

Frederick, CO 80530

(720) 208 0280

Report of Brigit's Village to the 130th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado October 12-14, 2017

MISSION:

To establish a welcoming and reasonably-priced senior housing community in Colorado's Carbon Valley



BRIGIT'S VILLAGE



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

With Parishes

Members from St. Brigit:
Mother Felicia SmithGraybeal
Eileen Bisgard,
Margo Casey
Bailey Dotson
Jeff Nieusma
Ron Wormke

Members At Large:

Rev. Sathi Bunyon - Diocese Anita Sanborn - Good Shepherd John Lovell - Non-Episcopalian

Colorado Episcopal Foundation Bishop's Office





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brigit's Village (BV) began as an outreach initiative of St. Brigit Episcopal Church in Frederick, Colorado. Established as a separate nonprofit in 2014, Brigit's Village embodies a vision to utilize the church's property in service to its surrounding neighbors. The project addresses the desperate need for senior housing while documenting a model of outreach and broad-based funding for other faith communities.

Brigit's Village is currently developing a partnership with the Longmont Housing Development Corporation to create ADA adaptable, affordable senior housing in Frederick. Brigit's Village, with the help of an Americorps VISTA worker, has been focused on raising the capital funding to construct the building. Brigit's Village has completed preliminary studies and subdivision of the property in preparation for the transfer of the two acres on which the housing will be built.

The Brigit's Village Board, in the spring of 2017, decided to talk to near-by housing authorities and see if they had any suggestions of the best way to access funding to get the housing built. The towns of the Carbon Valley have no housing authorities, so board members met with the Loveland and Longmont Housing Authorities. During this process the board discovered that the Longmont Housing Development Corporation (LHDC), an agency wholly owned by the Longmont Housing Authority, defines it's area of concern as the St. Vrain Valley School District, which includes all three towns of the Carbon Valley.

Following this meeting the boards of Brigit's Village and the LHDC met and agreed to work toward a partnership which would allow the LHDC to come into Frederick and build Brigit's Village. It should be noted that as a Housing Development Corporation, LHDC is able to access many more Federal Housing Funds than Brigit's Village can access alone. The first step in the partnership process is for the LHDC to sign an inter-governmental agreement with the Town of Frederick allowing the LHDC to work in Frederick. The town and the LHDC are currently negotiating that agreement. Once that is complete and signed, the Brigit's Village and LHDC boards will have some joint meetings and some meetings with members of the community to determine the housing design.

Partnership with the LHDC takes some of the control of this project from the Brigit's Village Board, but it creates a clear path to actually funding the project and meeting the severe housing needs of the elderly population in the Carbon Valley. As Brigit's Village continues to move toward cultivating a vibrant and welcoming senior community in our small town, we would like to thank the Diocese for believing in our mission and for being a part of the team to make our vision a reality.