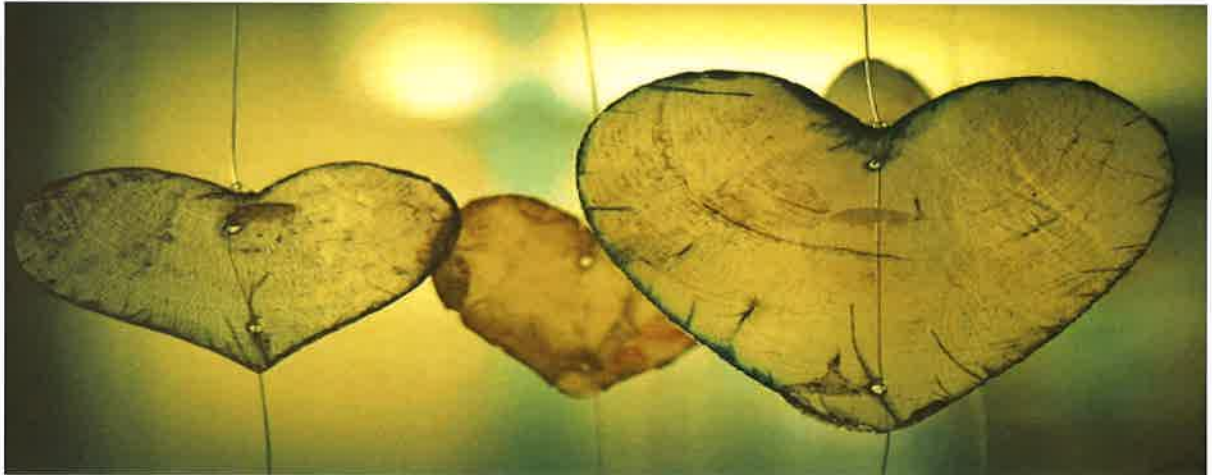


Loaves and Fishes Ministries

2019 Annual Report



Emergency Services

Chayah House Emergency Shelter

The Chayah House is our 17 bed emergency shelter that provides a safe place to sleep for men, women and children. Case management and life skills classes are provided to help residents transition into safe housing. In 2019, we provided shelter to 156 households. Two meals are served daily. Over 20,500 meals were served in 2019.

Homelessness Prevention Financial Assistance

In 2019, the following assistance was provided:

- 50 families received rental assistance
- 83 families received utility assistance

Food Pantry and Clothing Warehouse

Our food pantry provided food assistance to 1,286 families in 2019. Over \$20,700 of donated food is distributed monthly through our food pantry. Partnering with the Care and Share Food Bank, we also offer a mobile food pantry monthly and provide additional food support to low-income senior citizens.

Monthly there are over 600 families that shop in our warehouse. Items that are donated to us are given away free of charge to our shoppers. Over 11,374 items are given away each month.

Work and Gain Employment and Education Services

WAGEES provides wrap-around support services for people who have recently been released from prison. Ready to rebuild new and different lives, participants receive assistance with housing, employment, education, basic needs, and case management to support employment goals.

During 2019, WAGEES served 46 people. Specific assistance included:

- Helped 8 people complete occupational skills training
- Enrolled 3 people at Pueblo Community College
- Provided housing assistance to 12 people
- Assisted 14 people with transportation needs by purchasing bicycles, assisting with vehicle purchases, repairs, registration, and gas vouchers.

Housing Assistance

Respite at the Inn

Sometimes individuals need a safe place to rest and get relief from difficult situations. Through our partnership with Solvista Health, short-term respite care is provided at New Creations Inn to adults who are experiencing a mental health crisis.

New Creations Inn Transitional Housing

New Creations Inn is a renewable 90 days Christ centered transitional housing program for single adults who are seeking a fresh start by providing a safe, structured, sober-living environment. Employment, daily devotions, community meals, adhering to a curfew, paying program fees, and case management make New Creations Inn a transformative experience for our residents.

Restoring Hope Rapid Rehousing

Restoring Hope assists families with children who are experiencing homelessness transition into permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that includes financial assistance and targeted supportive services. Families participate in weekly life skills classes, create a realistic personal budget, and one on one case management.

In 2019, 16 families were enrolled (23 adults and 38 children). We had 9 families graduate, all whom remain housed today. Restoring Hope has provided housing to 145 families over the last 17 years, 80% remain in stable housing.

Journey Home Supportive Housing

Journey Home, a 30-unit supportive housing project, entered its second year of operation. At present, we have 35 adults and 10 children living in our complex. The Program Director helps tenants connect with services needed to stabilize their circumstances while building community through social and service activities that promote healthy living and relationships.

Tenants are giving back by maintaining the property, planning special events, and volunteering at local nonprofits.

