



Mission Arvada of the Rising Church  
7500 W 57th Ave, | Arvada, CO 80002  
(303) 422-1174 • <https://arvadarising.com/about-us>

## 2019 - 2022 Data Summary Mission Arvada of The Rising Church

### Overview

Mission Arvada is a day shelter and housing navigation center established by The Rising Church. It is open from 9 am - 1 pm Monday through Friday, with a food pantry on Saturdays from 9:30 am - 11:30 am. Mission Arvada provides immediate services including hot breakfast and lunch, showers, new and gently used clothing and shoes, personal care items, and laundry service to those experiencing homelessness in our community. Mission Arvada hosts partnering organizations in-house that provide health and dental clinics, ID recovery, legal support, job support, mental health support, and assistance in navigating and accessing eligible benefits.

Beyond addressing immediate needs, Mission Arvada provides in-depth, individualized, and ongoing case management and housing support. These services include vital document recovery, referrals for addiction recovery, assistance for reunification with family, housing needs review and referrals, and housing support (such as provision of household furnishings, eviction prevention, and application for emergency rental or utility assistance.)

The purpose of this document is to provide a summary of the work of Mission Arvada, and to provide insight about the circumstances of homelessness in the City of Arvada and the surrounding area.

### Background

In 2019, researchers counted 997 individuals experiencing some form of homelessness in Jefferson County. 649 met the HUD definition of “literally homeless” meaning they lived in emergency shelters or were unsheltered. Of the literally homeless population, 77% were living outside, or in another place not meant for human habitation. Of the homeless individuals in Jefferson County, 89 were located in Arvada, 93 in Wheat Ridge, and 39 in Westminster.

The largest gap in services needed versus services received by JeffCo’s homeless is in housing assistance (66% needing vs. 5% receiving), transportation (34% needing vs. 9% receiving), and shelter (28% needing vs. 5% receiving.)

The three most frequently reported barriers to accessing services were transportation (37%), cost of services (33%), and lack of available services (31%).

Source: [2019 Jefferson County Comprehensive Homeless Count](#)

*\*2019 was the most recent year the comprehensive homeless count was performed.*

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According to the 2022 JeffCo Point-In-Time (PIT) data, there were 493 individuals experiencing homelessness in Jefferson County. This is a 13.6% increase from the 2019 PIT count of 434. The number of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness was 187, which is a 50.8% increase compared to 124 in 2019. The PIT Count is a measure of the number of people experiencing homelessness in our community on a single night, with numerous variables such as weather, volunteer engagement, and capacity that could result in an undercount.

Source: [MDHI Point in Time Count and Survey](#)



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Mission Arvada’s Day Shelter and Supportive Services

Since 2019, Mission Arvada has seen a steady increase in clients experiencing homelessness and needing services. Through enrollment forms, we see that most clients are referred to MA through word-of-mouth by others experiencing homelessness in the local area. Alternative means of referral include local libraries, local churches, partnering organizations, and other local agencies or non-profits providing supportive services.

Basic Services	2019	2020	2021	2022
Unique Clients Accessing Services	282	829	1116	1188
Unique Day Shelter Clients	262	667	848	882
Total Visits to Day Shelter	2,771	7,258	9,576	13,351
Meals Served	5,542	14,516	19,152	26,702
Clothing Bank Visits	49	2,368	3,645	6,096
<i>Unique Individuals</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>458</i>	<i>589</i>	<i>612</i>
Showers Provided	41	1,489	1,615	2,270
<i>Unique Individuals</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>278</i>	<i>313</i>	<i>339</i>
Haircuts	0	85	72	126
<i>Unique Individuals</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>66</i>
Laundry	0	0	101	241
<i>Unique Individuals</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>62</i>
Sleeping Bags	83	112	247	139
Bus Passes				
<i>*Sometimes 2 are provided at once</i>	15	144	654	461
Overflow Severe Weather Shelter	0	0	41	481
<i>Unique Individuals</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>158</i>

