks finalizing a Community of Hope white paper that serves as a summary of the findings from the September 26 summit. The summit brought together over 200 people who serve our community members in a wide variety of ways to talk about our safety net - what's working well, the challenges we face, the opportunities we have, and our next steps.

The white paper is now available at BoulderCountyHope.org. Here is the [direct link](#). In this white paper, you'll find summaries of the takeaways from all four major summit discussion objectives and an overview of findings by safety net pillar, as well as a look at what's next in the Community of Hope process.

As you'll see in the white paper, we have some compelling opportunities for making our safety net more family driven, prevention oriented and holistic. We also know that this work will need to be approached very thoughtfully, mindful of the efforts already underway, and inclusive of a broad cross-section of our community, especially including the people we serve.

The coming year will be pivotal for our safety net work in Boulder County. We have just seen the passage of a 15-year extension of the [Human Services Safety Net](#) (HSSN), which made our Community of Hope conversation that much more timely.



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A Holistic Approach to Case Management: Angie Dreier



In case you missed Child Welfare Caseworker Angie Dreier's opening remarks from the Community of Hope Summit, here's a sample:

The definition of *holistic* is "characterized by comprehension of the parts of something as intimately interconnected and explicable only by reference to the whole." So think about that as we

3 months to 2 years.

- Zoning limits in the county are preventing additional affordable **housing** facilities from being built.
- **Rental housing** in Boulder County has an extremely low vacancy rate, driving up prices.

As we look at addressing this together in the months and years ahead, our questions might be: "how do we as a community come together to ensure more affordable housing resources are available in Boulder County? What can we do collectively to create a vision for affordable housing that helps us all meet the needs of our clients?"

We also saw that funding challenges are on the minds of many, and in particular - what can we do together to create more flexibility with funding? [[read more](#)]

Partnership and Prevention

Emily's Story

When Emily came to the Housing Stabilization Program (HSP) she was homeless, fleeing her abusive partner, and caring for her son who has special needs. Scared, confused, and depressed, Emily began working with staff from HSP and Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) to create a safety plan and secure her basic needs for herself and her son.



Soon after obtaining her apartment through HSP funds, she went from having a large deficit in her budget to a surplus of almost \$400 a month. Emily advocated for herself at work and earned a promotion to manager. Her son, who had been to more schools than she could count, had significant improvement in his classroom behavior. At the time she transitioned out of HSP, Emily had already paid her next month's rent and still had almost a full month of rent in her savings account.

Do you have a client story you'd like to share? Please [let us know](#) about it!

Greater Collaboration for Those We Serve Clinica Family Health Services

We have an incredible opportunity here in Boulder County to continue to strengthen our safety net. Greater collaboration in the future with our various agencies will have an even more pronounced impact on our clients. The patient who is trying to come into our doors but also has housing needs preventing them from really improving long-term in their healthcare...we see that within the homeless patients that we take care of and that we collaborate around in Boulder, for example.



**Clinica President and CEO
Simon Smith**

Similarly, if someone is working on access to food but has nutritional and dietary needs from a healthcare perspective that the food service agency may not be aware of, that collaboration can really reinforce those messages to those patients.

For a lot of members of our community, that first step in accessing services in our community is a hard one. There are stigmas, there are challenges to getting in the door - it's a scary prospect. Once you've gotten in that door, I think it's really our role in our ability for greater collaboration to open up the other doors for them. [[See the video](#)]



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