



HOMeward ADAMS

homelessness reduction strategic framework

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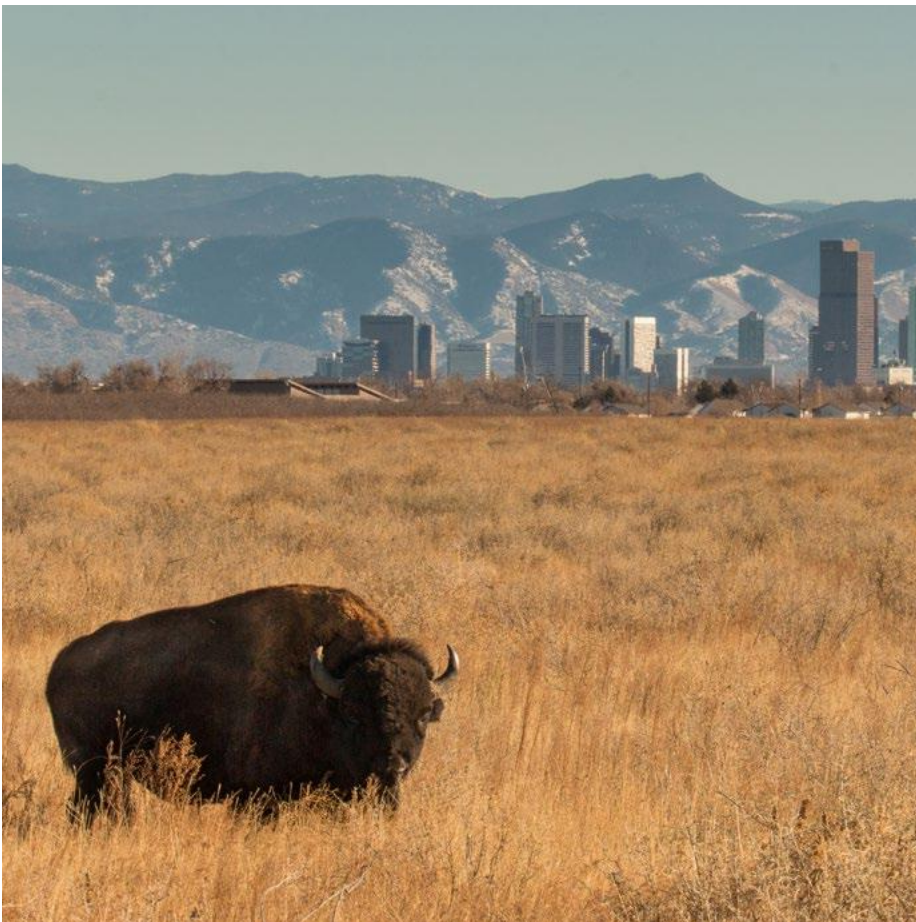
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adams county **MISSION**

*To responsibly
serve the Adams
County community
with integrity and
innovation.*

adams county **VISION**

*Adams County is
the most innovative
and inclusive county
in America for
all families and
businesses.*



COMMUNITY SAFETY & WELL-BEING (CSWB)

mission, pillars & principles



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following partners who offered their expertise, patience, knowledge, and dedication to create this document and more profoundly for their diligence and care in addressing the needs of our homeless population in Adams County:

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THE OVERVIEW

Homeward Adams embodies the efforts and objectives as well as the outcomes needed to bring about meaningful solutions to residents experiencing homelessness in our community. These efforts, though not new, are meant to capture current work in the county and align efforts of municipalities, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and other partners to ensure homelessness is a rare, brief, and one-time experience.

Various efforts have been made over the years to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness. Adams County Coalition for the Homeless (ACCH) was formed to build a network of partners and service providers.

This action plan serves to provide a roadmap for how the county will support, guide, and unite efforts to improve systems, elevate people, and improve neighborhoods.

