



**More  
Than...**

Meals ■ Shelter ■ Ever Before

Fort Collins Rescue Mission

# More Than... a shelter

In November of 2012, Denver Rescue Mission was asked to assume operations of the homeless shelter that had been on Jefferson Street at the edge of Old Town Fort Collins for 27 years. In the beginning, DRM subsidized operations to support the growing needs in Northern Colorado.

Today, Fort Collins Rescue Mission has become a trusted service provider for men experiencing homelessness that is now fully funded by donors in Northern Colorado, changing lives and the community for the better.

Our location at the corner of Linden and Jefferson streets is small but mighty: we added 24/7 shelter and case management services in 2021 that have dramatically improved our ability to help guests create action steps for a path out of homelessness. As a result, we have helped more men obtain housing year after year, helped them get and keep jobs, rebuild their lives, and move out of homelessness.

### Working Together: Some of Our Community Partners

- Department of Human Services
- Fort Collins Police HOPE Team
- Larimer County Food Bank
- Murphy Center for Hope
- Outreach Fort Collins
- Disabled Resource Services
- Housing Catalyst
- Larimer County Workforce Center
- Neighbor to Neighbor
- Veteran Employment Services

*"This place gets me off the streets; it's open year-round and they have reserved bed options for people who have a goal to better themselves. It is nice not to take my food out of a dumpster. They give me the stability to try to get things accomplished to get out of this situation."*

- DeWayne, Shelter Guest

The need for our work — life-saving emergency services as well as expanded case management to end the cycle of homelessness — has never been greater.



Last year  
**1,247**  
**Turn-aways**  
due to lack of capacity

**2022:** → The Fort Collins Homeless Advisory Council finalized a recommendation that to meet the growing need, the community needs a long-term solution to put the most effective services to help end homelessness under one roof.

### TODAY'S REALITY

Fiscal Year 2024 stats for Fort Collins Rescue Mission

**89** shelter beds

**652** individuals obtained or maintained employment

**258** guests engaged with case management

**75** men moved into stable housing

**8,000** hours of case management

**965** hours of counseling

**40,184** nights of shelter

**58,285** meals provided

# More Than... someone experiencing homelessness

As the nature of homelessness is changing, our solutions to end homelessness in Fort Collins must also evolve to meet our vision:

*Working to end homelessness, one life at a time.*

We offer love to our guests unconditionally, as Jesus taught us to do, to help restore the dignity that so many of our neighbors in need have lost. Our calling is to meet every one of our neighbors in Fort Collins exactly where they are and walk with them out of addiction and homelessness, help them secure and keep jobs, reunite with their families, and build a better community for every single person who lives here.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."*  
- Matthew 25:35-40

We believe that every person is made in the image of God and He has plans for each and every one of us. We are called to love, serve and help. An unhoused person is a person of value, it is their situation not their identity – they, too, are someone's son, dad, brother or daughter.

The most vulnerable in our city come to us as a last resort and we help them stabilize their circumstances, giving them access to a way out of homelessness.

*"Each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done."*  
- Bryan Stevenson, Author

Today, FCRM is not a dignified space. It has accessibility challenges, the dining room and guest dorms are cramped and the single office doubles as an overflow bedroom. Our staff works hard to maintain a clean and safe environment, but it is increasingly difficult to keep up in the current space and we faced the heartbreak of having to turn away guests for the last two years.

Every night we shelter as many as we can fit, including every corner of space of the cafeteria and office. Even so, we have to turn people away.

The current need for our services far exceeds our capacity.



Sleeping mats replace the cafeteria tables every night.

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

# More Than... *a building*

FCRM's new homeless resolution center will meet two vital community needs:

- the services to end homelessness
- the need now and into the future

In place of a former bus station that has been patched up for more than 40 years and is in need of constant repair, a trauma-informed design will create a dignified space for comfort and healing: when someone is able to move out of survival mode, they can take steps to get out of their situation. This allows case managers to walk alongside guests and provide the resources necessary to leave homelessness more quickly.

- End the need for winter overflow shelter hosted by the city, that has been staffed by FCRM at various office building conference rooms for the past five years
- Provide a new day center for men and women, that allows for intake and a place to be off the street in a safe environment and refuge from freezing temperatures or scorching heat
- Offer more access to private case management, the key need to making a plan to get off of the street
- Host community partners who can address pressing issues facing our guests like behavioral health, mental health and job placement all under one roof

