

OCTOBER 2025

CHANGING LIVES

FORT COLLINS RESCUE MISSION & HARVEST FARM



The Track to Stability

FORT
COLLINS
RESCUE
MISSION



Dear Friends,

As you may have heard, we had a fire at Fort Collins Rescue Mission. It started in the kitchen and destroyed it, and our offices were heavily damaged. We rejoice in the fact that no one was injured. Our staff on duty that night, Andrew and Stephen, saved lives. Their courage and care for our guests are amazing!

We are so thankful for the Poudre Fire Department, the Fort Collins Police Department and all who responded so quickly to keep this from becoming worse than it was. The Red Cross quickly worked with our team to make sure we could shelter and feed those who count on us each night. Our own leadership team, led by Seth and Ashley, responded quickly, with grace and incredible leadership.

We have a long road ahead. We are hopeful that sooner rather than later we will be able to use the dorms and bathrooms. It will be a very long time before we can use the kitchen, and we need office space for case management. While grateful for insurance, we have deductibles and expenses not covered by insurance and unbudgeted. Yet, we know this crisis did not catch God by surprise and God is bigger than this crisis. God has provided for our ministry, and we trust God will continue to do so.

Many times, God provides through you, our donors and friends. We have never been able to do this work without you, your faithfulness and God working through you to bless and provide for our ministry.

I ask two things. First, would you pray for our staff and our guests who suffered yet another trauma through this crisis? Imagine coming to the Mission to find safety, help, hope, and a path out of homelessness, only to have a tragedy like this seemingly take that away. Pray they will not lose hope or give up and pray we will be able to walk with them even now. Second, I ask you to consider helping us financially meet the needs this has brought upon us.

Thank you for all you do for our ministry!

Dennis Van Kampen

Dennis Van Kampen | President/CEO

The Track to Stability

Joe spent years believing there was no way out of homelessness. Because of the Mission and people like you, he discovered a door to a brighter future.



At 14 years old, Joe left home, running away from his abusive parents. But in the years that followed, he began relying on drugs and alcohol to cope, and a series of poor decisions eventually led him to prison for 28 years.

When he got out of prison he was moving around, staying on the streets, in shelters or with friends. "[Sleeping on the streets] made me leery, especially once that sun goes down," Joe recalled. "You just try to find hope. It's not nice, it's not pretty, it's not a life anybody deserves or desires."

He remembers one winter night in particular:

"It was 45 below zero. It was freezing and I prayed, 'If you're real, help me.' And He did. The only way I survived those three days was because a guy who owned a moving company saw me. He opened one of the backs of the trucks, and said, 'Hop in the back and put those blankets over you.'"

Not only was he saved from the bitter temperatures, but his faith was also forever changed. "That really opened my eyes to how fragile life can be, and how much your choices affect what you do," he said. "That's what made me a big believer, because that guy was a Christian and he asked me, 'Are you saved?' That dramatically changed my life."

At 65 years old, Joe thought there was nothing left for him in life—no job, no home, no hope, no purpose. He figured he'd spend his remaining days staying in shelters or on the streets, with no possibility of finding a way out.

And yet, that wasn't the end of his story.

Despite the pain and mistakes from his past, Joe learned that life could change for him. Fort Collins Rescue Mission's staff and donors—people like you—showed him the possibility of second chances.

"If you're on the streets, the only thing you're concentrating on is survival," Joe said. "So, to get into a place like this gives you the time and the opportunity to get a job, get housing and all that stuff. It means a lot."

Joe came to the Mission, and with help from his case manager, Scott Coman, he was able to:

- Get dentures, hearing aids and glasses
- Obtain his birth certificate and driver's license
- Open checking and savings accounts
- Improve his credit score
- Receive Old Age Pension, which almost quadrupled his income
- Enroll in Christian leadership classes (to support a future goal of getting his master's in ministry)



"Guys my age think their options are limited, and they're not. Scott gives you tasks to do, and it's not overwhelming," Joe shared. "He opened the door for me to get this job. This is a new chapter in my life, and that's a direct result of being in this place."

Joe moved to South Dakota in May 2025 to live and work on a dude ranch, an opportunity he never would've imagined for himself just months before—and the Mission helped him do that.

"The Mission is the difference between night and day," he said. "When you come here, it's like daylight. You can actually see possibilities. And with the staff helping you, you see even more possibilities. That's where it makes a difference, and whether you're willing to take those steps and pursue them."

Two of the biggest things Joe is grateful for that the Mission provided him with are safety and security.

"This is the first time that I actually felt at peace, and I could go to sleep at night and not have to worry. You can tell by their actions that they care," he shared.

With a reserved bed at the Mission and help from the staff, Joe was able to start seeing other pathways for his life—and it changed everything.

"They start opening doors for you that you had blocked out," he said. "I have four felonies, 28 years in prison, a broken neck, and no marketable skills. It took the staff here, to say, 'Just give it one more try. Don't give up. That was before you knew Jesus. Let Him open that door.'"

It means a lot to Joe that you care.

"I'm grateful to see all the people who come and donate—who actually care to keep these doors open, to feed you, to house you, to bring you clothes. Without places like this, hope would be almost nonexistent."

Give today to make an impact that matters at
FortCollinsRescueMission.org/ChangingLives



Scan to Give!

THE MISSION in my words



Judy and Earl have been donors and volunteers for over eight years, including serving breakfast at FCRM and making gifts for New Life Program (NLP) graduates.

Pictured: Judy and Earl holding NLP graduation gifts alongside Sara Fieldson, Northern Colorado Clinical Director



Judy & Earl Smith

What is one of your favorite memories from your involvement with us?

Earl: There was a young man, Graham, who sat at our table at an event at Harvest Farm, and he gave a speech. There wasn't a dry eye in the whole place. He said he lived out of a cardboard box for two years. This was a young man, and the last we heard of him, he had a job for a long time as a product manager at Gullies.

Judy: I went to Gullies and I asked, "Is Graham still there?" And they said he was there for a while, but he got a better job. And I thought, "God bless him."

What inspires you to make gifts for NLP graduates?

Judy: I just think about these guys and what they have gone through. I'm a quilter; I have a lot of fabric, so I thought, "I'm going to use my fabric and make a canvas with it." Each one has a

different verse that I love on it. I also like to know their first name so that I can put that on the front and I have a note for each one, so it is personal from me. All I need is for them to see that somebody cares. And I know that they are going to have their own apartment or something, so I include a nail with it so they can put it up in their apartment.

How has your involvement impacted you personally?

Earl: When I look at these men, I think, "I've never had to pull through a struggle like they have had to." Every day of the week we pray for a different charity or organization that we love.

Judy: On Mondays we pray for Harvest Farm and Fort Collins Rescue Mission. I see homelessness everywhere, and I just think of the blessings God has given me. I just need to help those who want the help, and if they want it, I'll be there.

We Broke Ground

on our new homeless resolution center

Learn about ways you can be part of the growing impact at
FortCollinsRescueMission.org



OUR CORE STRATEGIES



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Meeting the needs of the most vulnerable



REHABILITATION

Equipping men through a life-changing program



TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Transitioning people into stability



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Providing essential needs for daily life



Volunteer With Us!



LOCATIONS Fort Collins Rescue Mission | Harvest Farm | Denver Rescue Mission

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