In-House Partner Services	2020	2021	2022
Medical Clinic (STRIDE)	18	118	175
<i>Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>104</i>
Mental Health (JCMH)	52	48	90
<i>Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>51</i>



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Dental Clinic (Senior Smiles or Dental at Your Door)	16	29	43
<i>Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>35</i>
CO PEAK Assistance (Benefits in Action)	83	164	103
<i>Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>78</i>
ID Services (DMV2GO)	N/A	N/A	147
<i>ID Services- Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>124</i>
Legal Services (Christian Legal Foundation)	13	29	31
<i>Unique Individuals Served</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>25</i>
Support with Severe Weather Shelter Network Enrollment and Night Reservations	43	*No data	306

*\*Note- We estimate that approximately 5% of MA's day shelter clients were housed individuals who returned for meals, friendship, and supportive services at MA during this time frame.*

Mission Arvada's Saturday Food Pantry

The Gloria Pruessner Memorial Food Pantry is an integral part of the services provided by Mission Arvada, and was the first service offered by The Rising Church. Mission Arvada's food pantry is set up for client choice, with each guest shopping from a wide variety of nutritious foods that suit their cultural preferences and household needs. The food pantry is stocked with donated food and with food purchased from the Food Bank of the Rockies through church donations and grants.

	2020	2021	2022
Food Pantry Visits	980	1,940	2,806
Unique Individuals Visiting Food Pantry	329	554	643
Family Count, Including Unique Individuals Served	585	874	1,095
Total Instances of Individuals Benefiting from Food Pantry	2,004	3,660	5,823

	2020	2021	2022
Food Pantry Total	329	554	643
Food Pantry Only (Not Day Shelter)	166	286	337
Food Pantry/Day Shelter Overlap	163	268	306
% of Food Pantry Clientele Experiencing Homelessness	50%	48%	48%



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### Housing Support and Case Management

Mission Arvada provides in-depth, one-on-one case management and support toward safe, stable housing for adults 18+ experiencing homelessness in our community. The needs of clients to receive and maintain housing are very complex, and MA staff is adept at building trust and supporting clients to overcome barriers. The long-term goal is for clients to not only be housed, but to become stable, independent, contributing members of the community.

### Housing Services Offered at MA:

- Housing intake, review of client-identified needs, and collaborative goal-setting
- Linkage to other supportive services (health, public benefits, employment, etc.)
- Ongoing communication and collaboration with other local housing navigation providers
- Review of permanent stable housing options  
(Such as family reunification, rehab/sober living, voucher-supported or self-pay rental options, etc.)
- Administration of the VI-SPDAT  
(Vulnerability assessment and housing prioritization tool used by HUD)
- Enrollment in OneHome via Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)  
(Colorado's Coordinated Entry program for the equitable distribution of housing matches)
- Assistance with vital document recovery (ID, birth certificate, social security card, etc.)
- Application for housing lotteries and linkage to local housing authorities
- Education and support regarding Housing Choice Vouchers and Project Based Vouchers (Section 8 Housing)
- Education and support with apartment searches and applications
- Maintaining relationships with local landlords and property managers
- Move-in assistance and provision of donated household items and furniture
- Education and support regarding rental assistance and utility assistance
- Education and support regarding tenant rights and responsibilities
- Education and support with eviction prevention
- Emotional support and encouragement

### Client Caseload

Mission Arvada's housing support caseload varies each month, but typically falls between 75 to 125 clients receiving case management monthly. In 2022, Mission Arvada provided case management to 284 unique individuals, with a total of 1,183 client meetings.



