



THE CENTENNIAL BRIEFING



CHEYENNE • ELBERT • KIT CARSON • LINCOLN • LOGAN • MORGAN • PHILLIPS • SEDGWICK • WASHINGTON • YUMA

Our mission is to achieve excellence in the provision of behavioral health services that lead to optimal health and well being

JEANS FOR JOY TOMORROW

If you are participating in Jeans for Joy this year and have paid to wear jeans on Tuesdays, tomorrow is our **THIRD TUESDAY**, and you can also participate in the fun of dressing up!

Don't forget!

November 23rd - Wear flannel/plaid!

Also please send any socially distanced photos to jacyi@centennialmhc.org so we can share your participation!

HUNGER & HOMELESS AWARENESS

Centennial Mental Health Center's Housing Team is part of the Northeast Plains Balance of State Continuum of Care. What is this you might ask? A Continuum of Care or CoC is a regional planning body that coordinates housing resources and services funding for homeless individuals and families. The entire Balance of State CoC covers the 56 non-metro and rural counties in Colorado. This includes all the counties outside of Metro Denver and Colorado Springs.

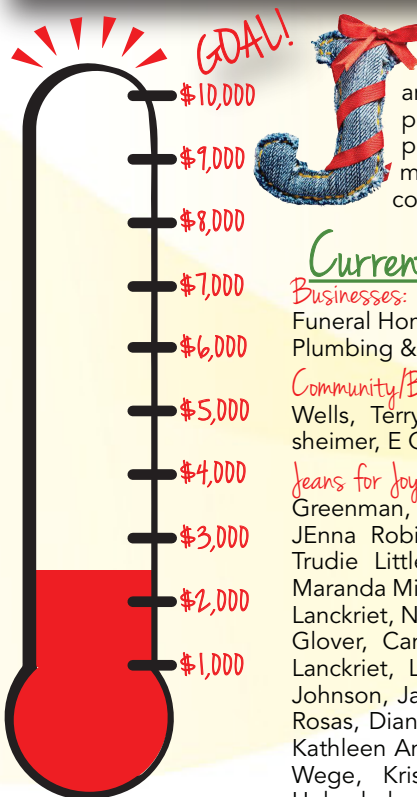
Across the Northeast Plains Balance of State, which includes Centennial's ten-county catchment area, Centennial provided 212 contacts to 52 homeless men, women and children from August 2020 through July 2021. Since April 2020, Centennial has provided 83 households with emergency mortgage and rental assistance, totaling \$385,480.00.

While these programs have assisted many individuals to have successful outcomes, two that we'd like to share their stories include:

Mike, a 54 year old male who was experiencing chronic homelessness and some health challenges. Due to incarceration he lost his housing, once released he was living in his car, he then was given the opportunity to reside in a friend's garage. He had a cot, several blankets, a sleeping bag and space heater. He made this space his own. He ate one meal a day and that was usually with the friend's family. Mike was screened for the State Housing Voucher Program for Justice Involved Persons, due to his co-morbid issues, he was selected to receive the voucher. Housing was immediately found. He was responsible to pay a portion of his rent. Mike was very motivated, he was able to identify his goals, voluntarily participated in tenancy support services offered through the program, and quickly found temporary employment which soon moved to full-time permanent employment. Because of his hard work and determination, he was able to obtain and demonstrate housing stability. He became able to pay full rent for a period of nine months and in July 2021 graduated from the voucher program.

Brenda, was introduced to the housing team in October 2019 through a referral to Fourth Street House. She was a 58 year old female who had a history of psychosis, unstable housing and had experienced chronic homelessness. She had a great fear of becoming homeless once again as she was severely traumatized by these events in the past. Brenda's struggle with mental health often led to unpredictability in work attendance, loss of income and strained social relationships. Brenda moved into Fourth Street House for stability and to provide a safe place for her to get better through medication management, individual therapy and case management and peer support services. During her time of tenancy, she had experienced numerous challenges and successes. Each experience provided her with valuable life lessons that had allowed her to work on social skills in a congregate living environment, apply for and receive Social Security Disability and have the confidence to move from Fourth Street to a different low income housing opportunity within the community. As she has stabilized and her confidence has grown, she has plans to consider part-time employment through Centennial's Supported Employment Program and to purchase a vehicle for greater independence.

SEASONAL DONATION TRACKER



Centennial has been receiving donations for Jeans for Joy 2021 and also Project Joy. The goal of our project is to raise \$10,000 in order to provide a happy holiday season for members in our behavioral health communities.

Businesses: Credit Union, Chaney Reager Funeral Home, Equitable Savings & Loan, B & J Plumbing & Heating, Java Enterprise

Community/Board Members: Steve Burgess, Tony Wells, Terry Hofmeister, Rece Ann Herboldsheimer, E Cecil

Jeans for Joy Participants: Liz Hickman, Sharon Greenman, Carol Nye, Katie Cure, Jenn Korf, Jenna Robinson, Cheri Teigen, Abbi Garcia, Trudie Littlefield, Stacy Maier, Kim Hooton, Maranda Miller, Jaci Yula, Tiffany Nichols, Karen Lanckriet, Nicole Herrera, Alicia Lopez, Heather Glover, Candice Altis, Sydney Marler, Karen Lanckriet, Loni Getchell, Sheila Couch, Kate Johnson, Jamie Weber, Kirstin Schelling, Karla Rosas, Diana Rios, Michael Taylor, Cheryl Bills, Kathleen Amundson, Pam Craig, Dian Van Der Wege, Kris Schell, Julie Spradlin, Bonnie Holzschuh, Jami Brecht, Chris Sparks, Jim Kuemmerle, Robin Walls, Joan Errett