

— Adams County —

**COMMUNITY SAFETY
& WELL-BEING**

2020

ANNUAL REPORT



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO

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THE DIRECTOR:
MATT RIVERA**

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**MESSAGE FROM
COMMUNITY SAFETY &
WELL-BEING DIRECTOR
MATT RIVERA**

2020 was a year like no other, presenting us with loss, frustration, and many hardships. In the midst of those obstacles, our team proved exceptionally resilient and steadfast in its performance and service delivery when the community needed us most.

Community Safety & Well-Being (CSWB) team members showed a lot of personal sacrifice and demonstrated an abundance of new skills, as well as an immense level of comradery, to persevere in our mission to improve systems, elevate people, and strengthen neighborhoods. These were accomplished through a variety of initiatives, highlighted below.

Through the many challenges 2020 presented, our team became more agile and efficient in communication, and we were able to work more flexibly and productively than ever before. We are optimistic as we look to 2021 and will continue to make strong progress toward our goals as a team. I cannot wait to share more of the wonderful work CSWB accomplishes in the months and years ahead.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IMPROVE SYSTEMS

- Secured and issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) early on, providing much-needed relief to surrounding agencies
- Established the largest COVID-19 test site in the North Denver Metro Area
- Managed the Emergency Operations Center Restructure and Continuity of Operations Plan updates
- Kicked off our Code for America project
- Provided a staffing study to the Sheriff's Office
- Completed the Animal Management Audit
- Completed the Code Violation Process Improvement Project

ELEVATE PEOPLE

- Provided day service employment to individuals experiencing homelessness via the Day Works program
- Continued street outreach and provided supplies and resources to those experiencing homelessness
- Completed a successful Census project

STRENGTHEN NEIGHBORHOODS

- Launched a neighborhood drive-through farmers market providing food, hygiene kits, and other community resources to over 1,900 households
- Provided critical public health enforcement assistance
- Assisted with displaced animals during the fires
- Stood up a code enrichment program providing education, assistance, and other programs to support the county's vision of sustainable neighborhoods



Community Safety & Well-Being **STRATEGIC PLAN** 2020 – 2021



Utilizing Data and Technology

Promoting Social Equity

Forward Thinking

Strategic Partnering

Serving Responsibly

Criminal Justice
Coordinating
Council

Code
Compliance

Neighborhood
Outreach

Community
Corrections

Safety and
Well-Being
Evaluation

Animal
Management

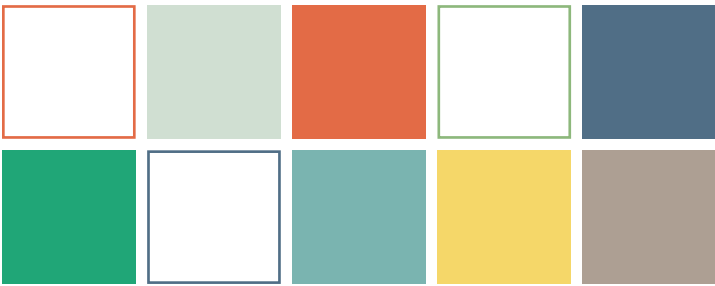
Poverty and
Homelessness
Reduction

Mitigation
Response and
Recovery

Emergency
Planning and
Protection

COVID-19

Response & Recovery



ADAMS COUNTY
COVID-19 *Response & Recovery*

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was engaged in a myriad of ways to assist Adams County residents during the pandemic. OEM responsibilities were vast and included significant logistical coordination:

- Coordinated with county leadership to initiate an Emergency Disaster Declaration for the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Initiated a drive-up mask dispensing point for senior living facilities.
- Entered into an intergovernmental agreement to provide non-congregant shelter in Aurora for residents experiencing homelessness during the pandemic.
- Coordinated an intergovernmental agreement with the City and County of Broomfield to establish an alternate care facility site at the 1STBANK Center.
- Coordinated the distribution of PPE from the Strategic National Stockpile to first responders, healthcare providers, and senior living centers.
- Provided planning and logistical support for the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Adams County Government Center in cooperation with Platte Valley Medical Center.
- Purchased additional mass care equipment to increase shelter and alternate care facility capacity.
- Maintained situational awareness by providing reports to leadership on positive COVID-19 test numbers.



