

Legal Name of Organization: Loveland Housing Development Corporation
Address: 375 W. 37th Street
City/State/Zip: Loveland, CO 80537

Purpose of Organization: To provide low to moderate income individuals and families opportunities for home and community through housing.

Year Founded: 1971
Total Annual Operating Budget (Year?): \$650,695
Primary Source/s of Funds: grants & donations
Tax Exempt Under IRS 501(C)(3) [Yes, No or Pending]: YES
Federal Tax ID#: 84-0659780

Goal:

Provide supportive services to enrich the lives of homeless veterans resulting in long-term housing stability and increased self-sufficiency.

Scope:

To address the needs of the growing homeless population in Northern Colorado, the Loveland Housing Development Corporation has collaborated with multiple community organizations. The Edge, a 70 unit residential community, includes a 10 unit building dedicated to providing housing for homeless veterans referred by the Veterans Administration. The program will operate on the Housing First model; housing *plus* supports. With limited resources, these veterans lack the ability to secure transportation for accessing services to support self-sufficiency and sustain long-term permanent housing.

Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry such as sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements. Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry. Studies such as HUD's *The applicability of Housing First Models to Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illness* have shown that Housing First permanent supportive housing models result in long-term housing stability, improved physical and behavioral health outcomes, and reduced use of crisis services such as emergency departments, hospitals, and jails. According to a study published in March 2015 by the Journal of American Medical Association, over a 24 month period, up to 77% of participants in the study receiving housing *and* supports remained in stable housing.

At The Edge, implementation of supportive services will be based on the needs and interests of the current veteran residents. Services and opportunities will meet individual or group needs as well as provide community integration opportunities for veterans to engage with the other Edge community residents. Services will include access to behavioral, medical, and emotional health care and provide opportunities for educational and vocational growth to support re-entry into employment or increased ability to make a living wage. Additionally, services and programs will be available to encourage veterans to engage with their local community of Edge residents

through arts and cultural events.

Describe the need your project will address:

Within a 2-4 mile radius of The Edge, there are over 3,000 business employing more than 35,000 people. Nearly 60 percent of these employers are made up of service providers and retail trades. The Loveland Housing Development Corporation is seeking funding for a transportation vehicle (van) to increase each Edge veteran's access to the community and supportive services. The van will increase self-sufficiency and access to:

- Behavioral, medical and emotional health care (VA)
- Employment
- Opportunities for educational and vocational growth to support re-entry to the workforce
- Recreation/wellness
- Shopping and events

Budget (Funding Request): \$8,500

- \$5,000 – The cost of the van is \$25,000. We need an additional \$5,000 to help close the gap on purchasing the 16 passenger community van. The Leadership Loveland class of 2017 raised \$20,000 towards the purchase of the van. LHDC will collaborate with the Davidson-Gebhardt Family Dealership to provide regular maintenance to ensure the van is in working order.
- \$3,500 – Will go towards the cost of wrapping the van with an American Flag and a picture of The Edge Community. This will allow us to promote the program throughout the community (mobile billboard) and leverage more supporters to this great cause. We will be sure to include the Rotary emblem on the van as proud partner of this project.

Funding from the Rotary Club will enable the Loveland Housing Development Corporation to provide affordable housing with supportive services to enrich lives and increase the ability of homeless veterans to sustain stable housing and become self-sufficient. Together we can break the cycle of homelessness and serve those who have served us.