



Community Services Department

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Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board June 12, 2020 8:00 - 10:00am Teams Meeting

Welcome and Introductions	8:00-8:15
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Briefing questions	
Presentation	8:15-9:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thomas Hernandez – Tribe Recovery Homes	
Discussion/Informational Items	9:00-9:50
<ul style="list-style-type: none">“Safe lots” – does HSBC want to take a formal stance?Encampments – what are we seeing?Nederland updateUpdate from ad-hoc meetingsHousing Exits	
Member Updates	9:50-10:00

Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board
June 12, 2020 8:00-10:00am
Teams Meeting

In Attendance: Jim Adams-Berger, Frank Alexander, Robin Bohannon, Sarah Buss, Vicki Ebner, Kurt Firnhaber, Heidi Grove, Karen Kreutzberg, Matt Meyer, Karen Roney, Wendy Schwartz, Annie Scott

Guest: Thomas Hernandez

Data Briefing

It was noted that the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County system continues to see a significant number of clients who are newer to the community. In addition, there are fewer clients exiting Permanent Supportive Housing back to homelessness as well as more clients exiting Housing Focused shelter into housing than being referred through Coordinated Entry. It was noted that this decline may be a result of the moratorium on evictions. This data point will be monitored over the next few months.

Thomas Hernandez – Tribe Recovery Homes

Thomas Hernandez, President and CEO of Tribe Recovery Homes, provided a presentation to the Board. Tribe Recovery Homes provides housing and supportive services to those recovering from substance use; clients cannot use substances in the residence but will receive assistance in detoxing and can return to the residence once clean. It was noted that this aspect of the model does not fall within the Housing First philosophy. The Board discussed the challenges of zoning and neighborhood buy-in, noted the possibility of using the model for master leasing and spoke about how this model may be able to help clients transition to Rapid Rehousing or Permanent Supportive Housing. There was conversation about repurposing current government buildings for this type of housing, whether or not this is the right group to contract with, whether the model could be adjusted to have a number of recovery units within a larger residential property and whether there would be a developer interested in this type of project. Regarding moving forward, the Board discussed convening a group to further research the concept and look at the structure of the program as well as the financial model proposed by the agency.

Changes in Prioritization Around Case Conferencing w/ Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

Matt Meyer, Board member and Executive Director of the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative, shared information about the interim policy for COVID-19 response prioritization, which takes into account age, underlying health conditions, criminal justice involvement and length of time homeless. The Board noted that Boulder County's COVID-19 response for those experiencing homelessness has been robust, equating to fewer clients contracting COVID-19 and a lower risk overall even while having the second highest level of those experiencing homelessness in the region; it was discussed that the new prioritization hurts clients in Boulder County, and that the Continuum of Care was established to provide regional context discuss with municipalities and local entities, not create rules that all need to abide by; the Board stressed the importance of local control. The Board requested that the old prioritization be used to assign housing resources in Boulder County. Metro Denver Homeless Initiative will respond to the group around this issue.

Safe Parking

It was noted that HOPE Longmont is moving forward with their Safe Parking pilot; they are working with Westview Presbyterian Church in Longmont and may be starting the pilot next week with a limited number of clients. They received some grant funding for the project; they are not receiving City of Longmont funding and are not part of the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County system. The Boulder

County Connect database may add in a data collection feature for this pilot in order to understand the population being served, what services clients are receiving and how clients could be connected to Housing and Human Services support and other parts of the County infrastructure. City of Longmont is still working on their study around the safe parking model. Metro Denver Homeless Initiative noted that they do not believe parking should be criminalized, and that safe parking can fall into the harm reduction framework but does not adhere to the Housing First philosophy.

Client Engagement

HOPE Longmont has been gathering data from their outreach efforts regarding clients they are encountering and has noted that some clients are not interested in engaging in services, especially when services provided are outside of the area a client finds community; the need for social connection and community can outweigh opportunity for housing. It was noted that those using methamphetamine are typically not interested in engaging in services.

Nederland Update

The number of unhoused clients in Nederland is much lower than it was at the same time last year. Public Health engagement, including asymptomatic testing and hepatitis vaccinations will likely begin in July, as there has been a delay in seasonal travelers coming to the area.

Update from Boulder Shelter for the Homeless Meetings

Meetings that had been taking place with the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless leadership and Homeless Solutions for Boulder County leadership can likely be phased out; provision of Navigation and Navigation and Diversion services will continue to be monitored.

Housing Exits

It was discussed that some clients utilizing the Emergency Solutions Grant are not able to graduate from the program or are bridging into Permanent Supportive Housing. Homeless Solutions for Boulder County staff are working with Metro Denver Homeless Initiative to remedy this issue.

Other Updates

The COVID Recovery Center is moving to a new location. Tungston Village in Nederland will be leasing up in the near future and received 200 applications in the first day, showing the continued need for additional affordable housing in Boulder County.