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Number of Clients Housed Through Ongoing, Direct Support from MA

Year	Number of Clients Housed
2020 and Prior	24*
2021	54
2022	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>

*\*Estimated total is likely much higher because housing outcomes were not fully tracked*

Successful Housing Placements By Category

Permanent Housing Category	Number of Clients
Assisted Living	2
Arvada Housing Authority Voucher	48
Other Section 8 or ERAP	12
Jefferson Center for Mental Health Voucher	10
Maiker Partners Voucher	5
Metro West Housing Authority Voucher	5
Metro Denver Homeless Initiative Voucher	1*
Non-Elderly Disabled Voucher	6
One Small Step Program	2
Rehab or Sober Living	10
Rental by Client	8
Reunification with Family	19
Volunteers of America Housing Program	1
Veterans Affairs Voucher	1
Wheat Ridge Housing Voucher	1
Other	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>

*\*Mission Arvada received 10 MDHI Emergency Housing Vouchers in Dec 2022, but will not move into apartments until Jan-Feb 2023.*



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### Housing Placement by Zip Code

Zip Code	Number of Clients
80002	24
80003	9
80004	31
80005	1
80007	0
80403	0
Other	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>

### Day Shelter Population and Demographics

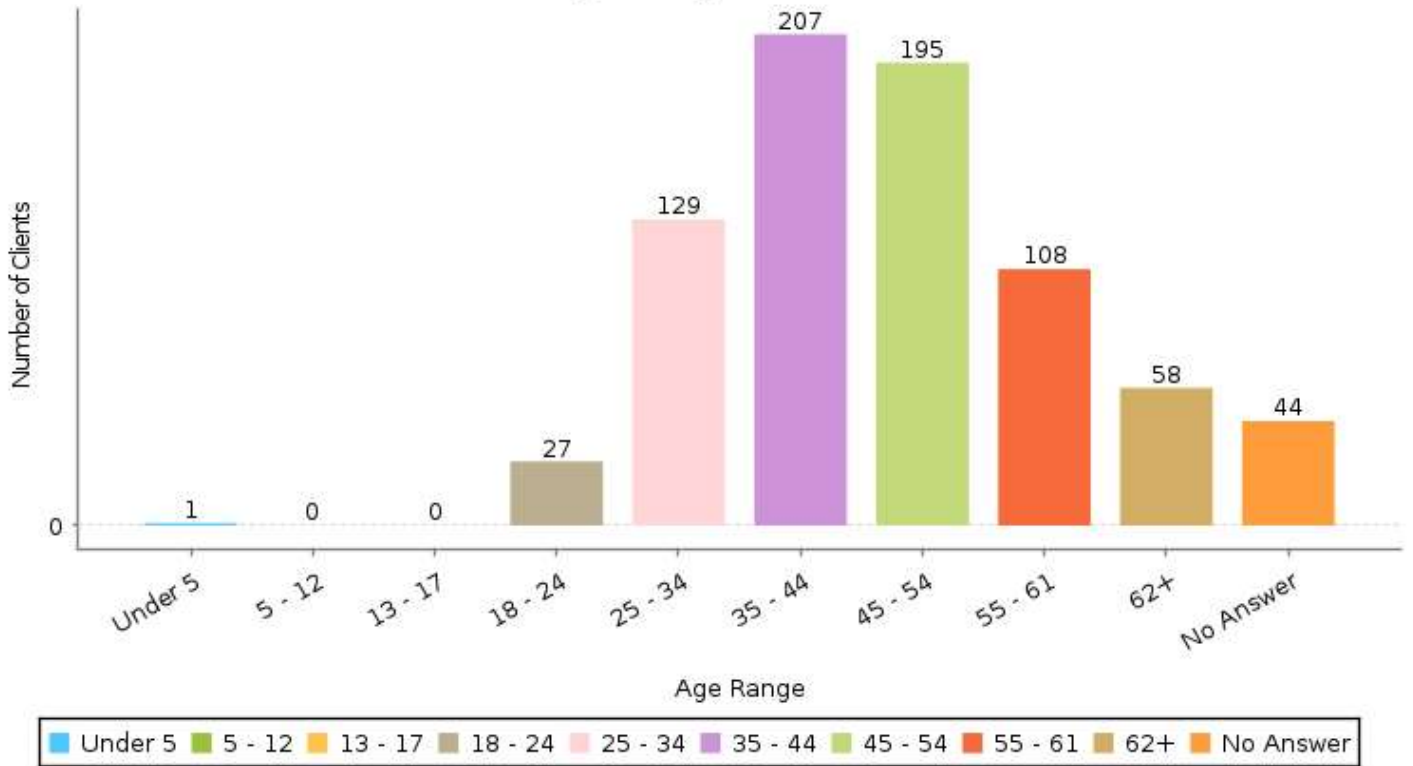
Mission Arvada provides services to adults age 18 and older experiencing homelessness in Arvada and surrounding areas. The clients who come to us for help are men and women who have experienced trauma in their lives combined with very difficult economic circumstances. Many suffer from broken relationships, mental health issues, substance abuse disorders, or physical health issues. The majority of our clients are “literally homeless,” living on the streets or in their cars. Additionally 100% of Mission Arvada’s clientele have low to no income, and many exist in historically marginalized communities (BIPOC, LGBTQ+, disabled, etc.) creating additional challenges to obtaining and maintaining housing. Some of the barriers identified by this community include: access to affordable housing, availability of supportive services, cost of transportation, and access to food, healthcare, and social benefits.

