

Northern Colorado Rotary Clubs on *Why Fort Collins Rescue Mission Matters* How Local Rotary Clubs Stepped Up to Help During COVID-19



What inspired the Rotary Club of Fort Collins to donate 3,000 masks to FCRM during COVID-19?

At a Rotary meeting, I heard about the challenges the Mission was facing as a result of COVID-19. Many in our community were in need of masks, but those experiencing homelessness were especially vulnerable. We immediately started working on a Rotary District Grant to bring in masks for the Mission, Homeward Alliance and the Northside Aztlan Community Center. The Rotary Club of Fort Collins donated \$500, our Rotary district matched \$500 and we were able to donate 3,000 masks.

How have you seen FCRM make a difference in the Northern Colorado community?

One important thing I've seen FCRM do is make sure that people experiencing homelessness are truly seen and not ignored. It's important to include them in local conversations and consider them as community members with their own needs, rather than as "nuisances." It keeps the community proactively involved and see solutions as beneficial to the community at large.

How has your involvement with FCRM impacted you personally?

In the early days of the pandemic, I was feeling overwhelmed and helpless. It was easy to become focused on what my family and I had "lost" due to the sudden changes in our lives. Being a part of something bigger reminded me—as it always does—of what really matters.

- Robin Steele, Member of Rotary Club of Fort Collins