Planned and initiated the Water World COVID-19 testing site, which continued through March 2021.

190,267

Tests conducted at the Water World testing site from Aug. 10 – Dec. 31.

\$300K

Coordinated the initial \$300,000 purchase of PPE for county employees and senior living facilities.

~400,000

Pieces of PPE distributed (mostly to county seniors).

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Community Corrections worked closely with Tri-County Health Department, the state, and existing programs to support plans to mitigate risks associated with this residential setting. Clients that advanced in the program were able to furlough home with program and board approval to reduce the residential population by approximately 50%.

CSWB staff also worked to connect clients who contracted COVID-19 with the respite center in Aurora to complete their recovery safely.



COLORADO

OUTREACH

CSWB provided outreach kits and services to residents experiencing homelessness throughout the county. Approximately 350 kits with food, masks, sanitizer, gloves, soap, and other hygiene supplies were given out. Nearly 750 hours of outreach were also provided. This outreach supported residents with connections to community resources and continued COVID-19 education and support.

In addition, mobile showers and mobile laundry services in Westminster and Northglenn provided services and outreach to people experiencing homelessness. Throughout 2020, this program provided 275 showers and helped residents clean 290 loads of laundry.

Adams County hosted seven farmers markets throughout the county to distribute food boxes, hygiene kits, and resources at each event to meet resident needs. A total of 1,900 boxes were distributed that served over 6,000 residents.



~350 Outreach kits distributed.

~750 Outreach hours provided.

275 Mobile showers provided.

290 Loads of laundry provided.

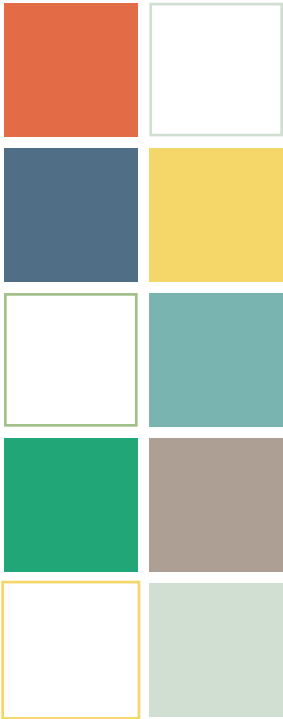
7 Farmers markets hosted.

1,900 Boxes distributed at farmers markets.

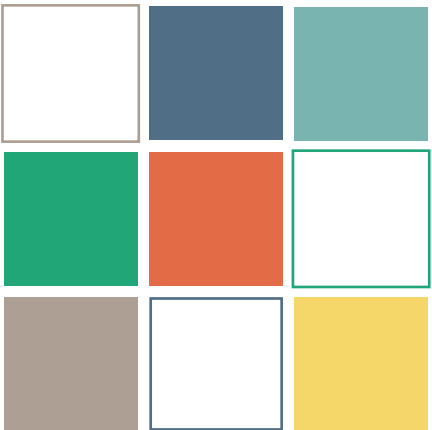
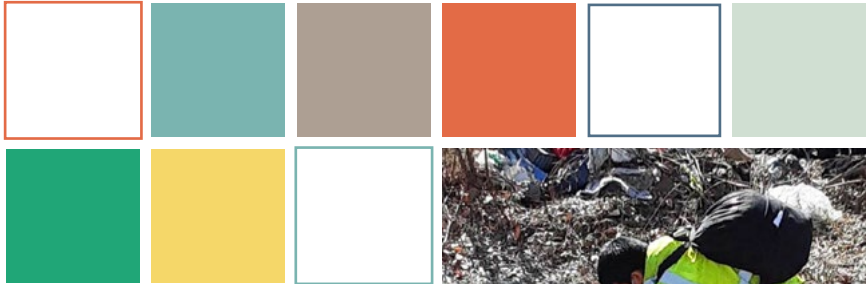
6,000 Residents served at farmers markets.