(Data continued on the next page.)

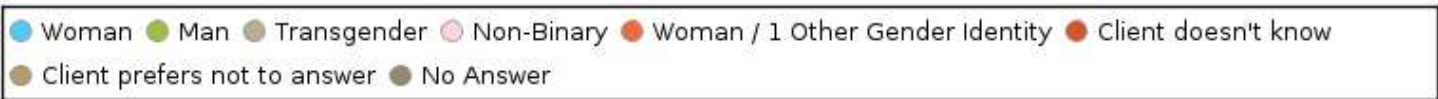
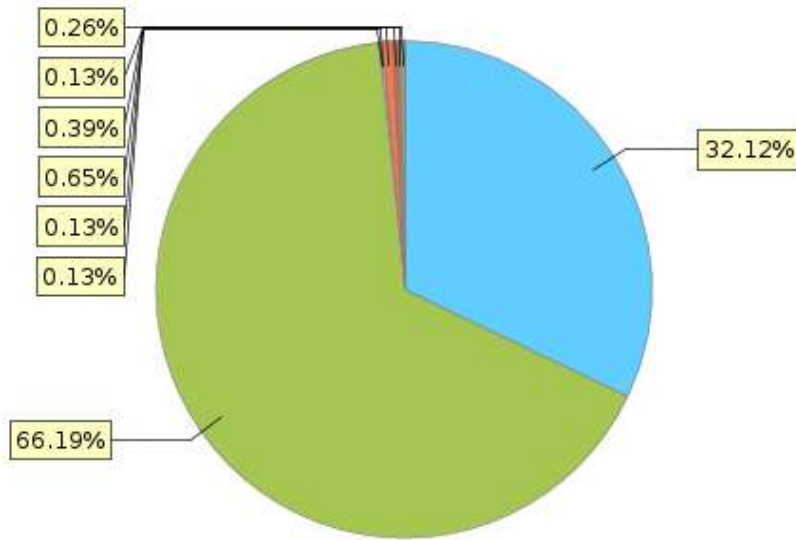