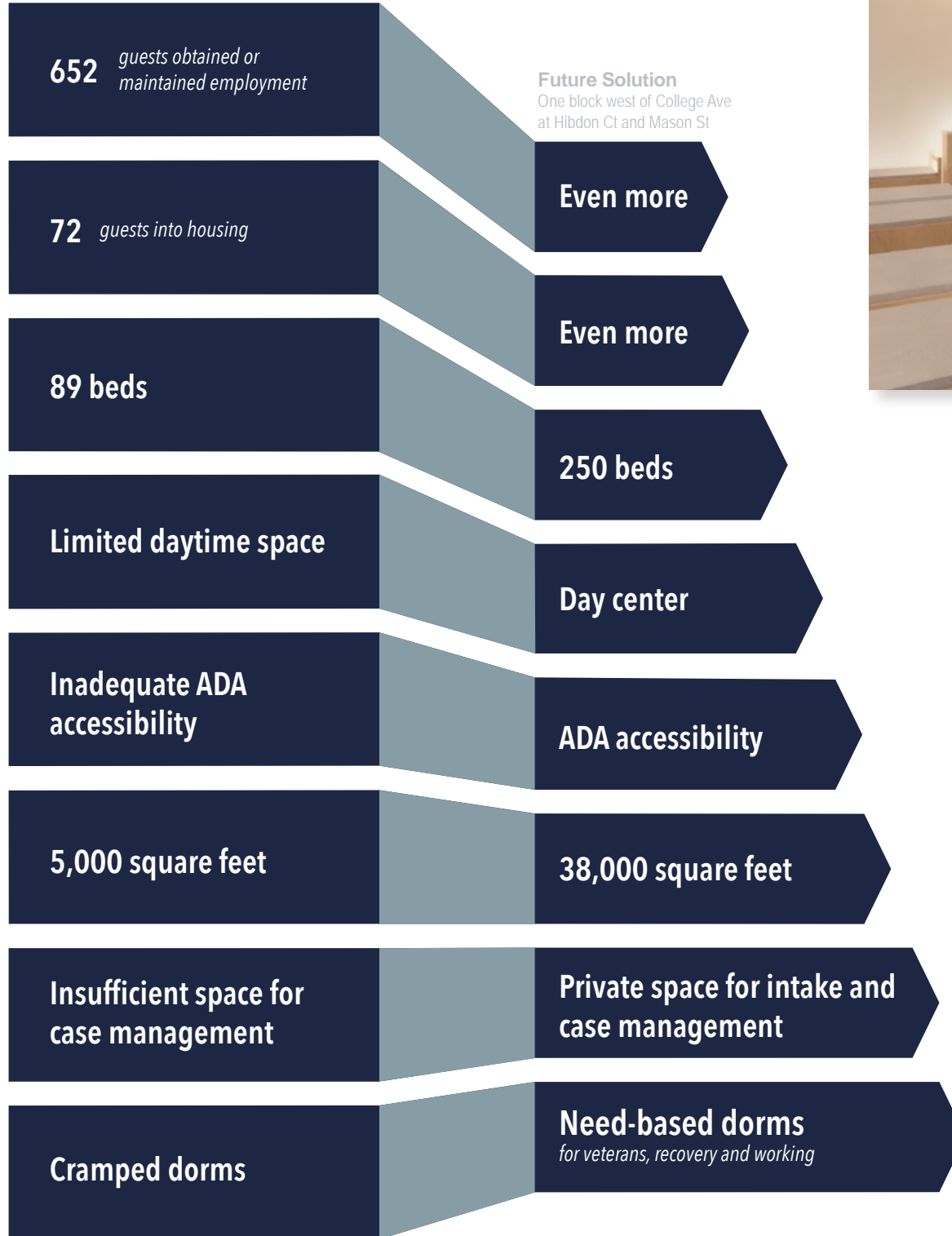
→ All the resources to become the primary center for housing navigation and homelessness resolution in Fort Collins



*"There's a lot of people out there on the street who need help, who just can't get in here because of space limitations and resource limitations. A bigger building is going to impact Fort Collins, as well. It's going to get homeless people in here bettering their lives."*

