HOMELESS SOLUTIONS FOR BOULDER COUNTY
Letter from the Executive Board . . . . . . . 2
Board Members . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3
Screening Data . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4
Demographic Data . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6
City of Boulder Data . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8
City of Longmont Data . . . . . . . . . . . . . 12
Housing Exits Data . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 16
Looking Ahead . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 18
Partners . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 19
Dear community members,

It is our pleasure to present the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County (HSBC) 2021 Annual Report. Established in 2017, HSBC is an innovative approach to addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness that includes the involvement of multiple government entities including Boulder County and the cities of Boulder and Longmont, nonprofits working to impact homelessness, and numerous other service partners.

This year saw several changes to system services including elimination of a six-month residency requirement to expand service eligibility, establishment of a landlord recruitment fund to increase available properties, and the hiring of a “Move On” Case Manager to help those in Permanent Supportive Housing move toward greater independence so that these more intensive placements become available. Finally, with an increased focus on serving those hardest to house, we secured funding to implement several recovery homes for individuals with complicated criminal backgrounds and substance use disorders. These efforts to adjust services have increased our ability to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness and will ultimately result in better outcomes.

2021 also presented unique challenges due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. In response to new variants of COVID-19 and the rising number of positive cases in the county, HSBC and partners re-opened the COVID-19 Recovery Center in the summer of 2021 to serve those in the community in need of a safe place for respite and rest, or to be quarantined. As vaccines became more widely available to the public, HSBC worked to develop a vaccination and testing strategy for individuals experiencing homelessness to improve prevention efforts and decrease spread. We continue to work with the Boulder County Public Health Department and our shelter providers to address the ever-changing nature of COVID-19.

Reflecting on this past year, we are proud to note some of our accomplishments. In 2021, we successfully helped 292 individuals exit homelessness through placement into a permanent and stable housing solution. Also, HSBC previously set a goal of establishing 200 new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units by 2022. We were able to secure 235 PSH in 2020, ahead of schedule. Working with our partners, we developed and are implementing case management standards that will ensure greater standardization and improved efficacy in this critical service area. We continue to focus our energies on expanding housing opportunities and services, as these are the surest ways to help individuals exit homelessness.

For more information about HSBC programs, our Executive Board meetings including agendas, meeting notes, and up-to-date data briefings, please visit Boulder County’s HSBC website at: www.bouldercounty.org/departments/community-services/homeless/. From our website, also find links to the City of Boulder’s homeless services data dashboard and the City of Longmont’s homeless services pages. We hope you find this annual report helpful and informative.

Sincerely,

Robin Bohannan on behalf of the Homeless Solutions for Boulder County Executive Board
Screening Data

Length of Time in Boulder County

- 402 individuals lived less than a month in Boulder.
- 137 individuals lived 1 month - 6 months in Boulder.
- 81 individuals lived at least 6 months in Boulder.
- 68 individuals lived 1 year in Boulder.
- 2 individuals lived 2 years or more in Boulder.

41% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported less than 1 month in Boulder.

Lived Prior

- 470 individuals lived inside Boulder County.
- 293 individuals lived in CO but not Boulder County.
- 207 individuals lived outside of Colorado.
- 2 individuals lived outside of the US.

Disabling Condition

- 763 individuals reported at least one disabling condition.
- 209 individuals reported at least one disabling condition that impacts their ability to live independently.

78% of individuals reported at least one disabling condition that impacts their ability to live independently.

Homeless (HUD) Met (817/84%)

- 741 individuals were homeless as defined by HUD.
- 56 individuals were literally homeless.
- 20 individuals were in transitional housing.

84% of all individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry met the Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness. 91% of those that met the definition of homelessness were experiencing literal homelessness.
Demographics

The average individual screened at Coordinated Entry identifies as client 42-year-old white, non-Latinx male.

Gender
- Male: 705
- Female: 20
- Gender Non-Conforming: 9
- Transgender: 238

Self Reported Race
- Asian: 615
- African American/Black: 93
- Caucasian: 14
- Hawaiian Pacific Islander: 4
- Native American: 47
- Other: 68

Ethnicity
- Hispanic/Latinx: 509
- Not Hispanic/Latinx: 143
- Unknown: 139

Age
- 18-24: 233
- 25-34: 252
- 35-44: 218
- 45-54: 150
- 55-64: 47
- 65+: 72
Fleeing Domestic Violence

15% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported they were actively fleeing a Domestic Violence situation.

Service Veteran Homelessness

9% of individuals reported they were a Service Veteran experiencing homelessness.

Screening Referral Results

66% referred to Housing Focused Shelter Services
33% referred to Diversion Services
5% referred to Navigation Services

Length of Time in Boulder County

51% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported less than 1 month in Boulder County

Homeless (HUD) Met (592/87%)

87% of all individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry met the Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness.
90% of those that met the definition of homelessness were experiencing literal homelessness.

Lived Prior

87% of individuals reported at least one disabling condition that impacts their ability to live independently.

Disabling Condition

Inside Boulder County
In CO but not Boulder County
Outside of Colorado
Outside of the US
The average individual screened at Coordinated Entry identifies as a 41.7-year-old white, non-Latinx, male client.
City of Longmont

Length of Time in Boulder County
- 51% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported being in Boulder County for 1 year or longer.

Homeless (HUD) Met (225/77%)
- 77% of all individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry met the Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness.
- 94% of those that met the definition of homelessness were experiencing literal homelessness.

Screening Referral Results
- 56% referred to Housing Focused Shelter
- 26% referred to Navigation
- 19% referred to Diversion
- 7% of individuals reported they were a Service Veteran experiencing homelessness.