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### Age Range Chart



### Gender Chart

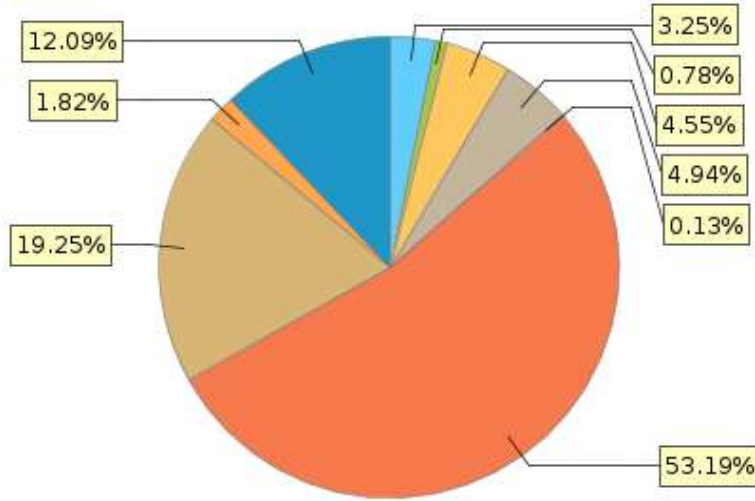






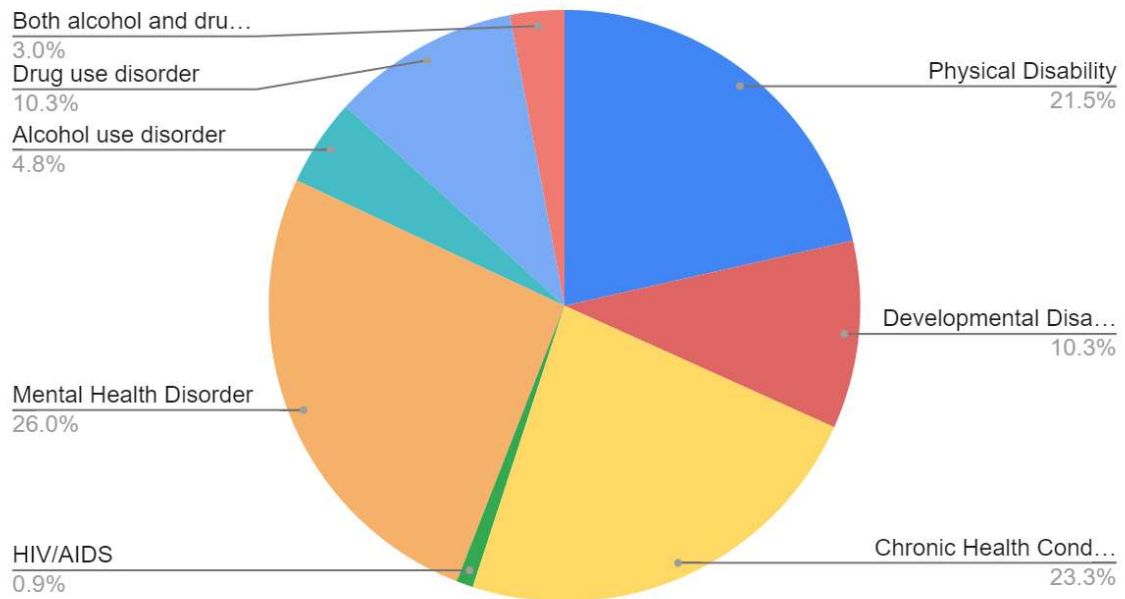
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### Race and Ethnicity Chart



- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
- Asian or Asian American
- Black, African American, or African
- Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Multiracial
- Client doesn't know / prefers not to answer
- No Answer

### Reported Disability Breakdown



*\*Note: 87% of clients report having a disabling condition. Many clients have more than one disabling condition. The chart above represents the breakdown of all reported disabling conditions.*





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Disruptive Behavior and Crime

Mission Arvada has taken steps to help improve interactions between those experiencing homelessness and the other residents and business owners in Olde Town. In order to enroll at Mission Arvada, clients must agree to abide by all laws, and agree to follow an explicit code of conduct\* (both inside The Rising and out in the community.) While protecting client privacy and rights, MA communicates with the Arvada Police Department, and the police often bring new clients to our doors for shelter and support. Clients understand that violations of the code of conduct will result in a formal verbal warning, a temporary ban (called a “trespass”), or a permanent ban from MA’s program.