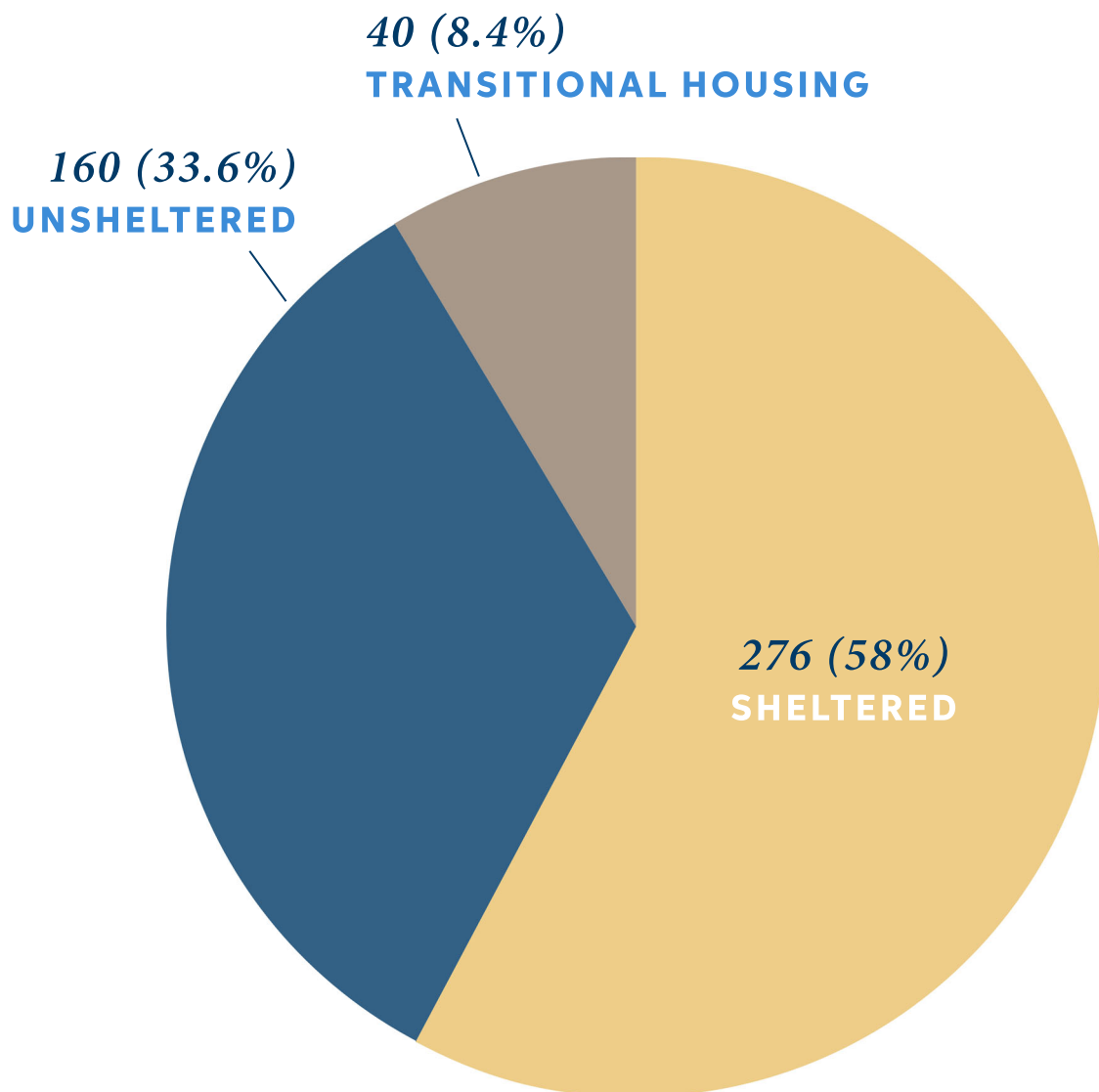
The implementation of this plan will be overseen by the CSWB Poverty Reduction team.

Below is a snapshot of what homelessness looks like in Adams County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) *by living situation*

This graphic provides insight into the number of residents who were living in either a sheltered, unsheltered, or transitional housing situation. The PIT count records the number of people experiencing homelessness in a single night each January.



TOTAL: 476 (100%)

**Please see the appendix for definitions of each. All data from 2020.*

PIT POPULATIONS *by individual characteristics*

This shows the overall number of Adams County residents based on individual characteristics.