HOMELESS SOLUTIONS FOR BOULDER COUNTY:
JUNE 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD BRIEF

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

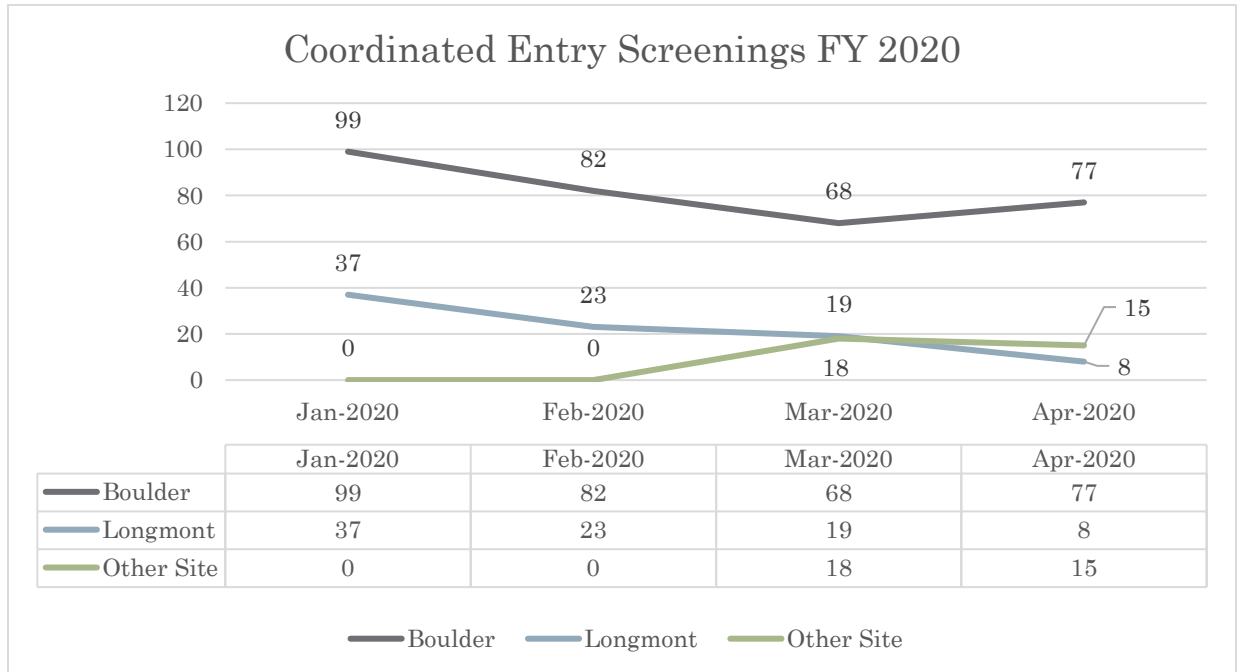
The following summary reflects a high-level overview of data points and narrative found in further detail throughout this report:

- 446 individuals were screened through Coordinated Entry since January 2020.
 - 73% (326) screened in City of Boulder
 - 20% (87) screened in City of Longmont
 - 7% (33) screened virtually
- In April 2020, 38% (38) individuals reported residing in Boulder County; 50% (50) individuals reported residing in Colorado but not Boulder County; 12% (12) individuals reported residing outside of Colorado¹.
 - 64% (32) reported Denver as their last residence.
- 85% (378) of those screened reported a homeless situation.
 - During the month of April 2020, there was a significant decrease (0) in individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry reporting Transitional and/or Permanent Housing situation prior to experiencing homelessness.
- 67% (297) reported a disabling condition at screening
- 42% (188) were screened and referred to Diversion services
- 137 individuals experiencing homelessness exited homelessness since January 2020

