

News Release
Monday, December 1, 2025



Claudia Morlan
Vice President, Marketing & Communications, YMCA of Metropolitan Denver
720-524-2733, cmorlan@denverymca.org

Cathy Alderman
Chief Communications and Public Policy Officer, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
303-319-9155, cathy.alderman@coloradocoalition.org

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and YMCA of Metropolitan Denver to Expand Affordable Housing and Community Impact Downtown

Sale of Historic Downtown Property to become Converted Affordable Rental Units

Monday, December 1, 2025 – Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH or the Coalition) and the YMCA of Metropolitan Denver (Denver YMCA) announced today the sale of the Downtown Denver YMCA property at 25 E. 16th Avenue to CCH.

The decision reflects a shared commitment to serving Denver’s evolving needs. CCH and the Denver YMCA have shared the historic building for more than 20 years. In 2001, the YMCA sold a majority of the property to the Coalition, retaining ~45,000 square feet. Both non-profit organizations have operated side-by-side – CCH providing permanent supportive housing on the upper floors, and the YMCA offering wellness programs, adult sports and summer camp on the lower levels. Respectively, each organization has served thousands in the Denver community.

As Denver faces a growing affordable housing crisis, the two organizations saw an opportunity to create even greater impact. As of 2025, there are only [26 affordable and available rental homes for every 100 households](#) with extremely low incomes in Colorado, and the landscape in Denver is even worse, [with the average rental unit costing over \\$1,800 per month](#). The transfer of the remaining property allows CCH to expand and reconfigure the property into affordable rental and supportive housing units, ensuring lasting solutions for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

“These affordable homes in downtown Denver are precious and desperately needed. We are proud to partner with the Denver YMCA to further both long-time Colorado-serving missions while honoring the legacy of this historic building.” said CCH President & CEO Britta Fisher.

“For 150 years, the YMCA has evolved to meet our community’s changing needs,” said Breezy Bolden, president and CEO of the Denver YMCA of Metropolitan Denver. “We’ll continue to do what we do best—providing quality early childhood education, helping youth build confidence through camp and out of school time programs, swim lessons and sports, and supporting the physical and mental well-being of adults through our wellness programs.”

Operations at the Downtown Denver YMCA will conclude on December 30, 2025, and all current members will be offered transfers to any of the YMCA’s five metro Denver locations: Schlessman Family YMCA in University Hills, Duncan Family YMCA in Arvada, Aurora YMCA at Wheatlands, Littleton YMCA or the Southwest YMCA.

The Denver YMCA employs 16 full-time or part-time staff members who serve the Downtown YMCA, and each will be offered positions at other Denver YMCA branches or child care and Out of School Time programs.

The sale is expected to close in early January 2026. The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless has planned renovations, which will include unit upgrades, expanded community and service delivery spaces and the addition of a social enterprise that serves residents and the broader neighborhood. Plans also call for preserving the building’s historic character – the unique downtown building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2004 – including the basketball court that has long symbolized the YMCA’s role in bringing people together through health and community. Renovations are expected to begin in 2027.

As both organizations look ahead, their partnership represents more than a property transfer—it’s a reflection of Denver’s continued capacity for collaboration and compassion.

More information about the history of the YMCA and the historic 16th Street building can be found at denverymca.org/history. Photos available [here](#).

[Answers to some frequently asked questions from the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless available here.](#)
[Answers to some frequently asked questions from the Denver YMCA are available here.](#)

#

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 nearly 20,000 individuals and families each year. Learn more at www.coloradocoalition.org.

About the YMCA of Metropolitan Denver

The YMCA of Metropolitan Denver is dedicated to the health and well-being of all. We are for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Our YMCA operates 6 wellness centers, 40+ program sites and 4 contracted locations across Denver, Jefferson, Arapahoe, Adams and Douglas counties serving 75,000+ individuals. The Y is one of 2,500+ YMCA organizations nationwide, collectively helping more than 13 million people learn, grow and thrive. To join, donate, or get more information, visit denverymca.org.