POPULATION	SHELTERED	UNSHELTERED	TRANSITIONAL	TOTAL
Single Adults	217	153	16	386
Living with a Disabling Condition	115	62	21	198
Chronic Homeless	85	85	0	170
Mental Health Condition	70	71	17	158
Chronic Health Condition	71	58	13	142
Substance Use	69	59	7	135
Newly Homeless	66	0	25	91
Traumatic Brain Injury	9	24	0	33
Veteran	15	17	8	40
Fleeing Domestic Violence	27	0	0	27
Youth Who are Unaccompanied	10	0	0	10

**Numbers may duplicate depending on circumstance (i.e. an individual may have co-occurring needs).*

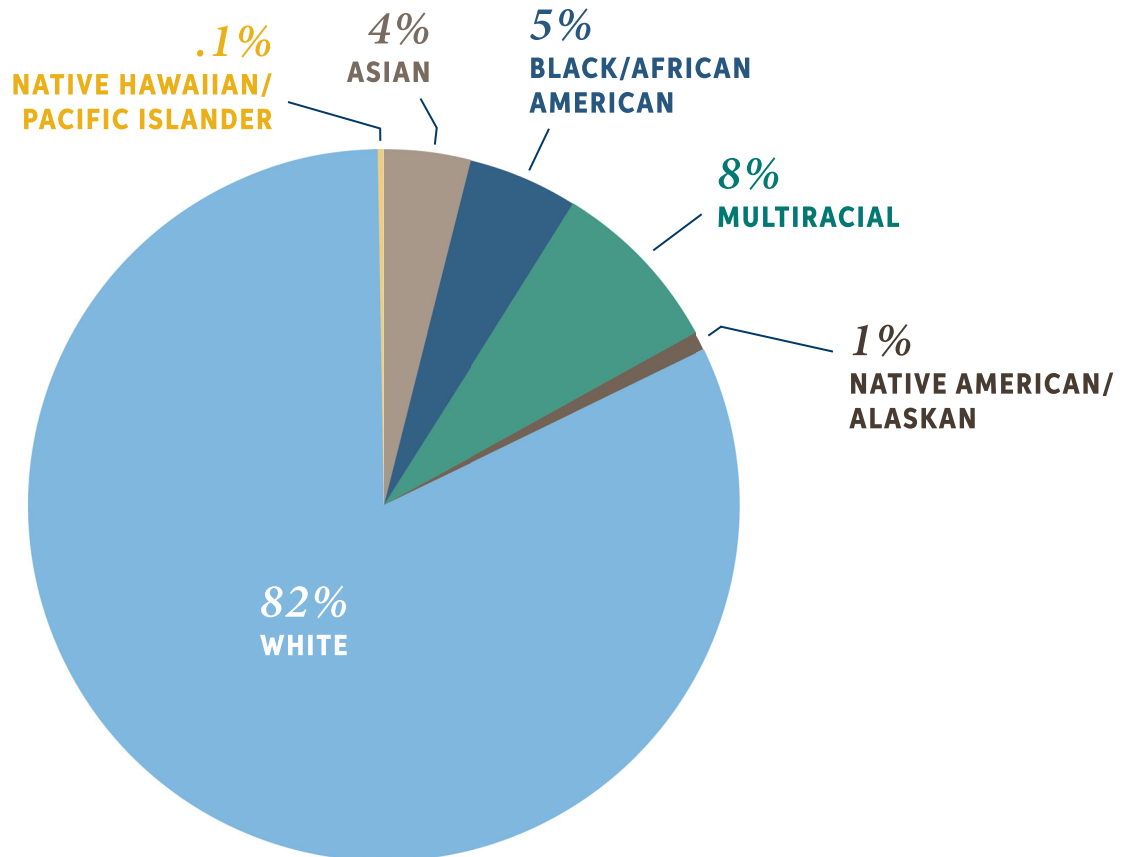
PIT POPULATIONS *by race and ethnicity*

GENERAL POPULATION NUMBERS

23%

HISPANIC/LATINX

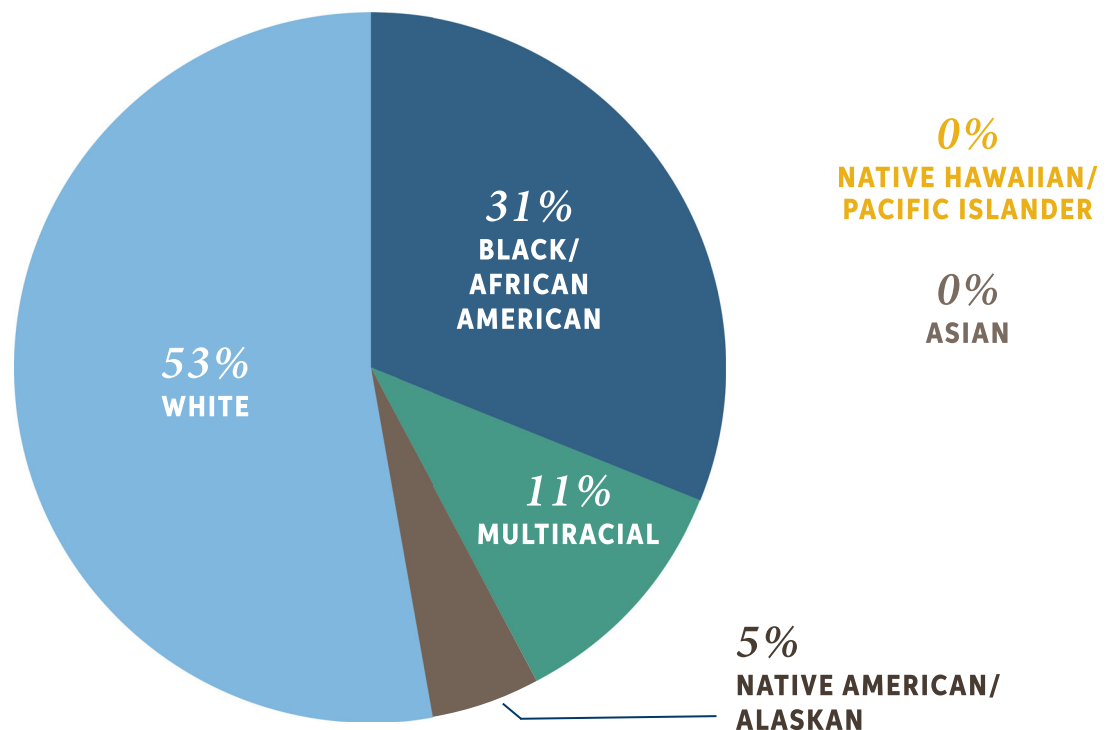
The PIT count records Hispanic/Latinx as an ethnicity, not a race, so Hispanic/Latinx is indicated separate from the pie chart.