¹ Data point reflected is based on new data integrated in February 2020

COORDINATED ENTRY

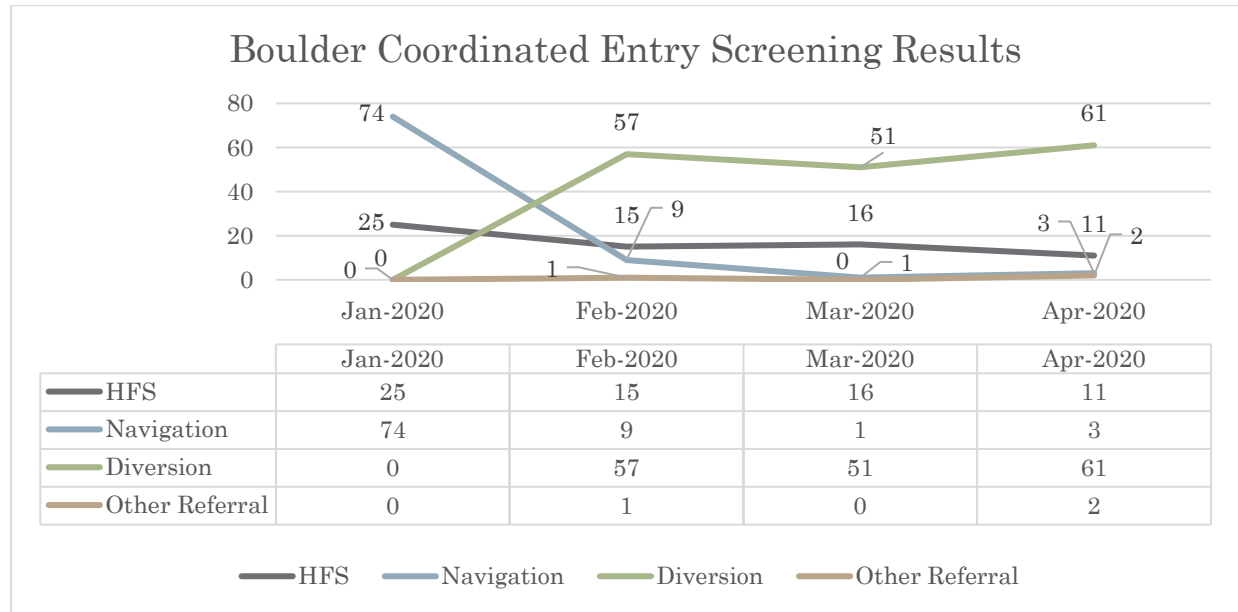
- A total of 446 unique individuals experiencing homelessness were screened through Coordinated Entry between January 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020. As reflected below, the number of unique individuals experiencing homelessness presenting at Coordinated Entry has steadily declined per month apart from the location identified as “Other” which is mobile screening that was introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. On average, 73% (326) presented in the City of Boulder, 20% (87) presented in the City of Longmont, and 7% (33) presented through mobile screening.



COORDINATED ENTRY SCREENING RESULTS PER LOCATION

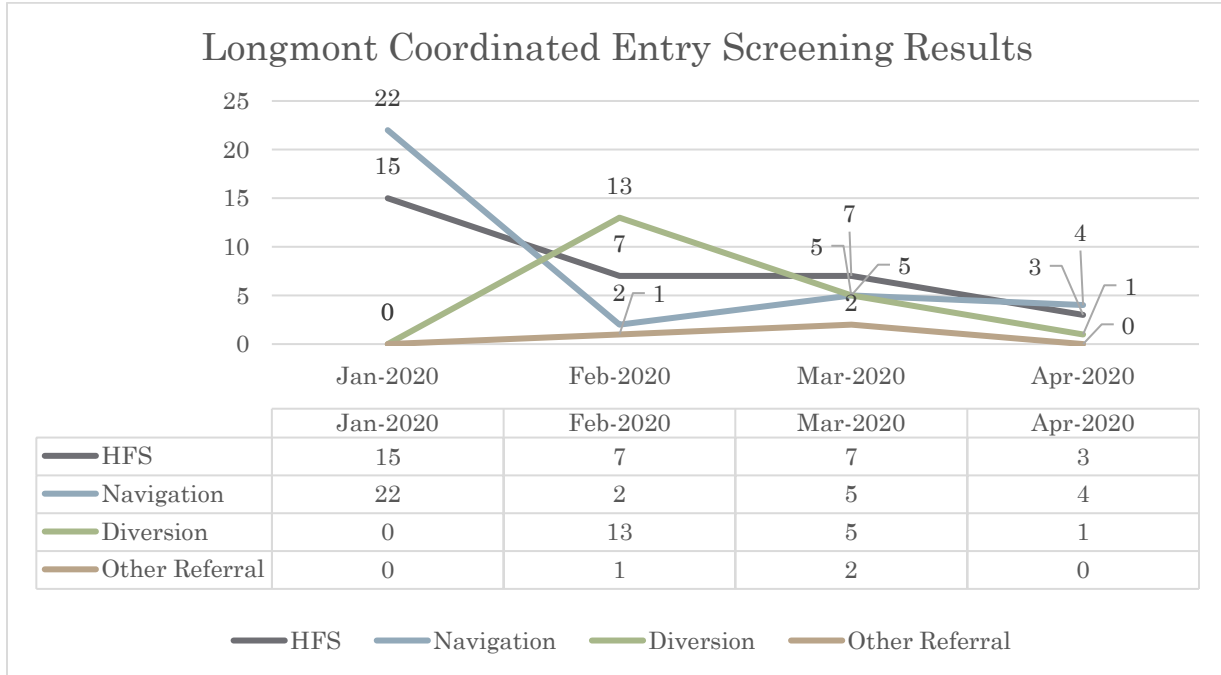
City of Boulder

As reflected below, with the integration of Diversion services in February 2020, referrals to Navigation services have continued to decline in the City of Boulder. Referrals to Housing Focused Shelter remained stable month over month whereas referrals to Diversion services have continued to increase. Two individuals experiencing homelessness were referred to Domestic Violence Shelters.



