

CHANGING LIVES

133 YEARS OF SERVICE



Our Impact Beyond Denver

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask
or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us.

-Ephesians 3:20

Dear Friends,



Do you ever feel like the task is more than you can accomplish? You know the goal is worthy and needed but the enormity is daunting. To be honest, that is how we feel at times in our work. How do we turn the needle back on homelessness? How do we get upstream and keep people from experiencing homelessness? How can we pull off a \$27 million capital campaign in Fort Collins?

Fortunately, we do not have to do this work alone. Throughout this newsletter you will read about our ministry in Fort Collins and the capital campaign we are working to complete. You will read about the proposed homeless resolution center that contains a shelter but is so much more. You will read about the need. You will read about life change. Yet, it still seems like a huge task.

Paul writes these words in Ephesians 3:20-21: *"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!"*

This is a prayer, a blessing. I believe it also teaches us something about God and our goals. If we have a huge goal that aligns with God's work and desire for us, God is able to do immeasurably MORE THAN we can ask or imagine. He does this according to His power not ours, but it is His power at work in and through us. It is for His glory, not ours.

When I look at this project—\$27 million, 250 beds, turning the needle back on homelessness, getting upstream to prevent homelessness—it no longer seems daunting. Twenty-seven million dollars is nothing to God because He is able to do MORE THAN.

This is the theme of our campaign. More than a bed. More than a shelter. More than a person experiencing homelessness. The community has already committed \$24.8 million in support and we are beyond grateful. If you would prayerfully consider donating to the campaign, your gift will be matched to help us meet our goal. All through the power of our Lord and for His glory because He is able to do MORE THAN we can ask or imagine!

Grace and peace,

Dennis Van Kampen

Dennis Van Kampen | President/CEO



These numbers
are staggering,
and we feel their
weight daily.

547 unsheltered individuals
in Larimer County*

34% increase since 2020**

35% increase in 1st time
homelessness

*Common Sense Institute 2023 Report on Homelessness in Fort Collins
**2020, 2023 Point in Time (PIT) surveys

Our Impact Beyond Denver



More Than...

Meals ■ Shelter ■ Ever Before

Fort Collins Rescue Mission

We are in the final push of a *More Than...* capital campaign to build a new homeless resolution center in Fort Collins for up to 250 men with expanded services that can **help double or triple the number of people out of homelessness.**



2021

Fort Collins Rescue Mission (FCRM) reopened downtown, providing 24/7 services for the first time for up to 89 men, with Catholic Charities focusing on serving women.



2020

FCRM shifted its services to the Blue Spruce Temporary Shelter in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing beds for up to 150 men.



2012

Denver Rescue Mission (DRM) took over a ministry for those experiencing homelessness in downtown Fort Collins and renamed it.

We renovated the building and began providing meals and shelter for up to 80 men and women.



1988

DRM acquired a farm in Wellington, Colorado and renamed it Harvest Farm, which continues to provide rehabilitation for up to 72 men at a time in our New Life Program.



Denver Rescue Mission's impact extends far beyond Metro Denver's city limits. Did you know we are helping men experiencing homelessness and addiction in Wellington and Fort Collins as well?

On a busy corner in Old Town Fort Collins stands a 5,240 square-foot building with decades of history formed within its walls, and currently serving as a shelter for those experiencing homelessness—or better known as, Fort Collins Rescue Mission (FCRM).

For more than a decade under the umbrella of Denver Rescue Mission, FCRM has served as many men as possible, reaching capacity almost every night. **And the heartbreaking reality is that our staff had to turn away men more than 1,200 times last year because of this.**

"The city of Fort Collins came to us with the opportunity to acquire what was then called Open Door Mission, which had been here 27 years," Former President/CEO, Brad Meuli, said. **"For a long time, we wanted to be able to expand and do more.** There's a great need, and this facility really just does not meet the need anymore."

Despite its limitations, FCRM has made a bigger impact than its outside facade might suggest, becoming a place of refuge for thousands of men in Northern Colorado over the years.

"We've always been about so much more than meals and shelter," said Director Paula Ordaz. "We get to see lives changed because of the services we offer to anyone who has the need and the willingness to plan a path out of homelessness."

Changed lives like Kevin's

For 20 years since the age of 14, Kevin struggled with addiction. After a traumatic experience in his childhood, he turned to alcohol to cope with the pain. That later spiraled into consistent instability in housing and employment.



He lived with his grandmother until her passing in 2012 and spent the next 10 years experiencing some of the effects of homelessness—cold, hunger and loneliness.

While his days were spent struggling with alcoholism, his nights were spent sleeping on the streets with nothing but a sleeping bag, sleeping at friends' houses for short periods of time or taking shelter at Fort Collins Rescue Mission.

"The worst feeling is not having a place to stay," he said. "I would drink and, it's sad to say, but that would help me get through the night. It was rough. It's not something I got used to but accepted it and just had hope that it has got to get better than this. That's kind of what kept me going and wanting to succeed."

Wanting to make a change and feeling like he had nowhere else to go, Kevin went to FCRM. He not only received a reserved bed and warm meals but experienced a community and the love of Jesus like he never had before.