PERCENTAGE IN THE PIT

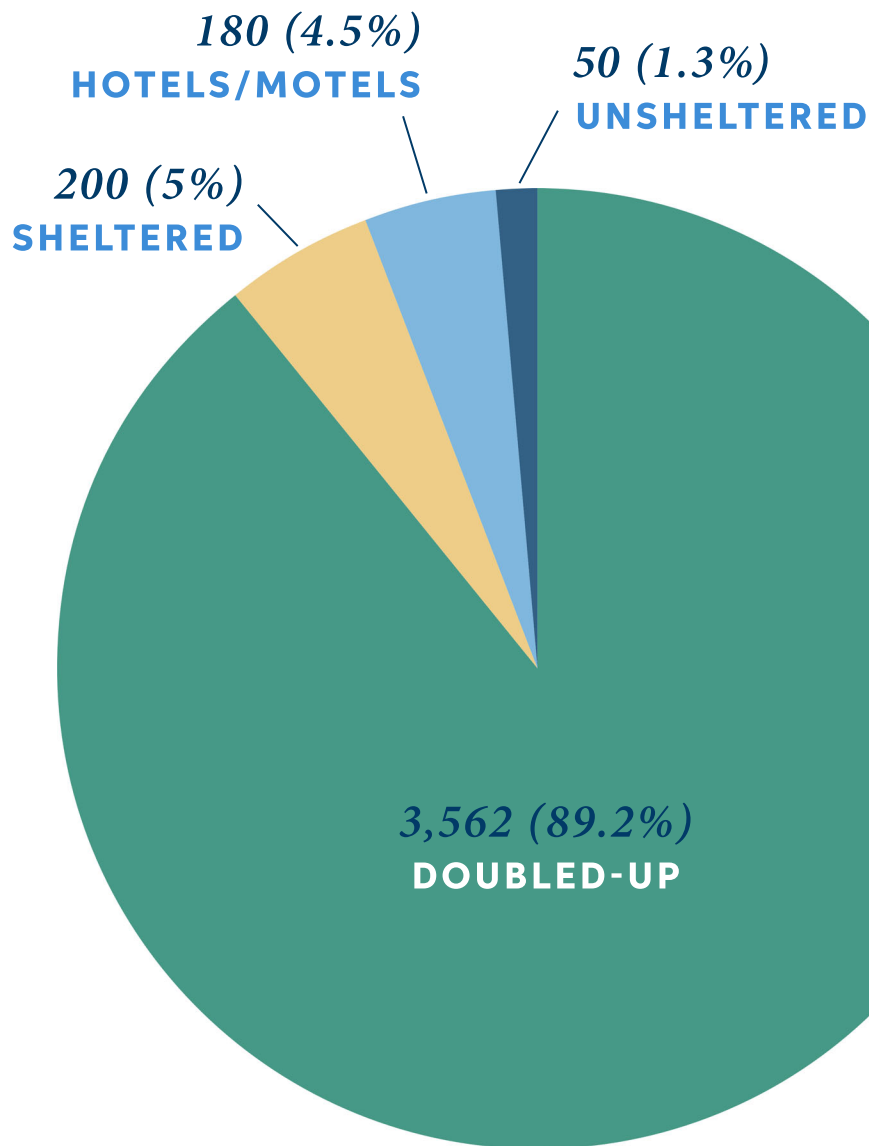
21%

HISPANIC/LATINX



MCKINNEY-VENTO* *by living situation*

McKinney-Vento data is collected by school districts to identify students experiencing homelessness.



TOTAL: 3,992 (100%)

**Please see the appendix for definitions of each. All data from 2020.*

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

With basic information using data from the PIT count in Adams County, the 2020 goal of this document is to provide high-level strategic areas of focus to bolster the needs of residents experiencing homelessness.



There are three focus areas to allow for services to be rendered to support efforts along a continuum of needs:



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

We recognize there is already not enough housing. To prevent homelessness, we strive to maintain our residents in their current housing situation. We acknowledge preventing homelessness from happening is not only cost effective, but also keeps families and individuals from entering the cycle of homelessness. Many families are one paycheck away from losing their homes, and our primary goal is to keep people in their homes.



STRENGTHEN THE HOUSING CONTINUUM

We recognize it is imperative to create more affordable and attainable housing for people in the lower (lowest) range of socioeconomic status. There is a drastic increase in the cost of housing, yet wages have remained stagnant. We recognize the utility in having a range of housing options throughout the housing continuum to meet the diverse needs of residents.



HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

We must meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. We diminish barriers to services by meeting people where they are. We value the importance of identifying what the needs and data show to drive our efforts, policies, and programs.

In order to achieve our goals, it is crucial to work locally, regionally, and nationally with partners, align our efforts, and find funding necessary to support these efforts.



POVERTY IN ADAMS COUNTY

Having established information about those who are experiencing homelessness in Adams County, this section will provide an overview of what poverty looks like in the county.

RESIDENT CHARACTERISTICS *

**Omni needs assessment.*

511,868

ADAMS COUNTY RESIDENTS (approx.)