City of Longmont

As reflected below, with the integration of Diversion services in February 2020, referrals to Navigation decreased through March but increased in April 2020 in the City of Longmont. Referrals to Housing Focused Shelter decreased in January and again in April.



Other Screening Location

With the pandemic crisis in March 2020, Coordinated Entry transitioned from site based in the cities of Boulder and Longmont to phone screening. As a result, 15 screenings originated from non-traditional locations throughout Boulder County in April 2020. Of those screened, 47% (7) were screened to Housing Focused Shelter; 13% (2) were screened to Longmont Navigation services; and 40% (6) were screened to Diversion services.

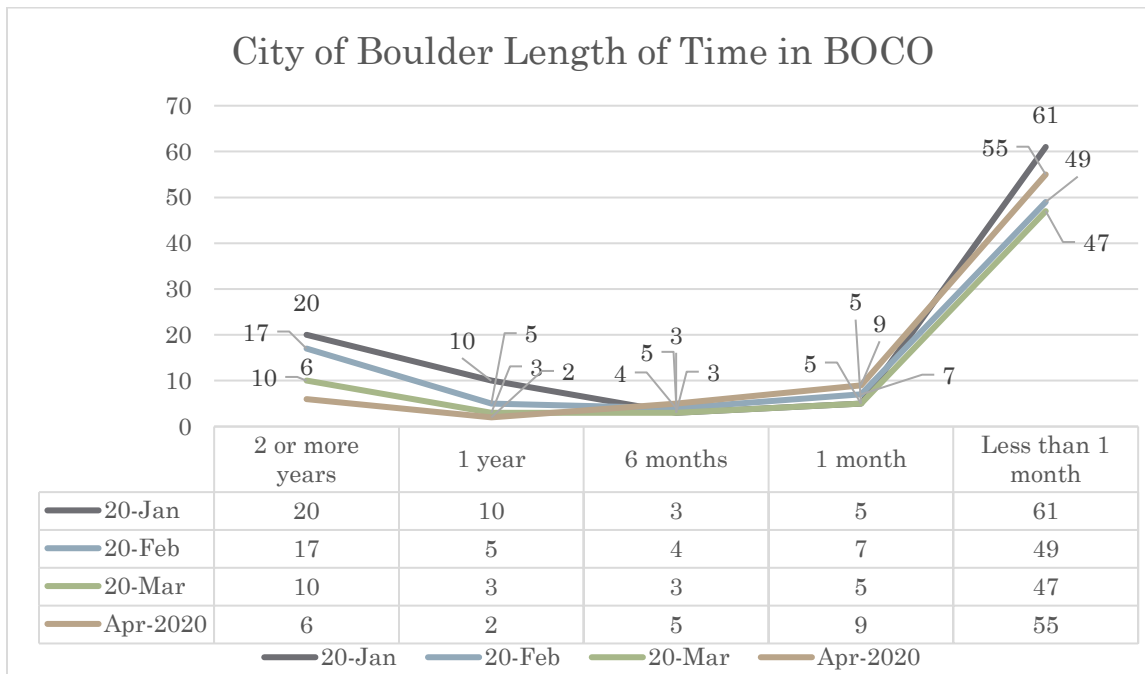
CLIENT PROFILE

City of Boulder Length of Time in Boulder County

Of the 326 unique individuals experiencing homelessness presenting at Coordinated Entry between January 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020, 73% (238) reported being in Boulder County for less than six months.

In April 2020, of the 77 individuals screened, 29% (22) reported residing inside Boulder County; 58% (45) reported residing within Colorado but not Boulder County; and 13% (10) reported residing outside of Colorado. It is important to note that of the 37 individuals whom reported residing in Colorado but not Boulder County, 71% (32) reported Denver as their last residence.

The below chart reflects the month to month trend regarding length of time residing in Boulder County as reported at Coordinated Entry.