*\*For the detailed client code of conduct, please submit a request via email to [vera@arvadarising.com](mailto:vera@arvadarising.com).*

2019-2022 Temporary Ban Total (Trespass)	181		
Police Involvement	29%		
Due to Behaviors in Community (vs at the Church Only)	37%		
Primary Behavior Resulting in Temporary Ban	Instances	Percent of Total	Avg. Duration (Days)
Alcohol or Drug Misuse	28	16%	143
Defiance or Deceit	10	7%	76
Physical Aggression	10	7%	125
Property Damage	3	1%	185
Smoking	13	6%	44
Theft	10	5%	130
Trash or Mess (Including Shopping Carts)	13	7%	92
Trespassing	26	14%	109
Verbal Abuse	53	34%	119
Other / Not Documented	8	6%	118

2019-2022 Permanent Ban Total	94	
Police Involvement	65%	
Due to Behaviors in Community (vs at the Church Only)	46%	



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Primary Behavior Resulting in Permanent Ban	Instances	Percent of Total
Alcohol or Drug Misuse	24	26%
Defiance or Deceit	7	8%
Physical Aggression	18	20%
Property Damage	6	7%
Smoking	2	2%
Theft	12	13%
Trash or Mess (Including Shopping Carts)	1	1%
Trespassing	3	3%
Verbal Abuse	17	19%
Other / Not Documented	1	1%

Volunteers and Collaboration

Mission Arvada relies heavily on volunteers and donations. For daily operations there are 8-12 volunteers onsite. These volunteers check in clients, cook and serve food, distribute clothing and other items, manage the shower room and laundry, and sort donations. Many volunteers have worked at MA for years, and provide more advanced support, such as grant-writing, kitchen management, or team leadership. MA's team of 416 volunteers over the last three years have come from 20 local churches and also from the community at-large. Arvada residents bring in-kind donations every day, including food, clothing, blankets, sleeping bags, and more.

	2020	2021	2022
Total Hours Volunteered	7,762	66,195	17,165
Total Value of In Kind Donations	\$94,702	\$185,503	\$203,401
Food	\$12,720	\$40,526	\$38,373
Blankets	\$605	\$3,780	\$13,793
Clothing	\$14,960	\$46,433	\$87,567
Apartment Items and Furnishings	N/A	N/A	\$3,405
Other (Including mostly Sleeping Bags, Tents, Backpacks, and Personal Care Items)	\$66,417	\$94,764	\$63,668



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*\*Volunteerism increased during 2021 as a result of the Covid pandemic. During 2022, some volunteers received paid positions at MA, resulting in lower volunteer hours.*

#### *In-House Partners*

As noted in the Day Shelter and Supportive Services section, Mission Arvada hosts a wide array of partnering organizations in-house. MA's partners provide many services including, but not limited to, assistance with Medicaid, Medicare, and SNAP acquisition twice monthly through Benefits in Action; dental hygiene and exams twice monthly by appointment with Senior Smiles/Mobile Outreach Alliance, ongoing mental health services provided by Jefferson Center for Mental Health through a zoom kiosk and in-person therapist; monthly pro-bono legal services by appointment through the Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic; and weekly onsite medical services from the STRIDE medical clinic (including wound care, checking vitals, eye drainage checks and OTC medications with referrals for more advanced care). MA recently added onsite services monthly to recover Colorado ID or driver's licenses with Colorado DMV2Go.