The Mission's reserved bed option helped Kevin find a job, get an ID, save money, and move into more stable housing. "It made me want to do better for myself, and the Mission made that possible. It gave me structure and stability and made me realize I can do it," he said.

Today Kevin works at Fort Collins Rescue Mission as a Community Life Coordinator. "I'm working proof that there is hope for us. To help our guys get back out of it, that's something that I'm going to be a part of," he shared.

And Kevin is not the only one: last year, more than 160 men moved from homelessness into more stable housing after working with Fort Collins Rescue Mission and its New Life Program at Harvest Farm.

How We Plan to Do *More Than...* Ever Before in Northern Colorado

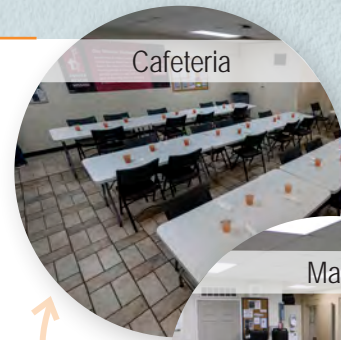
"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us." -Ephesians 3:20

More Than...

a bed

FCRM currently only has room for 89 beds, all cramped together, whether men are there for one night, have a reserved bed or have other specific needs. Our new homeless resolution center will have 250 beds (almost triple the men we can help!) and need-based dorms for:

- Veterans
- Those in recovery
- Those who work a night shift and need to sleep during the day



More Than...

a shelter

FCRM currently only has one and a half rooms to serve as a space for intake, case management, staff meetings, offices, volunteers, donation storage, and outside providers. Our new homeless resolution center will have several spaces dedicated for these resources, which will offer more:

- Privacy
- Safety
- Access to services

We have a building site identified and secured after a three-year study of need conducted by the Fort Collins Homeless Advisory Council, whose 2022 recommendation was to meet the growing need with a long-term view and put the most effective services to help end homelessness under one roof.



More Than...

a path to walk alone

We offer unconditional love to our guests, as Jesus taught us to do. Our calling is to meet every guest exactly where they are and walk with them out of addiction and homelessness. This is something that won't change with our new homeless resolution center, but will be amplified through:

- A trauma-informed building design and approach
- ADA accessibility
- Day center for men **and** women
- And more!

**Lives are changing all around Colorado
because of your support.**

Help better our community with your donation to the *More Than...*
campaign! FortCollinsRescueMission.org/MoreThan



*Your Gift Will
be Matched!*

THE MISSION in my words



Sue Hartman

Sue has been involved with the Mission since 2018 as a donor and volunteer and was on the initial Steering Committee for the *More Than...* capital campaign for our new homeless resolution center in Fort Collins.

Pictured: Sue (right) with DRM Philanthropy Officer, Sarah Waite (left)

What inspired you to get involved with the Mission?

I found Denver Rescue Mission and resonated quite strongly with what they were trying to accomplish. I also became aligned with Sarah Waite. Her passion then became my passion. Sarah and I volunteer at 48th to serve lunch, and even though it's maybe once a month, I feel like I'm part of the organization, and that's really important to me.

Why is it important to you to support the *More Than...* campaign?

I was very honored when I was asked to be on the Steering Committee. All you have to do is walk into Fort Collins Rescue Mission to understand clearly that we need a better solution, not only from a capacity perspective, but also from a capability perspective. Homelessness is not a Denver problem; it's not a Fort Collins problem; it's a Colorado problem. I don't really care,

I don't really care, as a Denver donor, whether my dollars go to the Farm or go to the center up in Fort Collins, or whether they go to Lawrence Street. What matters to me is that we address this homeless situation in a more effective way.

- Sue Hartman

as a Denver donor, whether my dollars go to the Farm or go to the center up in Fort Collins, or whether they go to Lawrence Street. What matters to me is that we address this homeless situation in a more effective way. And in the current environment, you've got to step back and say, "How can I help?" With organizations like this, we're going to have to step up more than we have historically.

How has your involvement personally impacted you?

Every time I serve, the fact that there are people who have next to nothing, and the guys say, "Thank you so much for being here. We really appreciate what you're doing for us,"—it really

demonstrates that what we are doing makes a difference. Whether it's scooping out mac and cheese, writing a check or showing up at an event, the opportunity to give back just makes me feel very thankful for everything that I have, and motivates me to help those who aren't as fortunate.



Join Us to Do *More Than...* Ever Before

\$24.8 Million

Goal: \$27 Million

Total reflects gift/pledges received through May 1, 2025

OUR CORE STRATEGIES

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Meeting the needs of the most vulnerable



REHABILITATION

Equipping men through a life-changing program



TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Transitioning people into stability



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Providing essential needs for daily life



Volunteer
With Us



LOCATIONS

Lawrence Street Shelter | Lawrence Street Community Center | The Crossing | Ministry Outreach Center | Holly Center
Administration & Education | 48th Avenue Center | Harvest Farm | Fort Collins Rescue Mission

DENVER RESCUE MISSION
IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



MISSION
MEMBER
CERTIFIED EXCELLENT



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