Pathways Home Colorado:
How Fort Lyon Ties In

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Office of Governor John W. Hickenlooper
Introductions
The State Plan: Highlights of Pathways Home Colorado

- Development of State Plan
- Formation of the Homeless Prevention Team
- Consolidated Housing Authorities
- Colorado Counts
The State Plan: Who’s involved

- Grand Valley Catholic Outreach, Don and Lynn Burnes Family Foundation, La Puente, Division of Housing, One Congregation–One Family, Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, Homeward 2020, Montrose Community Foundation, Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, Housing/Homeless Funders Collaboration, El Paso County Homeward Pikes Peak, Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, Syntrinsic Investment Council, Petroleum America, Regional Housing Alliance, Colorado Department of Human Services, Bridge Emergency Shelter, Denver’s Road Home, Corporation for Supportive Housing
Mandate from the State Plan: What will be required under Pathways Home Colorado?

- State Action Plan specifically calls for implementing solutions that place and maintain people in safe and stable housing.
- End chronic and veteran homelessness by 2015.
- Vision of all Coloradans having a place to call home.
Homeless individuals need housing, supportive services for substance abuse and mental illness, and vocational training.

Without immediate access to such services, chronically homeless individuals will remain homeless.

Many homeless individuals struggle to recover within the familiar surroundings of their current urban community.
Information on the facility
Why this kind of facility is needed to house Colorado’s homeless veterans

- Chronically homeless individuals in the Denver area exhibit a combination of disabling conditions
- Other solutions exist while DOLA and other VASH awardees are working to streamline housing processes
- Not all of Colorado’s veterans are from the Denver Metro Area
- $11,694 vs. $43,239
Colorado’s “Gateway” for permanent housing

- Reintegration into the veteran’s home community is the primary outcome
- Statewide initiative launched in January 2012 to identify veterans’ needs
- The VA will be asked to fund up to 160 transitional housing units at Fort Lyon
- Buildings #7 and #8 have already been identified for housing use
Colorado’s “Gateway” for permanent housing

• Statewide initiative launched in January 2012 to identify veterans’ needs

• We are asking the VA for:
  ➢ 40 VASH vouchers assigned to Fort Lyon which will lead to permanent housing elsewhere
  ➢ 20 “per diem” beds at Fort Lyon
  ➢ Two additional case managers in rural areas.
A collaborative network helping homeless veterans

- This facility is a long term commitment to end veterans homelessness
- Fort Lyon will house referrals from the extensive outreach network
- Chronically homeless veterans, our most vulnerable veterans, will be provided the opportunities to succeed in permanent housing
Operating under the Therapeutic Community Model

- Goal is to foster personal growth
- The therapeutic community represents a highly structured environment with defined boundaries, both moral and ethical.
- People in a therapeutic community are members of a family, not patients
- Peer pressure is often the catalyst that converts criticism and personal insight into positive change.
“With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed.”

~Abraham Lincoln
Ending Homelessness

“Being deliberate in how we prevent and end homelessness is not only the right thing to do, but the smart thing to do. Experiences across the country and in Colorado tell us that homelessness takes an economic toll on our citizens, our cities, our businesses, and our communities.”

–Governor John W. Hickenlooper
Q & A
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