



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**  
**District Grant Final Report**  
**2021-2022**

This report must be completed and uploaded on [matchinggrants.org](http://matchinggrants.org) within 30 days after completion of the project but no later than 2 years after the date of approval of the project. For scholarships, the report is due 30 days after payment of funds.

**District Grant # P-3920**

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Rotary Club: **Greeley Centennial**

Project Title: **St. Benedicts Homeless Shelter**

**Project Description:**

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1. **Is this a scholarship governor's grant report?** Yes  No  (If yes, go directly to line 16)
2. **Briefly describe the project.** What was done and where did the project activities take place? Explain how the beneficiaries and other community members were involved?

Application Narrative: St. Benedict's Campground is a refuge for the homeless in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. In collaboration with La Puente Home and the City of Alamosa, the purpose of this project is to provide for the temporary needs of homeless in transition, who are experiencing poverty and mental health needs in the Alamosa and San Luis Valley region of rural southern Colorado. In the past year, the City of Alamosa has provided access to water, electricity, Wifi, and port-o-lets, and La Puente Home has provided windbreaks, tents, and picnic tables in collaboration with the Greeley Centennial Rotary club.

The intent of this small granted project was to help build one sustainable shelter for this homeless development. In late winter 2021, a heavy snow storm left two feet of snow overnight in the Alamosa area, collapsing tents, and burying the homeless of St. Benedict's. The homeless required emergency help to be dug out and moved to a temporary cold-weather shelter. A longer-term and more sustainable solution was the construction of small, hard-sided homeless structures. These ventilated and insulated structures have been locally designed in collaboration with the City of Alamosa and have been tested by the homeless of St. Benedict's. There is an ongoing need for additional structures.

Members of the Greeley Centennial Rotary Club intended to partner with members of the Alamosa Rotary Club to jointly build one of these shelters in fall 2021. Due to a proprietary design that has been exclusively approved by the City of Alamosa, the structure was built off-site in sections by Blue-Earth

Designs, a local independent construction company. In October 2021, a small team of Rotarians and additional community volunteers organized through La Puente in Alamosa came together to observe the installation of the unit and make enhanced modifications to the units, including shelving, utility hooks, gutters, lighting, steps and ramps, and hand railings.

**3. How many Rotarians participated in this project?** Two Rotarians participated directly with “boots on the ground,” and 4 participated indirectly through peripheral projects.

**4. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.**

We coordinated communication and oversight of the funds being spent and worked directly with La Puente in the identification, selection, and implementation of the “hut” structure. While this project is a continuation of efforts to provide better options for the homeless in Alamosa and the San Luis Valley in Colorado, club members have made multiple trips to Alamosa in assessing, collaborating, and constructing and installing items to be used at the homeless campground. These trips also included additional service, education, and relationship building. Our most recent visit was in October 2021 in which we facilitated the installation of the hut and additional improvements, as indicated above.

**5. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?** 60+

At any time, approximately 30 people who experience homelessness live in the homeless campground supported by the City of Alamosa and La Puente. The average stay at the campground is between 1-2 months. So far this year, that equates to approximately 60 people; however, that number will continue to increase over time, and the quality of materials chosen will allow the homeless to benefit from this hut structure for years to come.

**6. Who are the beneficiaries and what is the expected long-term community impact of this project?**

A variety of homeless individuals in the San Luis Valley of Colorado, some on a very temporary basis, and some on an extended basis, are the beneficiaries of this project. The long-term community impact has a direct positive impact on the daily living of those who stay at the homeless campground. Politically, this project has also helped to build better relationships between the City of Alamosa, La Puente, and Alamosa County, who each have taken a different approach to address homelessness in the local area. This has been slow, yet exciting work to observe this relationship evolve and see firsthand how these three organizations are working to help solve community problems together. Specifically, it has been exciting to see that the needs assessment for this project evolved in the past two years and that this hut installation is a practical, local, and sustainable solution to the ongoing challenges of homelessness in the area.

**7. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was their role?**

This project has required collaboration between the City of Alamosa, La Puente, and Alamosa County. While the City of Alamosa and Alamosa County are both governing bodies that help create and enforce local codes and laws and use community funds, La Puente has been an essential partner to help the community see the human impact of both taking action as well as inaction. In particular, the selection of the homeless campground location and the design and code approval of the huts all required collaboration and approval from the City of Alamosa.

**8. Income:**

Income Source	Amount
Greeley Centennial Rotary Match	\$1,750.00
District 5440 Match	\$1,750.00
<b>Total Project Income</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>

9. **Expenditures:** (number receipts starting with 1 and indicate a receipt # (s) for each expenditure) (Do not include travel expenses)

Item #	Date	Description	Total
1.	10/25/2021	Greeley Centennial Rotary Issued Check #10783	\$3,500.00
<b>Total Project Expenditures</b>			<b>\$3,500.00</b>

**10. Please explain any variance of more than 5% between the budgeted amount and the actual amount including the reason for the variance and why the alternative was chosen.**

We were able to stay within the original budget for this project. Rising costs for building materials increased our original estimate for the cost of a hut. Additional funding was provided through other Rotarians and a local church to provide the balance for the cost of the hut.

**11. Project score (5=strongly, 4=agree, 3= neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)**

	Project Score	Comments
The overall project was successful	5	Completed with positive results.
The grant process worked well	5	
My interaction with partner clubs was good	3	
We achieved the results we expected	4	The assembly and installation of the hut went smoothly and residents are using it now.

**12. Did you upload photos in your project on matchinggrants.org under the Photos tab? Yes**

**13. What worked well on this project and why?**

This project was successful as it supported the homeless in collaboration with the City of Alamosa and La Puente. Because of a shared vision and approval from the City of Alamosa for the Blue Earth Design design, in addition to labor and tools provided through La Puente, this project was smooth.

**14. What did not work well and how would you suggest improving it?**

Rising costs for construction materials and supply shortages required us to generate additional funds outside of this grant to fully fund the project. In future grant cycles, we will build in a small contingency to allow for inflation and supply shortages.

**15. How was this project publicized?**

Presentations have been made annually with our Greeley Centennial Rotary club. In Alamosa, La Puente maintains positive communication through its quarterly publication of *The Voice of La Puente*, a promotional publication that spotlights its support projects and needs. The homeless campground project is spotlighted in many of these publications. A copy of a recent presentation is attached in the documents section on the [matchinggrants.org](http://matchinggrants.org) site for this project.

16. Scholarship Governor’s grant only **N/A**

**Project Inventory**

Please list all items provided in this grant that are over \$500 in value and are not expendable.

<b>Item Purchased</b>	<b>Date of Purchase</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Initial Destination/ Location</b>	<b>Comments</b>
N/A				

By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures are attached. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights to the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant the District, RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or in the future, through the District and the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or developed. This includes the right to modify the photographs as necessary in the District’s and RI’s sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of the District, RI, and TRF.

**Please attach all receipts or an invoice and a copy of the check used to pay the invoice. Funds over \$100 not used must be returned to the district grants treasurer.**

Certifying signature of primary contact:



Date: **12/31/2021**

Print name: **Matt Thompson**

