



## **ARRA FUNDS AT WORK IN COLORADO**

*Providing Housing, Healthcare and Supportive Services for the Homeless*

*\$7,852,200 – Increased Services – 25 New Jobs*

### **HHS – HRSA Capital Improvement Program**

**\$ 680,255**

The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless has received \$680,255 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Recovery Act – Capital Improvement Program for its Stout Street Clinic. Funds will be used to resolve pressing health center facility and equipment needs to provide integrated health and mental health services to more than 16,000 homeless men, women and children each year. In particular these funds have allowed the Coalition to purchase an Electronic Health Records System (EHR) to improve patient care and health outcomes. This system will also improve the quality and safety of patient care and achieve efficiencies in the Coalition's multi-site healthcare delivery system to support improved clinical decision-making as well as provide enhanced health information for patients. Implementation of the new EHR will allow visits when patients most need care, thereby promoting efficiency and advancing higher-quality treatment. At least four new full- and part-time jobs will result in Information Technology at the Coalition.

### **HHS – HRSA Increased Demand for Service Program**

**\$ 689,820**

In recent years, only one-third of those requiring healthcare services have been able to obtain such services. Unfortunately, this problem began to escalate in early 2008. For example, the Coalition's Stout Street Clinic has seen a 20 percent increase in homeless patient visits over the past year. For the first time in almost 25 years, the Coalition's Mental Health Clinic has been forced to create a waiting list for new homeless patients; more than 300 persons are on this list today, seeking treatment for their mental illness. The \$689,820 the Coalition has received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Recovery Act – Increased Demand for Service Program will now enable us to respond to 40 percent of the increased need, providing treatment for 1,000 mental health patients in a two-year period, while creating four new jobs in psychiatry, clinical social work and nursing.

### **HUD – Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program**

**\$6,482,125**

The ARRA Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) was created to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless—many due to the economic crisis—and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house families and individuals who are already homeless. Under this program, the Coalition will receive more than \$6 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, to be targeted and prioritized to serve 1,000 households that are most in need of this assistance to obtain or maintain stable housing. The Coalition will serve as a lead agency, working collaboratively with 39 service agencies across the state to serve homeless and at-risk families and individuals, and to link them to other ARRA funded programs such as weatherization, green job training, supportive employment, unemployment assistance and other needed services. It will also provide temporary rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance. Seventeen new counseling jobs will be created throughout Colorado.