Highlights of 2019

Work and Gain Education and Employment Skills (WAGEES)

Our WAGEES project celebrated its one year anniversary! WAGEES supports people who were recently released from prison successfully re-enter into our community.

This year the project significantly expanded housing assistance in the form of housing placements and rental assistance for our participants.



By partnering with the Historic Church Conservancy Fremont County, Loaves and Fishes Ministries was able to open Greenwood Crossing, a beautiful shared living home for WAGEES participants. Greenwood Crossing provides transitional housing to single men who are committed and determined to live their lives differently.

New Playground

Our emergency shelter received a brand new playground this year thanks to Fremont County and the Fremont Interagency Oversight Group!!



Highlights of 2019

New Construction at New Creations Inn

In August 2019, Phase 1 of a 3 Phase project completed at New Creations Inn. The new wing consists of 9 resident rooms plus a laundry facility. We are grateful for the generous donations we received from an anonymous Foundation and several individual donors. Many of the sub-contractors who worked on this project donated all or some of their work. Thank for being so generous and supportive!!



September 9, 2019, our new residents started moving in. What an exciting day that was. There were lots of tears and smiles as they opened their door for the first time and saw their beautiful new home.

We have two more phases to complete before we are done. Phase 2 is building another residential wing on the east side. Phase 3 includes a new community center and tearing down remaining west wing.

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Should you interested in contributing to this building project, please contact DeeDee at 719-275-0593 or deedee@lfministries.org.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. *Philippians 4:6*

More Exciting Things

Built for Zero (BFZ)

Our community received another blessing when Fremont County was selected by Kaiser Permanente for the BFZ Challenge. Through a competitive process, we were 1 of 5 communities in Colorado selected to participate in this challenge.

In October 2019, the Fremont County BFZ Improvement Team attended a 2 day Learning Session in Denver put on by Community Solutions.

Community Solutions has been helping communities across the United States end Veteran and Chronic homelessness. We are excited to be receiving technical assistance from Community Solutions. They are helping us build a system that quickly identifies those who are experiencing homelessness and develop a process where they can be quickly housed. Towards the goal of making homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring in Fremont County.

On November 20, 2019, a BFZ Kick Off event was held at the Canon City Hall. Over 100 community members attended. Several signed up to help with case conferencing, outreach, and conduct assessments.

If you would like to learn more about BFZ and how you might become involved, please contact Jennifer or DeeDee at 275-0593.



Volunteers and Financials

Volunteers

Volunteers have always played a vital role at Loaves and Fishes Ministries. In fact, several of the services we offer are operated entirely by volunteers. We have over 65 volunteers who serve monthly plus several hundred more who serve throughout the year. Over 10,000 volunteer hours are recorded annually.

Volunteer training is the first Friday of the month from 11:30 -12:30. If you are looking for a rewarding and fulfilling opportunity to serve your community, please contact us at (719)275-0593 for more details.

Financials

Loaves and Fishes Ministries is a community nonprofit established 35 years ago. Over 75% of our funding comes from within Fremont County.

When you give to Loaves and Fishes Ministries, you are partnering with us to help those in need in our community.

Enterprise Zone: State Tax Credit for Contribution Information

Loaves and Fishes Ministries is an eligible project within the Central Colorado Enterprise Zone. This status provides an additional 25% state tax credit for cash contribution of \$250 or more annually when the contributor pays state tax with an itemized return. Please call (719)275-0593 for additional information.

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Proverbs 31:8-9

Who we are

The vision for Loaves and Fishes Ministries of Fremont County began with our local pastors as they looked for better ways to serve those in need in our community. The Ministerial Alliance believed that having a one stop resource center would ensure that individuals be treated with dignity and respect plus receive consistent and appropriate assistance. As a result of their efforts, Loaves and Fishes Ministries was founded in 1983.

Through the years, Loaves and Fishes Ministries of Fremont County has become the primary resource in Fremont County for those in need. Having served the under-privileged in Fremont County for the last 3 decades, we understand the challenges this population faces.

Our Core Values

Holistic approach— We believe in the holistic approach that deals with the spiritual, physical, relational and economic brokenness faced by those we serve. Our hope is to make a lasting difference in Fremont County by affecting change in all of these areas.

Origin in Dignity—We believe that all people have inherited dignity by being created in the image of God and thus have an innate right to be valued, respected, and to receive ethical treatment.

Partnerships—We believe that partnerships with other nonprofits, local businesses, government agencies, and the faith based communities are essential as we seek solutions for our community. In addition, these relationships extend to those who are touched through this ministry as we strive towards a cooperative attitude through every interaction.

Empowerment—We believe in empowerment instead of handouts, where solutions are lasting and transferable. This method of ministry requires patience and perseverance but this approach leads to healthier families and ultimately a stronger community.

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Website: www.lfministries.org



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