

July 30, 2025

Rocky Mountain Refuge PO Box 2941 Littleton, CO 80161-2941

To whom it may concern,

Rocky Mountain Refuge is a specialized shelter in Denver that provides a place for people in Colorado who are experiencing homelessness to receive end of life (hospice) care. We provide family style custodial care and the hospices provide the medical care our residents need. We are able to continue our unique care thanks in part to the generous support of the grant we received from the Front Range Region.

Unhoused people approaching the end of their lives have shockingly few choices for care and what care is available is often not tailored to their needs. This leaves them feeling isolated and unsupported during one of the most critical times in their lives. The Front Range grant has helped Rocky Mountain Refuge to do our best to ensure that every individual, regardless of their circumstances, has the dignity and support they deserve.

So far this year (2025) the average length of stay for one of our residents is 18 days and we've served 14 people, 10 of whom have died with dignity because of our care. Four others left voluntarily for various reasons such as reconciling with family, pursuing curative care, or they got better and hospice determined they no needed end of life care.

Most of our residents this year are between the ages of 50-64 (57%) while those below 49 and over 64 are 21% each. Unhoused people typically arrive at the Refuges younger and sicker than the housed population as these numbers continue to reflect.

The current racial make up of our residents is 79% White, 14% Native American, and 7% African American. We have not had any Hispanic folks so far this year.

Veterans make up 21% of our residents. We work closely with the VA but often our folks pass away before the VA can act to help them.

The Front Range Grant helped us to pay our caregivers and stay open his year and supported our ability to hire a program manager. Our new program manager has completely revamped our training and record keeping system. This has greatly improved our record keeping ability thereby helping us to work with the hospices and provide the best possible family style custodial care to our residents.

Concerning our long term plans for self sufficiency, we have opened a dialog with several City of Denver leading organizations to address this issue. These include Denver Health, Denver Hospice, City of Denver's Housing Stability Committee, Denver Housing Authority, and Colorado Coalition for the homeless.

We are also a Jubilee Ministry of the Episcopal Church and the only shelter in Colorado to provide this sort of service and one of only a handful nation wide. The Front Range is helping to change the last journey of people that have been forgotten by the world and we deeply appreciate it.

Respectfully submitted.
Br. James Patrick Hall, BSG (he/him)
Rocky Mountain Refuge
for end of life care

Information: 720-955-5596

A few pictures\* of our residents from this year.



<sup>\*</sup>No one's photo is ever shared without written permission from that person.