

Dear CCH Community,

I have been serving in the role of President & CEO for the Colorado Coalition for the past month—interacting with our amazing staff and relearning the ropes almost two decades after my time in earlier days of CCH. I'm just 30 feet from where I first worked for CCH in rural health, education, and advocacy. Unfortunately, many of the challenges for people experiencing homelessness have remained the same or worsened over time due to the persistence of structural issues. Despite this, I am full of hope. I am ready to build on the foundation of this nationally renowned organization that John Parvensky led, and so many wonderful staff have built, for over 39 years.



*President & CEO Britta Fisher with her original nameplate, by her original cubicle at CCH*

At CCH, we start from the core belief that housing and health care are basic human needs. We have an impressive team of over 750 dedicated and caring professionals who are passionate about their work. We work from an effective, evidence-based, trauma-informed, and person-centered model that has been proven to create lasting solutions to homelessness. So, what can I bring to an organization that already does so much? The answer is simple ... *MORE. More Colorado, More Coalition, More Community.*

**More Colorado:** Communities across the state are awakening to their role in creating housing stability and addressing homelessness. But critical actions are still needed in communities across our state, and we are poised to be a partner in delivering lasting solutions.

**More Coalition:** We are exceptional experts and practitioners in this space. We must continue to create partnerships and build existing collaborations to leverage the strengths of others. In this way, we will build a robust statewide strategy and response far beyond our organization.

**More Community:** People with the current experience of homelessness have the best insights into solutions. I value our community members' feedback and will strive to consistently incorporate this perspective in our work.

Even as we strive to do more, we must acknowledge that systems got us here. Dismantling and rebuilding systems is no easy feat. It is our responsibility to take on this challenge at the systemic level and imagine solutions beyond what has been deemed possible. What does it look like to not only have our neighbors stably housed and thriving, but with access and opportunity to everything they need to contribute and participate fully in community?

Long before I worked in this sector, I was a farm girl in Minnesota. Deep down, I like to be close to the ground, to plant seeds and watch them grow. Throughout my career, I have taken the most joy in seeing places and people come alive in new ways. I am excited to be back at this mission-driven organization that I have admired for so long and see how we can grow together.

Preventing homelessness and creating lasting solutions means that we must continue the clarion call in our community, our Colorado, and our nation. I look forward to working together with any and every member of the community dedicated to this cause.

*Britta Fisher, President & CEO, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless*