



LOAVES & FISHES
MINISTRIES | FREMONT
COUNTY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Client Testimonies



"If this program hadn't accepted and been there for me I can honestly say I would still be in prison. I got out and in the first week those ladies busted their backs getting me on track with everything I needed. Assisting with my legal documents, getting a job, food stamps, understanding technology, and a bike. They

were always ready to help, listen, and very understanding but most of all they are down to earth. I will be getting my driver's license this next month and I'm working on starting my own business and I owe it all to the WAGEES program." – Antonio Padilla



" When I completed rehab, my uncle gave me my job back and helped me get into New Creations Inn where I lived for 7 months. I don't think I would have made it this far without the help of the NCI staff who provided transportation to all of my outpatient treatment appointments. NCI taught me how to save money so I could finally get a car. I am now a responsible adult and live in a two-bedroom apartment with my daughter. My time at New Creations Inn was everything I needed to help me get to where I am at today. I'm 300 days

clean and sober and this would not be possible if it wasn't for the staff at New Creations Inn and for my Uncle Andy. Thank you New Creations Inn for what you have done for me and my daughter." – Gary Hiltz



"A few years ago I hit a low point in my life. I was homeless, alone, and broken when I walked through the door of Loaves and Fishes. While staying at the shelter I found the kindness, support, faith, and most of all, the hope I needed to move forward with my life. I have been a volunteer at Loaves and Fishes ever since, where I met the love of my life, and found family in the

staff and other volunteers there. I am currently a temporary employee at the very shelter that supported me years ago, hoping I can do for someone else, what they did for me." – Robert Bock

2022 Impact Snapshot



\$519,501 Food received through donations
4708 Food boxes distributed
15,432 Meals served in our emergency shelter

142 Adults and 2 children stayed in our shelter
30 Individuals received respice care



\$190,769 Rental assistance provided
\$99,091 Utility assistance provided
\$14,362 Other financial assistance provided

Journey Home provided housing to 38 families
Restoring Hope provided housing to 14 families
New Creations Inn provided housing to 17 families
Greenwood Crossing provided housing to 14 families
Totalling 94 adults and 37 children



18 Individuals continued their education
64 Individuals found employment

241 Individuals identified as homeless in 2022
210 Previously homeless individuals found housing

As of December 31, 2022, 125 adults and 17 children were experiencing homelessness in Fremont County.



Emergency Shelter Expansion

More individuals and families can now stay in our emergency shelter. Our expanded shelter opened in July and increased our bed capacity to 38. The expansion included a men's, women's and two family dorms plus locker rooms for men and women.

The shelter expansion was the first phase of a 3 phase expansion project and was accomplished by using warehouse space that



previously housed our food pantry and clothing shopping area.

Funding for this project was made possible through community donations, the Department of Local Affairs, the El Pomar Foundation and the Gates Family Foundation.

Warehouse Groundbreaking Ceremony

Hunger Action Day is a day that is set aside to raise awareness and to inspire people into action to end hunger around the United States and was the ideal day to break ground for our new warehouse.

Using the land behind our main office on Justice Center Road, this new 5,000 sq ft warehouse will be 1.5 times larger than our previous

warehouse allowing our food programs to grow and expand into all of Fremont County. Supporting communities that are considered to be food deserts, and those lacking access to food pantries are priorities of this program.



Phase 3 of our Expansion Project is to convert our current food storage area into a Resource Navigation Center that will offer basic needs services including showers, laundry services, nutritious meals and temporary secured storage; as well as intensive services such as physical and mental health evaluations and care management services to help individuals transition from homelessness to housing stability.

Phases 2 and 3 are expected to be completed in 2023.

Enterprise Zone Contributions

Beginning in January 2023, Enterprise Donors receive a **30% tax credit** instead of 25% on their donations to Loaves and Fishes Ministries. The Enterprise Zone Contribution Tax Credit provides a tax credit to Colorado taxpayers that contribute to targeted enterprise zone projects. Nonprofits that promote temporary, emergency and transitional housing programs for people experiencing homelessness are identified target projects.

Loaves and Fishes Ministries donors are eligible for this tax credit if they contribute a minimum of \$250 annually. To sign up to receive the tax credit the following information is needed:



- Full Name
- Last 4 of your Social Security Number
- Mailing Address
- Email Address
- Telephone Number

If you are already an Enterprise Zone Donor your 2023 donations will automatically be carried over!

Reduction in Homelessness

Fremont County continues to make strides in making homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. We have seen a 17.4% reduction in homelessness this year and a 39.6% reduction since January 2020.

In 2021, Fremont County was the first county in the State of Colorado to achieve functional zero for our Veterans experiencing homelessness. We are happy to announce that we have continued to maintain functional zero for our Veterans.

Functional Zero is the milestone, which must be sustained, that indicates a community has measurably solved homelessness for a specific population.

The process that was used to end Veterans homelessness is now being applied to end chronic homelessness for single adults. Since January 2022, we have seen a 61.8% reduction for this population. Fremont County has set a goal to reach functional zero for our chronic single adults in 2023.



The homeless reduction that we are seeing is a result of the incredible community collaboration that exists.

Over 20 organizations are involved in this effort. Our partners include county and city officials, health providers, law enforcement, park and recreations, the Bureau of Land Management, community service providers, and the faith community.

Services Provided

Chayah House Emergency Shelter – Our shelter offers a safe place for men, women and children to sleep. Hot meals, showers, and laundry facilities are available. Open every day from 4pm – 8am.

Homelessness Prevention Financial Assistance - Rental and utility assistance for low income households.

Street Outreach – Builds relationships with people experiencing homelessness who may be disconnected and alienated not only from mainstream services and supports, but from the services targeting homeless persons.

Food Pantry – No one should go hungry in our community. Our food pantry and mobile food pantry are open to all. Additional food support is also available to low-income senior citizens. In 2022, 26,000 pounds of food was distributed monthly.

Work and Gain Employment and Education Services (WAGEES) - Strives for a nonjudgmental holistic approach to individuals recently released from prison. Assisting participants in obtaining legal ID's, purchasing tools for work and advocating for their health. Our WAGEES program is not just about getting a job to survive, it's about building confidence and skills to thrive. In 2022, 43 participants were enrolled.

New Creations Inn Respite - 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 for adults who are experiencing a mental health crisis.

New Creations Inn (NCI) Transitional Housing- Offers a fresh start to single adults who are seeking a Christ-centered supportive, structured, sober-living environment. NCI is for individuals who are struggling in their current lifestyle and are ready to make changes to improve their quality of life.

Restoring Hope Rapid Rehousing - Assists families and individuals experiencing homelessness transition into permanent housing and reach self-sufficiency through a tailored package of assistance that includes financial assistance and targeted supportive services including case management.

Journey Home Supportive Housing – Permanent housing option for previously homeless individuals and families. Residents actively help plan social and recreational opportunities to create and maintain a thriving community. Local community partners provide direct services to address tenant health and wellness needs. A Tenant Support Services grant from the State of Colorado Division of Housing Department of Local Affairs provides funding for this program.

Who we are

The vision for Loaves and Fishes Ministries of Fremont County began with our local pastors as they desired a more holistic way to help neighbors in need. Since 1984, we have been serving people who are experiencing homelessness and poverty by providing essential services and life-changing programs.

From the beginning, our foundation has been grounded in the Gospel of Christ. Our goal is not for individuals to become dependent on us or the programs we offer, but instead to find freedom in Christ that will lead to a restoration with God, their families and their communities.

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 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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Loaves and Fishes Ministries is an eligible project within the Central Colorado Enterprise Zone. This status provides an additional 30% state tax credit for cash contributions of \$250.