



Community Presentation
May 19, 2016

Overview

We are...a network of churches serving the homeless of Douglas County by providing a temporary safe shelter to receive *rest, meals, and connection* during the winter months.

Hidden Homelessness

Couch surfing

Often referred to as “doubling up,” individuals and families sleep on friend’s couches, on the floor, and in unfinished basements.

Hotel Vouchers

Community agencies and churches provide a stay at a local hotel; usually for 1-14 days. Oftentimes residents must work with multiple agencies to provide hotel vouchers.

Sleeping in cars

Parking lots of 24 hours businesses are a safe place for a homeless person to park a car and sleep for the night.

Understanding the problem

Fact

In the 2014-2015 school year, there were **900** students identified as homeless in Douglas County School District system.

Fact

In Douglas County, single mothers are **3** times more likely to use government benefits.

Fact

\$24 is the hourly wage a family must earn to afford a 2 bedroom apartment in Douglas County.

Our Community's Problem

Douglas County lacks a coordinated system of care for residents experiencing homelessness; especially during the winter months.

Coordinated System of Entry

- Create multiple points of entry
- Establish community assessment
- Respond with appropriate intervention



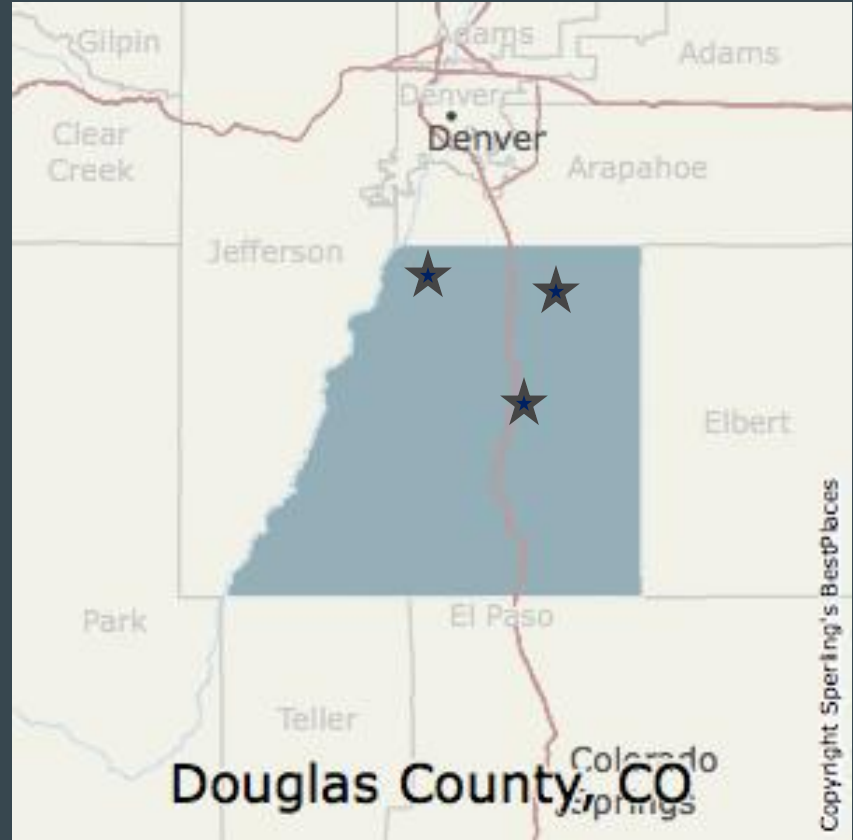
Project Objective

To provide shelter to **single women and women with children** during our coldest months (November thru March) by utilizing the resources of our community congregations.



How the Program Works

From November 1 through March 31, churches in Castle Rock, Highlands Ranch and Parker join together to provide shelter for single women and women with children who are homeless in Douglas County. Each overnight host church will host the shelter guests one night per week.



Our Guests

The fastest growing population experiencing homelessness is families. It is estimated that 69% of Douglas County's homeless are single moms with children.

Guests are pre-screened by partnering agencies (e.g. SECOR, DC Cares, Parker Task Force, Douglas/Elbert Task Force)

Guests fill out application and
undergo a warrant check

Our Churches

“Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter-- when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?” Isaiah 58:7 (NIV)

Overnight Host Churches provide shelter for up to 40 guests one night a week during the winter months.

Volunteers provide a hot dinner,
continental breakfast and sack lunch.

Additional services (showers, haircuts,
tutoring, clothing, etc.) may be
offered by the church

A Typical Night

Guests reserve space by 12 pm

Shelter doors open at 5 pm with the expectation that guests arrive by 6 pm

Dinner is served family style at 6:30 pm

No guests are admitted after 8 pm

Lights out occurs at 9:30 pm

Guests wake by 6 am

Belongings and mats are packed up

Continental breakfast is offered from 6-7 am

Guests prepare a sack lunch

All guests must leave the church by 7 am



Paths to Participation

Overnight Host Church

Welcomes guests into church home one night a week from November thru March.

Supporting Church

Partners with an Overnight Host Church to provide volunteers, meals or other assistance.

Affiliate Church

Assists the program by offering financial assistance, in-kind services, and other specific support.

Overnight Host Churches provide overnight **REST, MEALS,**
and CONNECTION to single women and single moms with
children during our coldest months.

Overnight Host Church Investment



Space

Sleeping and Eating area to accommodate up to 40 guests plus volunteers. Additional space needed for storage.



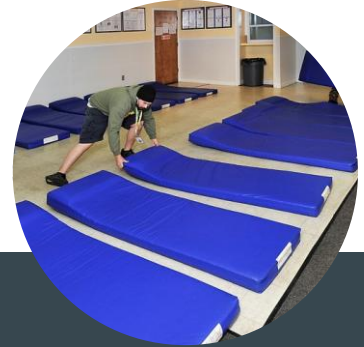
Volunteers

A dedicated group of volunteers who will be trained to assist in providing a place of rest and connection.



Food

Volunteers will provide a hot dinner, continental breakfast and items to make sack lunches.



Financial Support

An maximum initial investment of \$4700 for sleeping mats. Ongoing program costs are minimal at around \$475 per month per church.

Projected Budget

Upfront Costs	Ongoing Costs (October thru March)
Sleeping Mats \$70/ea (45/church) \$3200	Administration \$300/month
Blankets \$1200 (can be donated)	Gas Cards for guests \$150/month
Supplies \$250	Miscellaneous supplies \$25/month (mat wipes, pillows, paper products)
Software and Technology \$50	
Total Upfront Costs \$4700	Total Ongoing Costs \$475/month

Additional Needs

In-Kind Opportunities



Meals

Blankets for Mats

Pillows/Pillowcases

Towels

Toiletry items

Organization



Council (Representatives of network churches)



Administrator



Lead Volunteers



Volunteer Teams

Our Growing Network

Overnight Host Churches

Cherry Hills Community Church
(Highlands Ranch)

Crossroads Community Church
(Parker)

The Rock (Castle Rock)

Southeast Christian Church (Parker)

Your Name
Here



WSN Partnerships

Catholic Charities

The Crisis Center

DC Cares

Douglas County Human Services

Douglas County School District

Douglas County Sheriff's Department

Douglas/Elbert Task Force

Parker Task Force

SECOR

Next Steps

- **June 30** Church commitments
- **September 1** Volunteer Coordinators onboard
- **October 1** Volunteer training for Overnight Host Churches
- **November 1** Implementation of Winter Shelter Network



Contact Information

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