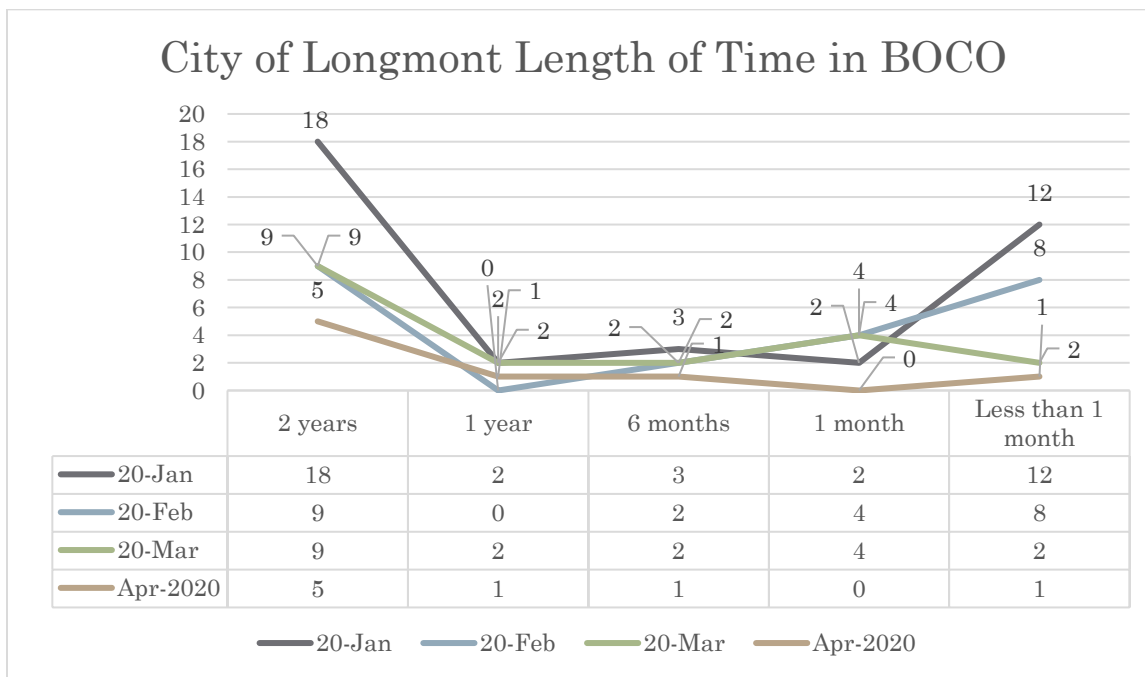


City of Longmont Length of Time in Boulder County

Of the 87 unique individuals experiencing homelessness presenting at Coordinated Entry between January 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020, 38% (33) reported being in Boulder County for less than six months.

In April 2020, of the 8 individuals screened, 88% (7) reported residing inside Boulder County; 12% (1) reported residing within Colorado but not Boulder County; and 0 individuals reported residing outside of Colorado. It is important to note that of the individuals whom reported residing in Colorado but not Boulder County, 100% (1) reported Fort Collins as their last residence.

The below chart reflects the month to month trend regarding length of time residing in Boulder County as reported at Coordinated Entry.

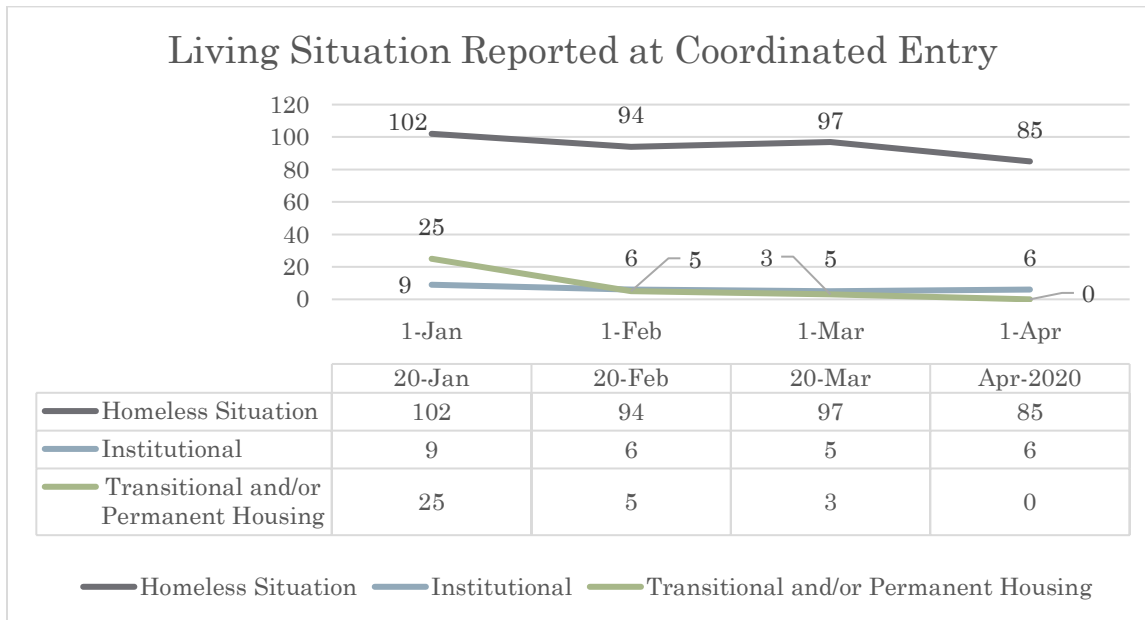


Other Screening Location Length of Time in Boulder County

As mentioned in prior sections, with the pandemic crisis in March 2020, Coordinated Entry transitioned from site based in the cities of Boulder and Longmont to phone screening. Of 15 screenings originated by mobile screening in April 2020, 60% (9) reported residing inside Boulder County; 27% (4) reported residing within Colorado but not Boulder County; and 13% (2) individuals reported residing outside of Colorado. It is important to note that of the individuals whom reported residing in Colorado but not Boulder County, 50% (2) reported Fort Collins as their last residence.