9.2%

LIVING IN POVERTY

(greater than 47,000 residents pre-COVID-19)

11%

LATINX

12%

**CHILDREN
UNDER 18**

12%

**HAVE LESS THAN
A HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATION**

50%

**MEN
(approx.)**

50%

**WOMEN
(approx.)**



WAGE CONSIDERATIONS

Minimum wage in Adams County is more than \$5 lower than the standard. About half of Adams County residents' incomes do not meet the cost of living standard. The minimum wage in Adams County is \$11.10. This is lower than the self-sufficiency standard for people living in the county, which is currently at \$16.17. A family of four in Adams County would need to have two people each earning \$16.17 an hour to meet their basic needs. Wages for males compared to females in Adams County are significantly different. Yearly wages for males is approximately \$49,631 compared to females at \$40,852.

~50%

**ADAMS COUNTY
RESIDENTS DO NOT
MEET THE STANDARD
COST OF LIVING**

AVERAGE YEARLY WAGES

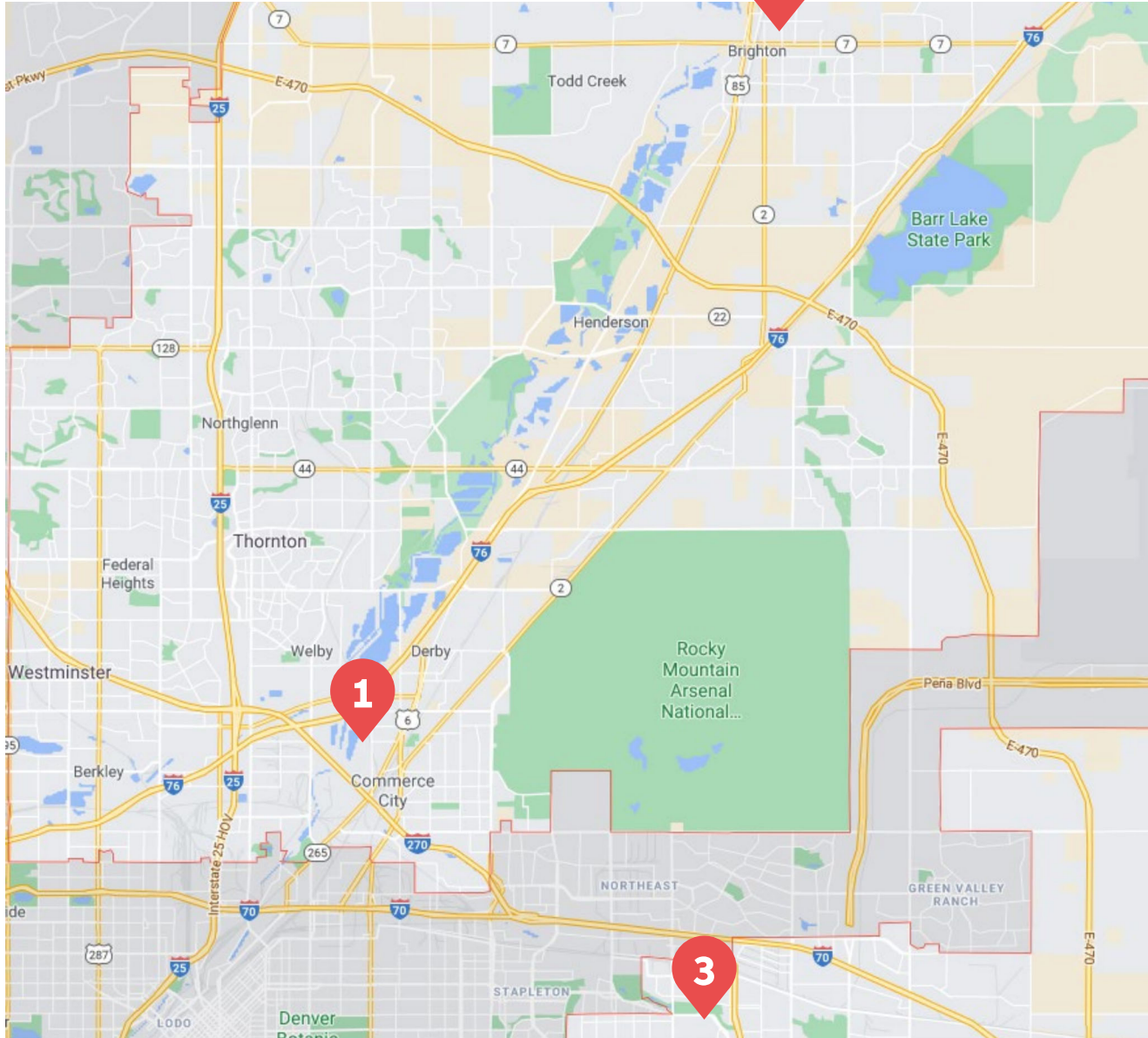
\$49,631
MALES

\$40,852
FEMALES

\$16.17 — **\$11.10** =
SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD ADAMS COUNTY MINIMUM WAGE