Improve Systems



CODE *for*
AMERICA



NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES PROCESS AUDITS

In the first quarter of 2020, two comprehensive process audits were completed in CSWB’s Neighborhood Services division: Code Enforcement and Animal Management. The results of both audits have been utilized to improve services to county residents. The primary goals of both audits were:

- *Develop a holistic understanding of the entire code violation and animal management processes*
- *Elevate the team’s ability to make data-driven decisions*
- *Utilize LEAN principles to ensure the efficiency and consistency of each process*
- *Develop Tableau dashboards to help the team monitor progress*



Process audits completed:
Code Enforcement and Animal
Management.

JUSTICE-CENTRALIZED ONLINE RECORDS PORTAL

The Justice-Centralized Online Records Portal is a project to share criminal justice data between municipalities within the county. This helps cities and the county have a more complete picture of justice involvement. The cities of Brighton and Thornton have signed the data-sharing agreement and the county will sign next.



Justice-Centralized
Online Records Portal.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DECISION-MAKING TOOL

The Adams County Community Corrections Board built, piloted, revised, and implemented a decision-making tool to determine appropriateness of clients to transition from the Department of Corrections to Community Corrections. There have been trainings for the screening committee, the board, and county board staff. The final version was implemented in July 2020, and data collection has begun. Since July, 215 clients have been reviewed utilizing this tool.



Clients reviewed utilizing
the Community Corrections
Decision-Making Tool.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN

OEM took on the momentous task of ensuring county departments developed Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP). COOP helps departments think about how they can best provide services during an emergency, specifically when county employees cannot get to the office.

OEM provided COOP training to county staff and continues to assist departments in completing their plans.



Helps departments think about how they can best provide services during an emergency.

DELIVERING OPPORTUNITIES AND OPENING RESOURCES PROGRAM

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), along with staff from CSWB, proposed and were awarded a grant from the Department of Transportation to study transportation challenges and solutions for justice-involved residents of Adams County. The Alliance for Community and Justice Innovation (ACJI) were the consultants selected to support this grant.



Awarded a grant to study transportation challenges and solutions for justice-involved residents of Adams County.



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER RESTRUCTURE

Adams County’s Emergency Operations Center began its restructure in November. COVID-19 proved now, more than ever, Adams County needs access to the most current technology and equipment.

These upgrades will enhance the county’s situational awareness and resource coordination.

HOMELESSNESS INDICATOR



CSWB is currently partnering with other county departments and outside agencies to develop a database with the intent of better understanding Adams County residents experiencing homelessness.

This will help CSWB develop more targeted programs to assist the county's most vulnerable residents.

CODE FOR AMERICA

The fellows have developed and implemented an online platform for the SWAP program; **swapp**. This platform allows outreach staff throughout the county to provide hotel/motel vouchers while they work in the field. Features in swapp allow CSWB to better manage room supply and ensure that residents experiencing homelessness can easily access temporary shelter.

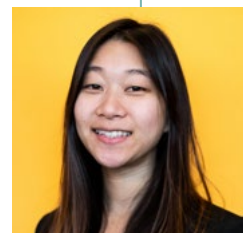
BRANDON JOHNSON | Brandon is a Southern California native and full-stack web developer. His B.A. in English Literature from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) has centered his interest in the words and stories shaping our society at every level, especially those from marginalized and misunderstood groups.



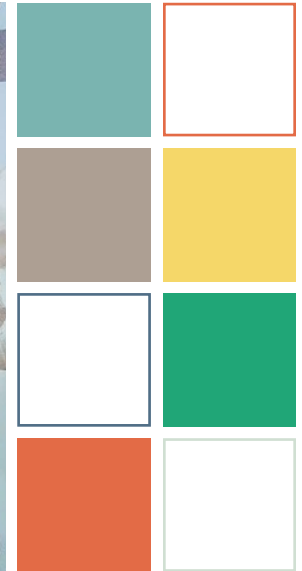
BEN POON | Ben Poon is a full-stack engineer from the Denver area. Prior to starting the community fellowship, he consulted on software projects for many different technology startups.