Boulder County Living Situation reported at Coordinated Entry

As reflected in the chart below, of the 446² unique individuals experiencing homelessness screened at Coordinated Entry, a vast majority 85% (378) reported a homeless situation. These data have remained consistent month over month regarding an individual's current living situation. It is important to note that with the moratorium on evictions, the data reflects a drastic decrease in individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry reporting a Transitional and/or Permanent Housing situation prior to experiencing homelessness.



² Totals reflected in chart below to not add up to number of screenings. This is a result of not meeting the HUD definition of homeless situation reported at Coordinated Entry (i.e. couch surfing; living with family; etc.).

Boulder County Disabling Condition reported at Coordinated Entry

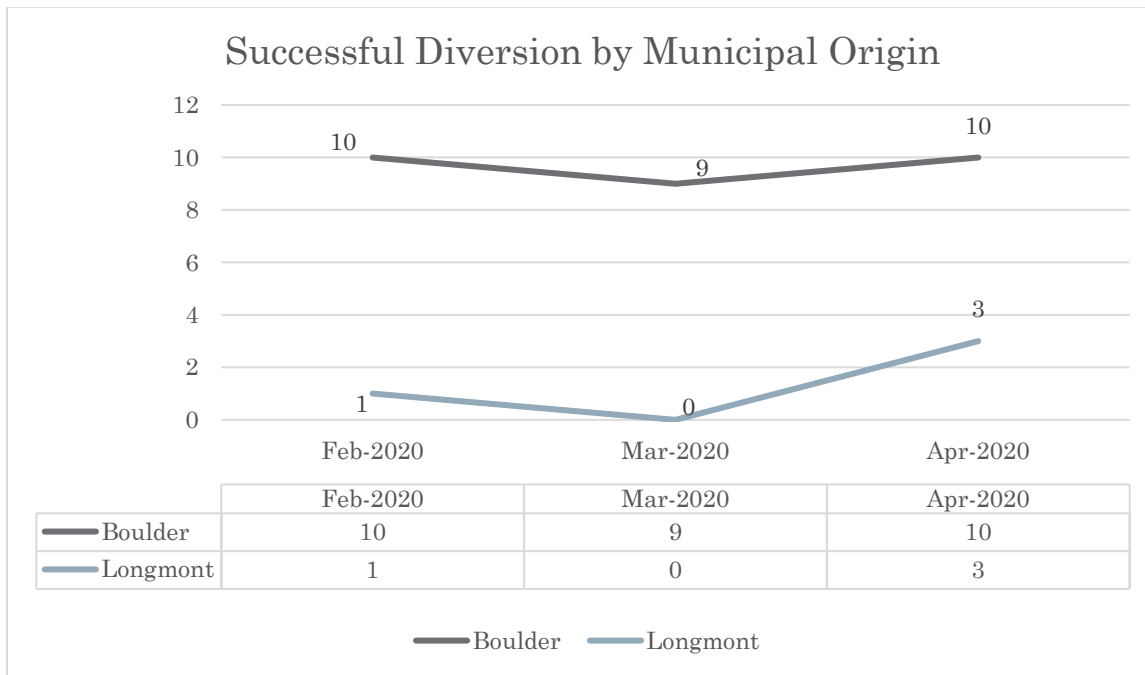
Of the 446 unique individuals screened for services through Coordinated Entry between January 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020, 67% (297) report a disabling condition. This data trend continues to stay stable in relation to the population in general.



DIVERSION SERVICES

During the month of April 62% (62) unique individuals experiencing homelessness were screened and referred to Diversion services. Of the 62 unique individuals 21% (13) were successfully diverted from sheltering systems with 100% (13) through reunification. A total of \$2,477.43, average \$190.57, direct service dollars was provided during the month: Longmont-\$528.54 Boulder-\$1948.89.