\$5.07 LOWER THAN THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD

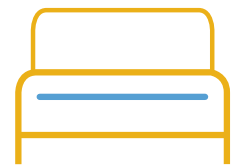
SHELTER AVAILABILITY



- 1. ACCESS HOUSING** **2. ALMOST HOME** **3. COMITIS CRISIS CENTER** * **COLD WEATHER CARE**
 (rotates throughout the county at participating Adams County churches)

There are a total of 330 shelter beds in the county and of the 330 beds, on average, 282 are used. This means there is an 85.5% utilization rate. Given the number of people who are cost-burdened, who are living in an unsheltered, transitional, or otherwise unstable situation, residents are in need of more services and housing options than currently available.

85.5%
**SHELTER BED
 UTILIZATION RATE**



Utilization rates tend to be under 100% due to barriers such as eligibility requirements, shelter locations, and previous experiences.

FOCUS AREA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following provides an outline of efforts to address homelessness in the county through three focus areas:



**HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION**



**STRENGTHEN
THE HOUSING
CONTINUUM**



**HOMELESSNESS
SERVICES**



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

We recognize there is already not enough housing. To prevent homelessness, we strive to maintain our residents in their current housing situation. We acknowledge preventing homelessness from happening is not only cost effective, but also keeps families and individuals from entering the cycle of homelessness. Many families are one paycheck away from losing their homes, and our primary goal is to keep people in their homes.

goals



INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR THOSE LIVING IN MOBILE HOME PARKS AND EXTENDED STAY MOTELS

OBJECTIVE 1: Create a strategy with municipalities in Adams County to align on mobile home park and extended stay motel regulations. *(March 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Create an enforcement strategy for mobile home park regulations. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Track and prevent mobile home park evictions and displacements. *(Dec. 2022)*



INCREASE INVESTMENT IN ONE-TIME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

OBJECTIVE 1: Keep residents housed by supporting existing entities offering one-time homelessness prevention assistance. *(June 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Provide pathways to exit homelessness by supporting existing entities offering rental deposit assistance. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Reduce barriers to accessing one-time financial assistance. *(March 2022)*



EXPAND LEGAL AID ASSISTANCE

OBJECTIVE 1: Track usage of legal aid assistance in Adams County. *(Dec. 2022)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Maintain and expand offerings of legal aid assistance. *(Dec. 2022)*



INVOLVE HOUSING MANAGERS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN REDUCING POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS

OBJECTIVE 1: Increase renting options to those with rental barriers. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Establish housing stability program that works directly with housing managers. *(Jan. 2022)*



REFINE POLICIES IMPACTING PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify portions of county and municipal code that disproportionately impact people experiencing homelessness. *(Jan. 2022)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Work with Community & Economic Development team to develop policies that encourage the creation of affordable housing by external developers. *(Dec. 2022)*



STRENGTHEN THE HOUSING CONTINUUM

We strive to create more affordable and attainable housing for people in the lower (lowest) range of socioeconomic status. There is a drastic increase in the cost of housing, yet wages have remained stagnant. We recognize the utility in having a range of housing options throughout the housing continuum to meet the diverse needs of residents.

goals



EXPAND HOUSING CONTINUUM EFFORTS

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify housing continuum gaps in Adams County. *(July 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Identify funding to close continuum gaps. *(Dec. 2021)*



IDENTIFY PLAN TO INCREASE ALTERNATIVE HOUSING

OBJECTIVE 1: Present alternative housing options to Adams County leadership including tiny homes, affordable housing cooperatives, co-housing, accessory dwelling units. *(July 2021)*