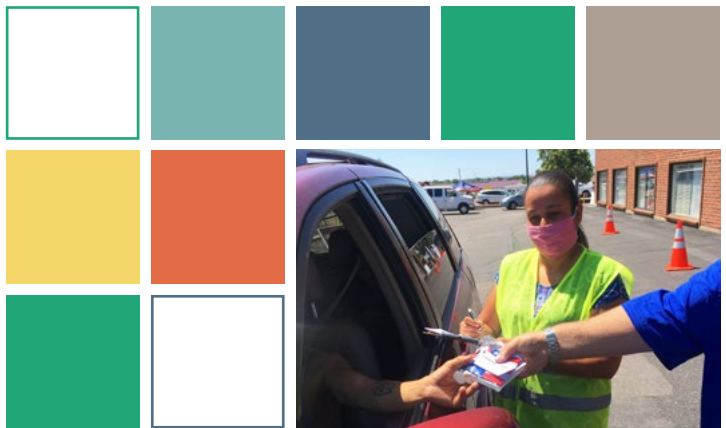
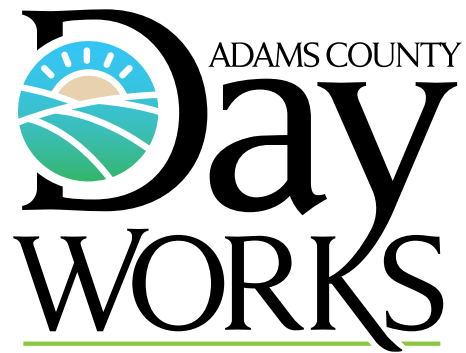
FIONA TANG | Fiona Tang serves as a Data Science Community Fellow at Code for America. Previously, she worked as a Data and Policy Analyst to evaluate health impact metrics of the National Diabetes Prevention Program, overseen by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. She created Consolidated Plans on behalf of Bay Area cities and counties to address housing insecurity and homelessness.



Elevate People



HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION *strategic framework*



CENSUS OUTREACH

Eight municipalities in Adams County partnered to promote the 2020 Census through community hubs and were awarded a \$420,000 grant through the Department of Local Affairs' (DOLA) Census Outreach Grant Program. The county and its partners quickly adjusted their approach once COVID-19 protocols were in place. The funds were used to provide food assistance along with Census promotion to reach harder-to-count communities.

\$420K Grant awarded through DOLA's Census Outreach Grant Program.

HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

CSWB developed its goals and objectives for the next several years to prevent homelessness, strengthen the housing continuum, and increase homelessness services. This effort was partner-informed with the goal to align current and future efforts addressing homelessness in the county.

CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT BOARD

The 17th Judicial District relaunched its Correctional Treatment Board (CTB). This board coordinates treatment efforts for those who are justice involved. The CTB applied for and was awarded \$40,000 in funding for sober living and transportation assistance.

\$40K Awarded in funding for sober living and transportation assistance.

SEVERE WEATHER ACTION PLAN (SWAP)

The SWAP program provides hotel vouchers to those experiencing homelessness when there are cold and/or wet weather conditions. A total of 88 vouchers were distributed in its first two months of operation. 482 more vouchers were distributed after the program's launch in October 2020.

Data generated through the program will assist CSWB in developing programs tailor-made to assist Adams County's specific homeless population.

2020

This program began in Spring 2020 and resumed in October 2020.

570

Total vouchers distributed.

1,703

Total nights of homelessness prevented since October 2020.



They were there when I needed them. The process was non-judgmental. Latasha was the first person I had contact with after being detained for the first time. She made me feel that I mattered."

Resident who utilized SWAP



CSWB hired a Community Justice Champion and is thrilled to have Heather McClure on board as an outreach team member.

“My name is Heather McClure. I am a Colorado native who grew up in West Denver. I was raised by my father, who hurt his back in 1982, so living in poverty is something I am familiar with. I was hired on at the beginning of 2020 as the Community Justice Champion to give a lived experience perspective. Once COVID-19 hit, my role quickly changed into a Homelessness Outreach role with the county. My experience growing up in need, as well as my struggles with addiction and incarceration, has aided me in addressing our residents with empathy and understanding.”

BUILD TRUST AND EMPOWER OUR LESS FORTUNATE RESIDENTS.”

“Led a family of four to resources that helped them successfully secure and move into housing after months of living in an RV.”

“I have assisted several residents in obtaining photo IDs, stimulus checks, SNAP benefits, and Medicaid.”