- James, Shelter Guest

## Current Reality In Old Town Fort Collins



## Future Solution One block west of College Ave at Hibdon Ct and Mason St

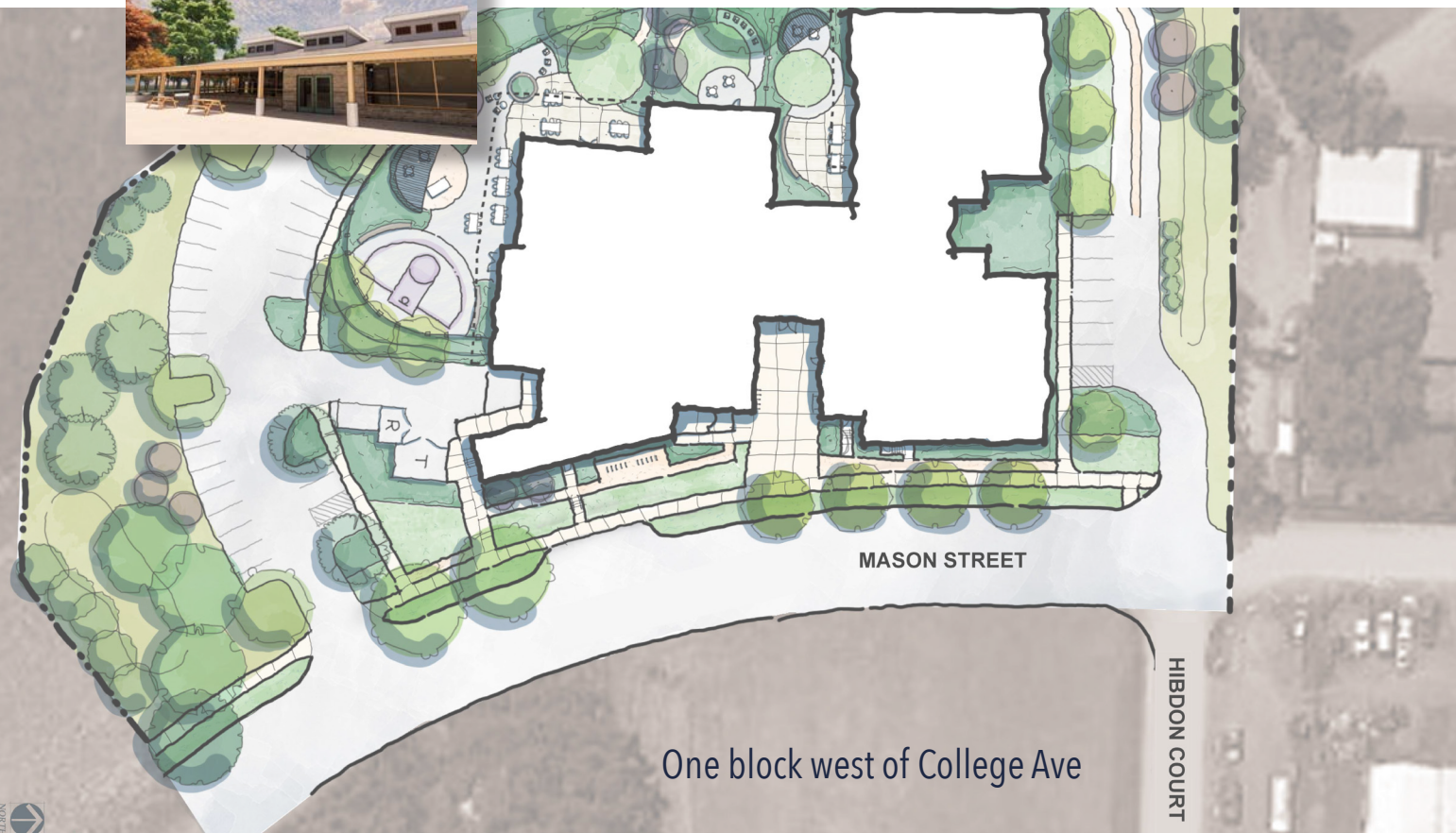


\*Fort Collins Rescue Mission partners with the community to most effectively make the best use of resources, with women and family overnight shelter available at Catholic Charities and men at Fort Collins Rescue Mission.



*“The new building is bright, it gives space—it will calm people down. One of the things that we have experienced when 50 people sit down at one time – everyone just feels anxious. You’re bumping into everybody and everyone’s just trying to sit and eat. When we only sat 20 people at a time, you just see calmness, for even just a 10-minute reprieve. That is what going from our small building to the new building will do: people will be able to relax, refocus, get rest, get sleep, and get the help that they need.”*

*– Paula Ordaz, Director of Fort Collins Rescue Mission*



One block west of College Ave

HIBDON COURT

# More Than...

*we could ask or imagine*

Northern Colorado is a special place. Our region is known for its community spirit, love for our neighbors and working together to tackle big issues.

We are underway with a building site identified and secured during 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. With support from local supporters and community members, as of the printing of this publication, we have already raised almost \$23.7 million. Our total fundraising goal is \$27 million.

*We need to raise the final \$3.3 million from the community as quickly as possible to finish this important forward-looking solution for services that will have long-lasting benefit for everyone involved.*

We want to do *More Than...* we ever thought possible to work on ending homelessness, one life at a time. This is a huge campaign and raising this funding seems like a challenge. But we believe in a God who has immeasurable love for each and every one of us, who is willing to do more than we can ever ask or imagine.

Your partnership is vital as we work to end homelessness in Fort Collins. We ask that you prayerfully consider investing in our community with a gift that will help so many of our vulnerable neighbors obtain a changed life with love, dignity and hope.

We thank you for making a gift that will impact our vulnerable neighbors today and will shape Fort Collins for many generations to come.

*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*



To visit the campaign website and donate, scan here!



**Please contact us to answer  
any questions**



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FortCollinsRescueMission.org/MoreThan

More Than...  
*just a place*  
More Than...  
*we can do alone*  
More Than...  
*you will ever know*  
More Than...  
*gratitude - solutions*