As a multi-service organization, St. Francis Center focuses its efforts in four key areas: day shelter to meet immediate, basic needs; permanent, supportive housing and case management; employment services including offering specialized career training to ex-offenders; and outreach to those living on the streets.

St. Francis Center is a nonprofit institution with roots in the Episcopal Church. It has been a place of refuge for people experiencing homelessness in Metro Denver for 36 years, offering a wide array of programs to guide individuals transitioning from homelessness to stability.
St. Francis Center provides valuable services that fill a niche in the homeless continuum of care. While there are overnight bed shelters and places that provide meals to people who are homeless, St. Francis Center has daytime hours when resources are most available for those seeking opportunities for self-sufficiency. Details about our four core programs — Employment Services, Day Center Services, Housing Services, and Outreach Services — are found below:

**Employment Services**

Employment Services at St. Francis Center are designed to end the cycle of poverty and promote economic self-sufficiency by helping participants develop skills, gain work experience, and connect with full-time employment.

Participants in the Employment Services program come from St. Francis Center’s day center program, drug and alcohol programs, parole and corrections transition services, and other community organizations.

**Outreach Services**

St. Francis Center’s Outreach Program serves people who are experiencing homelessness and congregating in visible areas in Downtown Denver, such as on the E. Colfax corridor, surrounding parks, and hidden campsites not intended for human habitation.

The St. Francis Center Outreach Team spent 6,646 hours with individuals who were homeless and on the streets of Denver. They provided 2,385 life changing services (medical referrals, benefits, shelter arrangements, ID’s) in addition to helping 112 people obtain housing.

The primary focus for the Outreach Team is to build relationships with those living on the streets, with the goals of: Honoring one’s humanity; Increasing one’s resiliency and capacity to value and believe in oneself; Stabilizing medical, mental health, and living situations; Establishing opportunities for substance treatment and employment.
In 2018, total daily visits by guests to St. Francis Center were 269,169 with a daily average of 742 different individuals, even though there were as many as 966 visitors on our busiest day. In total, 10,351 different guests were welcomed by the Day Center Team over the course of the year.

Day Center Services

Day Center Services at St. Francis Center offer individuals a compassionate, judgment-free environment to help address immediate needs, such as access to telephones, a mailing address, storage facilities, clothing, showers, and bathroom facilities. These services are often the first step toward connecting individuals with other resources that are available on-site and off-site, including physical and mental health services, housing referrals, job readiness and placement, veterans' services, and more.

The Social Services Team served almost 3,000 different guests, offering help with birth certificates, bus tickets, long distance phone calls, local transportation, payee services, and information/referrals.

The Wellness Team had 5,419 encounters with 763 different guests, offering coordinated behavioral healthcare options. The health clinic served 1,023 guest patients who made 2,017 different visits.

St. Francis Center’s Housing Program operates two permanent housing facilities for formerly homeless individuals and families — Cornerstone and Saint Francis Apartments at Cathedral Square — and a seniors’ permanent supportive housing program for 20 individuals 55 years of age or older who have a disabling condition. Beyond helping people physically move into housing, the Housing Program Team provides case management and support to ensure that residents will be successful by connecting them with resources such as healthcare, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment.

St. Francis Center directly provided access (through Housing, Employment, Outreach & Social Services) to 346 units of housing in 2018 and provided ancillary access to 412 units through Social Services.

551,187 check-ins
10,351 different guests in 2018
5,340 services
5,419 encounters
346 accessed housing
A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of St. Francis Center,

The past 12 months have been very invigorating as well as challenging. SFC has created a Strategic Plan that will lead us into the next three years with emphases on Provider and Employer of Choice as well as a highly-developed funding plan that will help to create additional programs that will assist people in their efforts to end their homelessness.

We also have educated our whole staff with classes in Trauma Informed Care which helps us serve our people with awareness of the past traumas in their lives that oftentimes led them to the streets. SFC continues the Urban Education Program which educates groups of students from all over the country on the lives of those who experience poverty and homelessness, a program inherited from Denum. We have also started to plan for some additional housing for our guests that we hope to get into development in 2019-2020.

SFC continues to advocate for the needs of those who depend on us. Our Outreach on the streets reminds us that many people are disconnected to services and there are more people living on the streets than ever before in Denver.

We need new solutions to assist these disenfranchised people. We are planning for safer and healthier ways to care and empower those who are not using the services in our Center. Those people out and alone on the streets are also our people.

Your help as our partners in this service/ministry is crucial.

Tom Luehrs
Executive Director

Volunteers

In 2018, 326 volunteers contributed 16,830 hours of service to St. Francis Center, the equivalent of over 8 full-time staff positions. Volunteers served in every program area within the organization, offering their invaluable time and talents.

2018 Fundraising and Financial Resources

St. Francis Center receives financial support from many sources in the community. Our revenues for 2018 were $4.4 million compared to expenditures of $4.2 million. Ninety cents of every dollar went directly to people benefiting from the programs and services offered by St. Francis Center.

Urban Education at St. Francis Center exists to provide engaging learning opportunities to people of all ages around the complexities of poverty and homelessness. Combined with hands-on volunteerism, participants will accept the challenge to learn—about themselves and the world—and affect positive change in our community through thoughtful caring and advocacy.

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