ADAMS COUNTY DAY WORKS

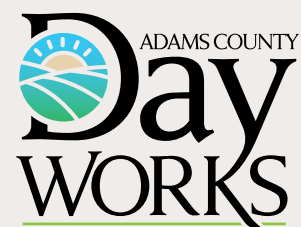
The county piloted its Adams County Day Works (ACDW) program in partnership with Bayaud Enterprises. This low-to no-barrier employment program provides day labor opportunities for participants while working toward permanent employment. Participants of ACDW receive same-day payment, onsite support and coaching, and resource and housing navigation.

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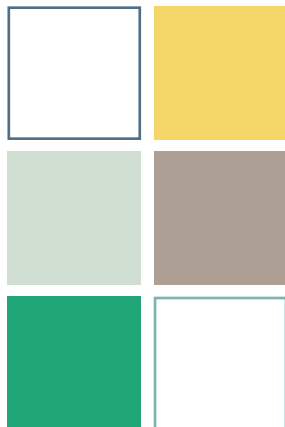
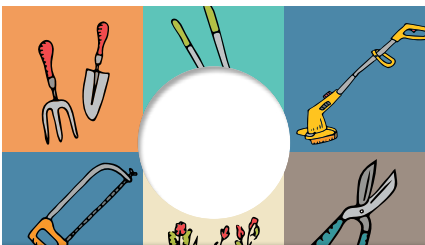
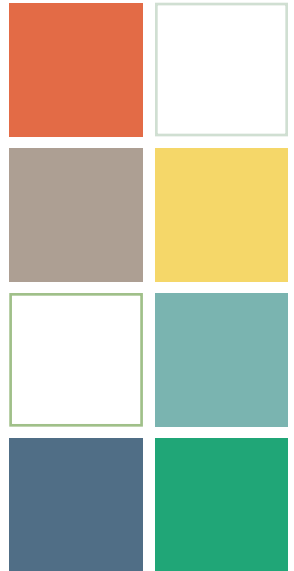
Individuals have worked in the program since its inception in August 2020.

8

Individuals have found full-time employment through this program.



Strengthen Neighborhoods



ADAMS COUNTY
COMMUNITY
Enrichment Program

Learn How It Can Help You



CODE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

CSWB launched the Neighborhood Tool Shed in Fall 2020. This trailer contains the necessary tools for residents to become compliant with local codes and allows the county to partner with them in beautifying neighborhoods.

FALL
2020

CSWB launched the Neighborhood Tool Shed.



“Code Compliance is working with neighborhoods throughout unincorporated Adams County to provide a personal and supportive approach to its residents. Residents can borrow tools for free, such as lawn mowers, weed eaters, and rakes. We are also working to create a landfill voucher that allows a free trip to the landfill. Our goal is to have community cleanups in which a neighborhood rents the tool shed to support their residents.”

BROOKE PETTRY | Code Compliance Officer

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

Developed in 2020, this suite of services is designed to elevate and increase connection in neighborhoods throughout Adams County. The program guide provides structure and a road map for residents who want to start a neighborhood group. Neighborhood groups are designed to elevate neighborhood voices and build community advocacy in all parts of Adams County. Neighborhood Connections also provides ideas on how to connect with neighbors through socially distant block party ideas, sharing information virtually, and other projects neighbors can work on together.

MOBILE HOME INITIATIVE



CSWB is providing more support and resources to those residing in mobile home communities with the goal of housing stability. This initiative includes Know Your Rights clinics, community outreach, and volunteer attorneys who work with residents.

LOOKING FORWARD

2021 Goals

**EXPAND THE SWAP PROGRAM TO PROVIDE
YEAR-ROUND HOTEL VOUCHERS.**

DEVELOP A PARKING PROGRAM.

DEVELOP ONLINE TRANSPARENCY PORTAL.

**INTERVENTION COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
SERVICES BEGAN OPERATING THE ADAMS COUNTY
OPPORTUNITY CENTER IN JANUARY 2021.**

**COMPLETE ROLLOUT OF NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS
THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT
OF NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS.**

**PROVIDE UPWARD MOBILITY AND HOUSEHOLD
STABILITY THROUGH HOUSING NAVIGATION AND
TENANT-LANDLORD MEDIATION.**