Service Veteran Homelessness
- 7% of individuals reported they were a Service Veteran experiencing homelessness.

Fleeing Domestic Violence
- 17% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported they were actively fleeing a Domestic Violence situation.

Lived Prior
- 51% of individuals experiencing homelessness reported being in Boulder County for 1 year or longer.

Homeless (HUD) Met (225/77%)
- 77% of all individuals presenting at Coordinated Entry met the Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness.
- 94% of those that met the definition of homelessness were experiencing literal homelessness.

Disabling Condition
- 67% of individuals reported at least one disabling condition that impacts their ability to live independently.
The average individual screened at Coordinated Entry identifies as a 44.3-year-old white, non-Latinx, male client.
Housing Exits Data

Exit by Program

OneHome Exit data includes Rapid Rehousing, Reunification, Permanent Supportive Housing and other Exit Type as identified in OneHome not tied to a specific Program Type.

System In Flow/Out Flow

City Of Boulder In Flow/Out Flow

City Of Longmont In Flow/Out Flow

On average, 21% of individuals entering the system exited to a stable housing situation.

On average, 19% of individuals entering the system exited to a stable housing situation.

292 individuals experiencing homelessness exited homelessness in 2021. This number has increased as HMIS exit data was obtained in early 2022 to reflect all 2021 exits.

*HMIS/OneHome exit incorporate exits through Mental Health Partners, TGTHR, and Boulder County Rapid Rehousing programs. These exits are prioritized through the OneHome prioritization process governed by Metro Denver Homeless Initiative and reflect all housing exits for single adults ages 18 and older.
Looking Ahead

The following section describes efforts we look forward to implementing in the coming year.

Development of Substance Use Disorders Recovery Homes
In late 2021, HSBC was awarded a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant to implement recovery homes in partnership with Tribe Recovery Homes, Inc. This service model combines housing, substance abuse treatment, peer navigation, and wrap around services to address the needs of those experiencing homelessness who also struggle with substance use disorders. We anticipate full implementation of this program in the summer of 2022.

Streamlining Outreach and Engagement Efforts
HSBC was awarded an Emergency Solutions grant through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs to expand outreach efforts in the cities of Longmont and Boulder. Three-person teams were set up in each city comprised of a person with life experience in homelessness, a case manager, and an individual with mental health training. Together, teams work to build relationships with individuals experiencing homelessness who are not engaged with system services to connect them with resources and housing opportunities.

Focusing on Hard to House Populations
HSBC, in collaboration with the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, worked to secure units that could lease up individuals with lengthy criminal backgrounds. This effort is designed to overcome barriers to housing through increased landlord engagement and intensive ongoing support from case management teams that consist of a mental health professional, a case manager, and a peer support specialist.

Enhancements to Landlord Recruitment and Support
With the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to Boulder County, HSBC was able to secure flexible funds to secure vacant units for up to two months to ensure units remain available at the point a housing voucher holder is identified. This approach decreases the amount of time it takes to match someone who possesses a voucher to a housing opportunity, and maintains a more reliable stock of housing units.

Move On Strategy Development
Boulder County Housing Authorities were awarded 69 Emergency Housing Vouchers in the summer of 2021. As a strategy for using these vouchers quickly, HSBC worked with partners to implement a Move On (or step down) approach from Permanent Supportive Housing. This approach works with clients identified as no longer needing supportive case management services, but who still need a rental subsidy. Moving these individuals to more independent housing frees up Permanent Supportive Housing slots.

Looking Ahead

Focusing on Hard to House Populations
HSBC, in collaboration with the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, worked to secure units that could lease up individuals with lengthy criminal backgrounds. This effort is designed to overcome barriers to housing through increased landlord engagement and intensive ongoing support from case management teams that consist of a mental health professional, a case manager, and a peer support specialist.

Enhancements to Landlord Recruitment and Support
With the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to Boulder County, HSBC was able to secure flexible funds to secure vacant units for up to two months to ensure units remain available at the point a housing voucher holder is identified. This approach decreases the amount of time it takes to match someone who possesses a voucher to a housing opportunity, and maintains a more reliable stock of housing units.

Move On Strategy Development
Boulder County Housing Authorities were awarded 69 Emergency Housing Vouchers in the summer of 2021. As a strategy for using these vouchers quickly, HSBC worked with partners to implement a Move On (or step down) approach from Permanent Supportive Housing. This approach works with clients identified as no longer needing supportive case management services, but who still need a rental subsidy. Moving these individuals to more independent housing frees up Permanent Supportive Housing slots.

Our Government Partners
- Boulder County Community Services
- Boulder County Housing and Human Services
- Boulder County Public Health
- Boulder County Housing Authority
- Boulder County Jail
- Boulder Housing Partners
- City of Boulder Housing and Human Services
- City of Boulder Municipal Court
- City of Boulder Police Department
- City of Longmont Community Services
- City of Longmont Police Department
- Longmont Housing Authority
- Longmont Public Safety
- Metro Denver Homeless Initiative
- Veterans Affairs
- 20th Judicial Probation

Our Regional Partners
- Boulder Community Health
- Boulder County AIDS Project
- Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
- Bridge House
- Clinica/Peoples Clinic
- Feet Forward
- Focus Re-Entry
- Harvest of Hope
- HOPE Longmont
- Mental Health Partners
- Mother House
- Nederland Interagency Council on Homeless
- Encampments
- Recovery Café Longmont
- The Inn Between
- TGTHR (formerly Attention Homes)
- TRIBE Recovery Homes