

Press Release
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Colorado Coalition for the Homeless's John Parvensky named recipient of the Pinnacle Award, the top honor in Denver Business Journal's Most Admired CEO awards program.

The Denver Business Journal's 2022 Most Admired CEO awards program celebrates 20 top-ranking execs whose vision is shaping their organizations, sectors and the community at large. This year, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless President & CEO John Parvensky was named one of two recipients of the Pinnacle Award, given to executives whose lifetime of leadership and achievement has driven change in both their organizations and the industry in which they work.

John Parvensky, who announced his upcoming retirement earlier this year, built the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless from a small advocacy group in 1985 into a nationally recognized leader in providing integrated health care and building innovative housing for people experiencing and exiting homelessness.

In 1985, Parvensky, a law school graduate from the University of Pennsylvania arrived in Denver and checked into the Bugs Bunny Motel on West Colfax — the only place he could afford. He started helping out in a Denver neighborhood with few resources at a one-room free clinic run by the Sisters of Loretto. Over the next three and a half decades, Parvensky grew that single clinic into a \$100 million organization that provides high-quality affordable and supportive housing, comprehensive medical and mental health care, childcare, substance use treatment, employment training, and other services to thousands of Coloradans each year.

Today, the Coalition operates 21 residential properties and provides rental assistance for another 2,000 tenants in apartments owned by other landlords. The organization also serves more than 15,000 individuals yearly at the Stout Street Health Center, a federally qualified health center, and additional satellite clinics that provide medical care to Coloradans in need. The Coalition also operates the Fort Lyon Supportive Residential Community in Las Animas, Colorado for residents exiting homelessness who are struggling with a substance use disorder and who are ready to enter the pathway to recovery.

Previously, Parvensky has been elected to the Affordable Housing Hall of Fame and won awards from the ACLU of Colorado and several national organizations advocating for housing and health care. He has served as Director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. Mayor Michael Hancock put it simply: "John Parvensky has been a real pain in the ass the way he fights for the homeless. And that has made him a huge asset for the City of Denver."

Earlier this month, the Coalition announced the grand opening of a mixed-use development, the Renaissance Legacy Lofts and the newly dedicated John Parvensky Stout Street Recuperative Care Center. At the grand opening Denver Mayor Hancock also presented a proclamation declaring October 6 “John Parvensky Day” in Denver, and presented Parvensky with the city challenge coin, which the Mayor awards to individuals who make extraordinary differences in the Denver community.

More than 100 nominees were judged by a Denver Business Journal editorial panel and scored based on their contributions to company success, civic engagement, career achievements and other details submitted through the nomination forms.

The winners of the 2022 Most Admired CEO awards will be celebrated at a dinner hosted at the Ritz Carlton on November 17. All honorees will share their insights in a special section of DBJ's November 18 print edition.

About Colorado Coalition for the Homeless:

The mission of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless is to work collaboratively toward the prevention of homelessness and the creation of lasting solutions for people experiencing and at-risk of homelessness throughout Colorado. The Coalition advocates for and provides a continuum of housing and a variety of services to improve the health, well-being and stability of those it serves. Since its founding, the organization has earned state and national recognition for its integrated healthcare, housing and service programs. The Coalition’s comprehensive approach addresses the causes of homelessness, as well as the consequences, offering critical assistance to over 22,000 individuals and families each year. Learn more at www.coloradocoalition.org.