

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Vision

Every city in America struggles with homelessness and the Denver Metro is no exception. We as a nation are rightly concerned about where people experiencing homelessness are going to live, but no one seems to be asking, *where do they die?*

Rocky Mountain Refuge strives to answer that question and to provide a safe, comfortable place where those without a home can live their best life during their last days.

Our Mission

At least 311 people experiencing homelessness died in 2023 in Denver. End of life care is difficult or impossible to obtain when you have no home or family.

People experiencing homelessness have no safe place to store medications, often have little care to assist in toileting or other activities of daily living. Friends and associates often are struggling with their own mental, addiction, and physical health issues and are not able to be supportive care givers.

Without our end of life care services and supportive staff many people experiencing homelessness will die on the streets, or other less than pleasant circumstances, often in uncontrolled pain, afraid, and alone.

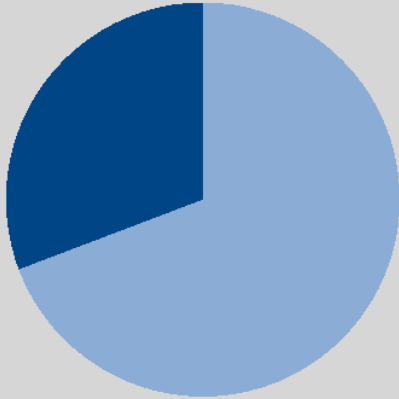
Our Impact

- Open from late January 2023 to the last week of August.
- Served 15 people in 2023 (36% increase over last year).
- Waiting list has 2-6 people on it at any given time.
- More than doubled our days of care to 361.
- Expanded our beds from two to three.
- Added a Therapy Dog program
- Connected with Veteran's organizations.
- Expanded our community presence.
- Joined Denver's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

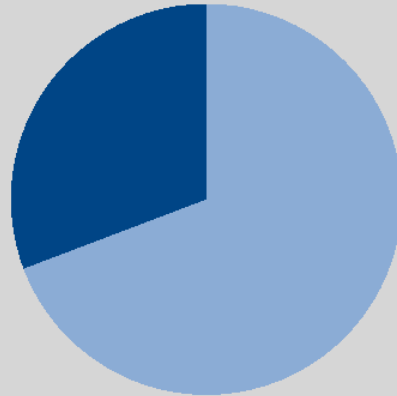


Our Impact

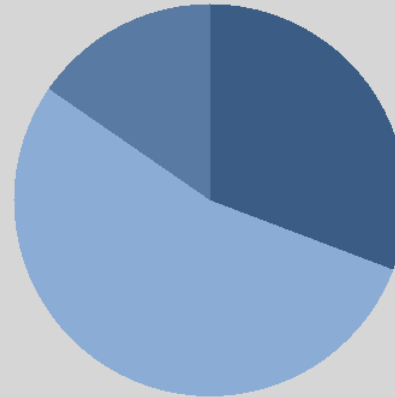
Racial Identity



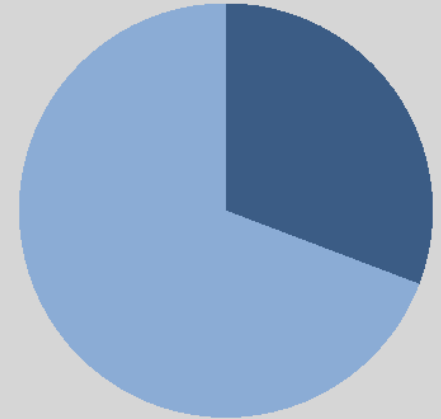
Ethnic Identity



Age Distribution



Gender Identity



Resident Demographics

Race: 77% Caucasian, 3% African American, 19% Native American

Ethnic Identity – 31% Hispanic, 69% Non-Hispanic

Age Groupings: < 15% are 49 and below, Majority are in their 50s, the rest > 60.

Gender: (self reported) 69% Male, 31% Female, 0% Non-Binary

Our Finances

- In 2023 we raised \$132,040.77
- Expenditures were \$216,951.66
- 88% of 2023 expenses were direct Resident care.

Sources of Income Table for 2023

Business/Religious	22896.29	18%
Foundations	21600.00	17%
Individual Contributions	82833.11	65%
	<hr/>	
	127,329.40	100%

Future Plans

Advocacy

The work of Rocky Mountain Refuge extends beyond the borders of Denver or even Colorado. We continue being an advocate for terminally ill people needing end-of-life shelter care throughout the nation. This important topic must be advocated for and engaged by local, state, and federal governments, faith communities, and nonprofit service providers nationwide.

Peace House

We have an amazing prospect to work with a local faith community that owns a house which they want to use to care for people experiencing homelessness. They are also very aware of hospice care needs that typically go unmet for this population and are excited about possibly collaborating with us to provide a permanent home for Rocky Mountain Refuge. The conversation has just begun, and we expect it will take at least a year to come to fruition.

Future Plans

Continuum of Care

Many people who are referred to us are still very capable of taking care of themselves but need to shelter. We have been unable to care for them because they are not ready to be in our 24/7 full-care model. Consequently, we are talking to some of the shelters and our hospice partners about a "Continuum of Care" model that would expand Refuge services to those who can still care for themselves but just need a place to stay.

We and the hospice organizations would be connected with them, but the shelter, the hospice, and the individual would manage care collaboratively. The engaged hospice would determine when an individual would need more comprehensive care and would then come to the Refuge. This expansion of our program would be the first in the nation to provide shelter for people as they are cared for by the hospice. This would also keep them out of hospitals, ERs, and palliative care facilities.