



FT. LYON SUPPORTIVE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY

CREATING LASTING SOLUTIONS

The Fort Lyon Supportive Residential Community provides recovery oriented transitional housing to homeless individuals with mental health and substance abuse disabilities. The program combines housing with counseling, educational, vocational and employment services for up to 300 homeless and formerly homeless persons from across the state of Colorado, with an emphasis on serving homeless veterans.

The Program is located at the former Fort Lyon VA Hospital in Bent County, Colorado and is part of state and community efforts to re-purpose the facility to meet the needs of homeless individuals across the state and to catalyze the re-use of the facility to meet a variety of community needs.

Stable Recovery

The program model allows homeless persons to leave the community in which they continue to struggle with the cycles of addiction and homelessness, for up to two years, in order to help them attain sobriety and mental health stability. As a result, participants will gain the resources necessary to maintain long-term recovery, employment and overall self-sufficiency.

The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless provides the transitional housing and recovery oriented supportive services. Bent County is the property manager for the facility. The program provides a recovery environment of on-site and community-based education, employment, substance-abuse treatment, mental health and health care services for its residents. Collaborative service providers include Otero Junior College, Lamar Community College, Southeast Mental Health Services, Prowers Medical Center and Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.

Program participants will fully engage in the overall operations of the campus including food services, facilities maintenance, grounds maintenance, housekeeping and waste water management—in conjunction with their daily participation in group and individual counseling. Additionally, the Colleges will provide customized educational and vocational training in computer technology, construction industries, health services, agricultural sciences and more.

Reintegration

Outreach and referrals of participants into the program will come from homeless service agencies from across the state. Upon completion of the program, residents will be assisted to obtain housing and employment as they return to their community of choice through partnerships with local and state-wide organizations. It is also anticipated that qualified graduates will have access to housing subsidies through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to ensure long-term housing stability.

Community Investment

Initial funding to establish and operate the Fort Lyon Supportive Residential Community has been provided by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Additional funds to sustain the program will be obtained through federal, state, local and private sources, including commitments from Bent County Office of Economic Development for local transportation and from Otero Junior College to provide an on-site computer lab.

■ September 2013

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing
- Colorado Health Care Policy and Finance Authority
- Colorado Division of Behavioral Health
- Bent County Commissioners and Office of Economic Development
- Otero Junior College
- Lamar Community College
- Southeast Mental Health Services
- Prowers Medical Center
- Valley Wide Health Systems, Inc.
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

HOUSING
TREATMENT
EDUCATION
EMPLOYMENT
RECOVERY



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