#### *Other Collaborating Entities*

Additionally, Mission Arvada collaborates with and makes referrals to the following organizations in order to link clients to needed services:

- The Action Center
- Adult and Teen Challenge Rehabilitation
- Arvada Housing Authority
- Arvada Police Department and CORE Team
- Arvada Public Library
- Boulder County Housing Authority
- Broomfield Housing Authority
- Christian Legal Society
- City of Arvada Homeless Navigator
- City of Golden Homeless Navigator
- City of Lakewood Homeless Navigator
- City of Westminster Homeless Navigator
- City of Wheat Ridge Homeless Navigator
- Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
- Colorado ID Project
- Colorado Legal Services
- Community Table
- Denver Rescue Mission, New Life Program
- Dolce Vita Cafe
- EmpowerHome Team Real Estate



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- Family Tree
- Food Bank of the Rockies
- Foothills Animal Shelter
- Foothills Regional Housing
- Heritage Farms Residential Recovery Program
- Jefferson County Business and Workforce Center
- Jefferson County Human Services
- Jefferson County Public Health
- Jefferson Center for Mental Health
- JeffCo Food Task Force
- Justice and Mercy Legal Aid
- Marc Salzburg, Pro Bono Attorney at Law
- Metro Caring
- Metro Denver Homeless Initiative
- Metro West Housing Solutions
- One-by-One Helping Arvada's Homeless
- Recovery Works
- Salvation Army, Harbor Lights Program
- Severe Weather Shelter Network (JeffCo)
- Veterans Affairs
- Volunteers of America
- Wheat Ridge Housing Authority

### *Collaborating Churches*

Mission Arvada collaborates with, and receives referrals, volunteers, and donations from the following churches:

- Arvada Covenant Church
- Arvada Presbyterian Church
- Arvada United Methodist Church
- Arvada Vineyard
- Centerpoint Church
- Christ's Body Ministries
- Christ Community Covenant Church
- Christ the King Episcopal Church
- Cornerstone Church of God
- Faith Bible Chapel
- Foothills Community Church
- Jefferson Unitarian Church
- Living Light of Peace Mennonite Church



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- Mean Street Ministries
- Red Rocks Church-Arvada Campus
- Shrine of St. Anne Catholic Church
- Spirit of Christ Catholic Community
- St. James Episcopal Church
- St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church
- Storyline Fellowship
- Trinity Presbyterian Church

The Metro Denver Homeless Initiative and Mission Arvada

In the February of 2022, Mission Arvada received training and access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a large database managed by our regional HUD Continuum of Care, the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI.) MA uses HMIS for program enrollment, accessing and inputting client information and demographics, reviewing histories of homelessness, tracking services provided by MA and other agencies, administration of VI-SPDATs, and enrollment into OneHome for housing opportunities. Through HMIS, MA has improved coordination with other agencies serving individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, the use of HMIS improves Mission Arvada’s access to funding opportunities at the county, state, and federal levels.

HMIS Component	Number of Clients (2022 and Prior)
Day Shelter Program Enrollment	1,976
OneHome Enrollment	96
VI-SPDAT	96

*Additional Information*

At first, HMIS Staff were able to enroll existing clients from MA’s local database directly into the HMIS database using a data transfer. Since that time, MA has enrolled individuals one by one as they entered our program. MA has provided extensive support in merging duplicate records (individuals who already existed with slightly different information in the HMIS system.) We estimate approximately 10-20% of clients had no pre-existing entry in HMIS prior to enrollment at Mission Arvada, meaning that MA was the first point of HMIS contact of all regional participating agencies for those clients. The cumulative enrollment does not reflect the number of active clients- After 90 days of inactivity, clients are labeled “inactive” and exited from our program.



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### Data Quality

The data in this report was collected and compiled by MA staff utilizing a local database called MissionPro and the HMIS database, and using service records securely compiled in Google Drive by MA's case managers. All data was reviewed for accuracy as of Jan 16, 2024. For questions regarding this report, please contact Vera Ananda, Mission Arvada's Data Administrator by email at [vera@arvadarising.com](mailto:vera@arvadarising.com).

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### Additional Resource Links for Homelessness Data

[US Dept of Housing and Urban Development- Definitions and Categories of Homelessness](#)

[MDHI 2021-22 Comprehensive Homelessness Report](#)

[Metro Denver Homeless Initiative Homepage](#)

[Colorado Office of Homeless Initiatives](#)

[National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)