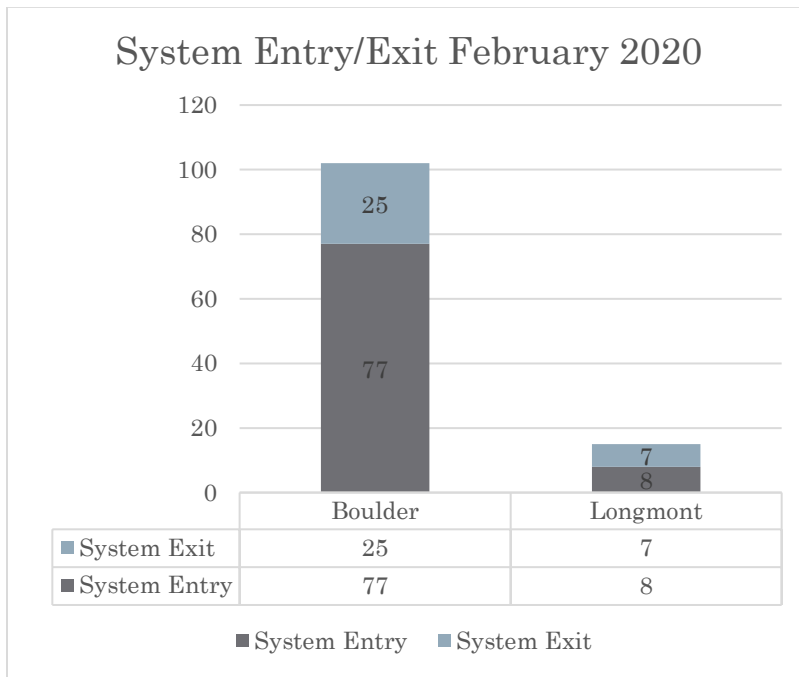
The following graph reflects the municipal origin of successful diversion services.



HOUSING OUTCOMES

The following data and charts reflect individuals experiencing homelessness who have exited the homeless services system to a stable housing outcome. ***It is important to note that the data reflected in the following charts reflect Housing Outcomes via system entry and exit are not the same individuals.***

System Entry/Exit April 2020³



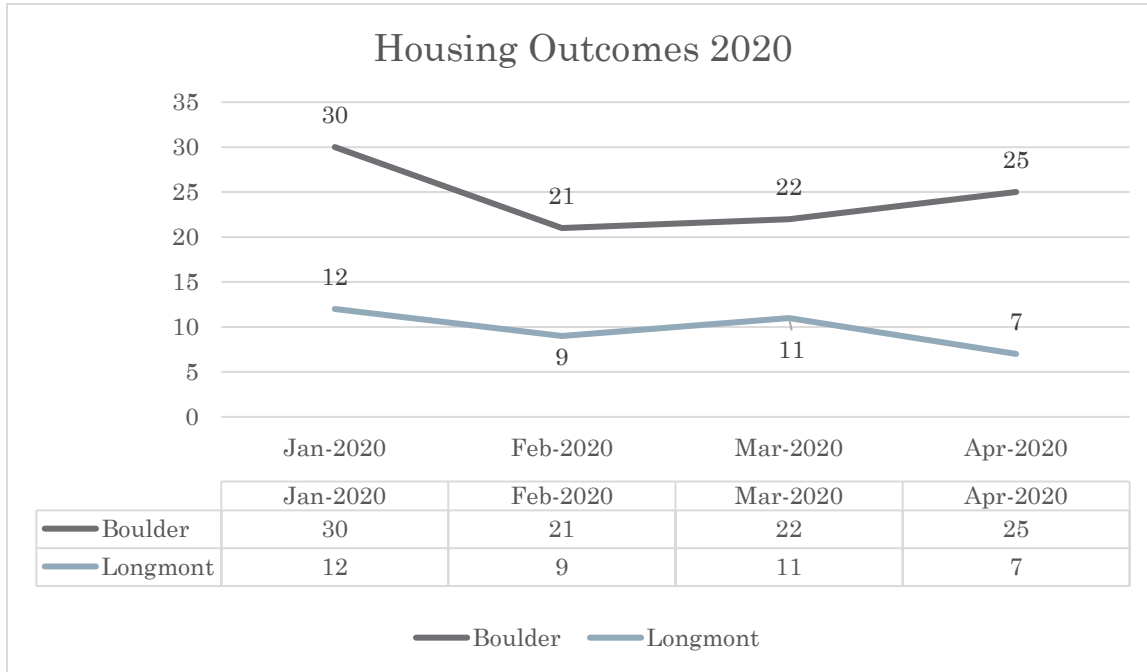
System Entry/Exit

During the month of April 2020, 32 individuals exited the HSBC system into a stable housing outcome.

³ Individuals whom engaged in Coordinated Entry from “Other” location are not included in this data.