EXPAND INTERIM SHELTER OPTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1: Increase usage of motel vouchers to 140 per month. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Present to Adams County leadership on safe parking and safe outdoor space initiatives. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Continue to support congregate shelters and their ability to transition residents to permanent housing. *(Dec. 2021)*



INCREASE PERMANENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING

OBJECTIVE 1: Determine the need for permanent supportive housing utilizing the Homelessness Indicator Project data. *(Dec. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Create permanent supportive housing for the top 10% of high-cost utilizers based on the Homelessness Indicator Project. *(Jan. 2023)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase affordable housing units by 500. *(Dec. 2025)*



HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

We want to meet and exceed the needs of people experiencing homelessness, provide services, and diminish barriers to those services. We value the importance of identifying the needs and data to drive our efforts, policies, and programs.

goals



INCREASE OUTREACH EFFORTS

OBJECTIVE 1: Across the county, outreach workers will track their service connection types and report on the top needs of this population. *(Sept. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Across Adams County, record 60 interactions per month in Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) with people experiencing homelessness. *(Jan. 2022)*



ESTABLISH DAY SHELTER SERVICES

OBJECTIVE 1: Propose prospective models to Adams County leadership. *(July 2021)*



INCREASE MOBILE EFFORTS

OBJECTIVE 1: Track the usage of mobile showers and laundry. *(July 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Complete a needs assessment to determine the utility of other service needs. *(July 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase access to mobile showers and laundry to four days per week if usage supports this. *(Jan. 2022)*



ESTABLISH LOW-TO-NO BARRIER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

OBJECTIVE 1: Create a plan to market the Day Works program to residents at risk of or experiencing homelessness. *(Jan. 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 2: Develop a plan to establish permanent employment solutions. *(July 2021)*

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase the use of the Day Works program to 120 residents per year. *(Sept. 2022)*



CONCLUSION

To focus on making Adams County the most innovative and inclusive county in America and to improve systems, elevate people, and strengthen neighborhoods — it is pivotal that efforts to address homelessness are unified, based on best practices, and informed by data. This plan builds on efforts previously enacted throughout the county and through the work of many partners, stakeholders, and community members. We look forward to creating and living in a community that is committed to upholding wellness and safety for all.

APPENDIX

(all definitions come from HUD)

DOUBLED UP (1): Doubled-up households are defined as having one or more adults in addition to the head of household and spouse or partner, such as an adult child living at home, two related or unrelated families residing together, or a parent living with an adult child. Although doubling up can help adults avoid severe housing needs, the decision to double up suggests these households are experiencing or at risk to experience vulnerability with their housing. (https://www.huduser.gov/portal/pdredge/pdr_edge_research_012714.html#:~:text=Doubled%20Dup%20households%20are%20defined,living%20with%20an%20adult%20child)

UNSHELTERED (2): A person who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, and on streets. (<https://www.hudexchange.info/sites/onecpd/assets/File/Guide-for-Counting-Unsheltered-Homeless-Persons.pdf>)

SHELTERED (3): A person who is living in an emergency shelter, in a transitional shelter, or supportive housing for people who originally came from living on the streets or in an emergency shelter. (<https://www.hudexchange.info/sites/onecpd/assets/File/Guide-for-Counting-Unsheltered-Homeless-Persons.pdf>)

LITERAL HOMELESS (1): One individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning: (i) Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; (ii) Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, and local government programs); or (iii) Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution. (https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf)

MCKINNEY-VENTO: Means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals; children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; children, and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and migratory children. (<https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/>)

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT (PIT) AND HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT (HIC): PIT is a count of unsheltered and sheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. The HIC is a point-in-time inventory of provider programs with a Continuum of Care that provide beds and units dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness. ([https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/pit-hic/#:~:text=The%20Point%20in%20Time%20\(a%20single%20night%20in%20January.&text=Continuums%20of%20Care%20also%20must,year%20\(odd%20numbered%20years\)](https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/pit-hic/#:~:text=The%20Point%20in%20Time%20(a%20single%20night%20in%20January.&text=Continuums%20of%20Care%20also%20must,year%20(odd%20numbered%20years)))