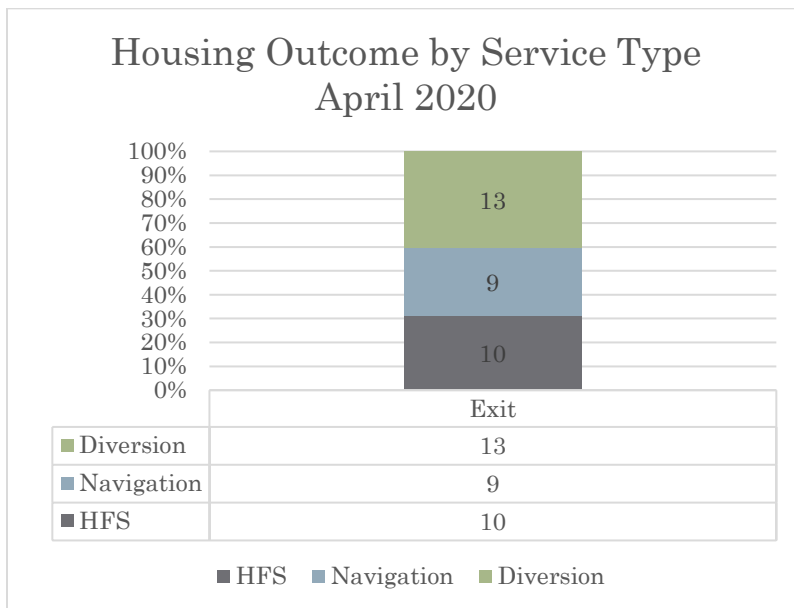
Housing Outcomes Fiscal Year 2020

As reflected, a total of 137 individuals experiencing homelessness exited homelessness. The following data reflect the housing exits trends for the fiscal year of 2020.



Housing Outcome by service type

The following data reflect the service type resulting in a housing outcome for the months of April 2020. These charts also integrate the housing outcomes of individuals screened to Diversion services.









Exit by type

During the month of April 2020, the housing outcome per each service type was equally distributed resulting in a total of 32 housing exits.

WORKING GROUP PROGRESS

- **Systems working group** continues to maintain weekly meetings. These meetings have focused on emerging challenges, transition from Bridge House to Boulder Shelter, and any additional supports needed by providers.
- **Communications working group** will be meeting during the month of June.
- **Housing Exits working group** continues to explore and identify gaps, challenges, and creative housing options. To guide this work moving forward, a continuum of housing was created to identify a matching process to ensure that the appropriate resource is identified based on client's needs.

 <p>One-Time Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-time homelessness and/or situational • Resolvable crisis with limited need for assistance (deposits/ 1st month rent) • Recent housing history/able to lease up with private landlord • Employed or recently obtained employment • Referred from Nav/Diversion • Services: Diversion or light case management, financial assistance • Source of resource: local funds 	 <p>Rapid Rehousing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of homelessness is rare, brief, and situational • Resolvable crisis and low barrier(s) to increasing income • Recent housing history/able to lease up with private landlord • OR Bridge housing for PSH/Voucher participants (follow PSH requirements) • Services: housing navigation, lease-up assistance, intensive self-sufficiency case management • Source of resource: ESG, CoC. • Targeted Program(s): Navigation, Housing Focused Shelter (Bridge) 	 <p>Permanent Voucher + Progressive Case Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elderly, disabled or other chronic illness (physical or mental health) but not high vulnerability chronically homeless • Some stability, but unable to enter workforce • Lost previous voucher/subsidized housing or unsuccessful RRH exits • Services: housing navigation/lease-up, progressive CM focused on successful tenancy and linkage to resources • Participant Rental Responsibility: 30% • Source of Resource: PHA set-asides, BHP public housing preference 	 <p>PSH Move-On</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSH participant still needing a voucher but no longer needing intensive case management • Services: voucher, light touch case management as needed, connection to resources as needed • Participant Rental Responsibility: 30% • Source of Resource: PHA set-asides, BHP Move-on voucher 	 <p>PSH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUD definition of chronic homelessness • Able to lease up with private landlords/housing authorities • Services: voucher, intensive case management, low caseloads, intensive services • Participant Rental Responsibility: 30% • Source of Resource: COC, COB, COL, DOH/MHP 	 <p>Resilient Housing and/or Sober Living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone from any category who is very high acuity and unable to lease-up/faces intense barriers (severe mental health, current known meth use, recent and severe criminal background) • High intervention housing with on-site supports/staff • Dedicated housing site • Very low barrier • Goal: graduate to a different category • Services: intensive, very low ratio case management and on-site supports, including mental/behavioral health and addiction supports
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- **Management working group** continues to be on hold during the pandemic. Implementation Team is currently revisiting how to identify the most effective purpose for this working group. HSBC remains in contact with all service providers on a regular basis.
- **High Utilizers working group** has been placed on hold during the pandemic.
- **Outreach working group** continues to meet and discuss avenues to engage clients who are unsheltered.
- **Implementation working group** continues to address and identify emerging issues and explore policy challenges to support providers.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- **SAMHSA Grant** continues to provide on-going services for housed clients via virtual case management. Housing Choice Vouchers were released (15) by Longmont Housing Authority and Boulder Housing partners. These resources have been matched.