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**OPERATIONS AND OWNERSHIP OF MURPHY CENTER TRANSITION FROM SERVE 6.8  
TO GROUP OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

FORT COLLINS, Colo.— Fort Collins nonprofit SERVE 6.8 today announced that it plans to transfer ownership and management of the Sister Mary Alice Murphy Center for Hope to a coalition of community partners in December of this year.

Under this new ownership and management, the Sister Mary Alice Murphy Center for Hope, commonly known as the Murphy Center, will continue to fulfill its mission of serving people who are homeless in Larimer County. The coalition of community partners includes four local organizations that will assume day-to-day operations of the Murphy Center, and Bohemian Foundation, which will become the building owner. The four organizations that will assume day-to-day operations are Homeless Gear, which is the organization that will serve as the center’s managing partner; Catholic Charities; Neighbor to Neighbor; and SummitStone Health Partners.

Homeward 2020 will serve as the Murphy Center Stakeholder Council to provide guidance on the community’s homeless response system.

SERVE 6.8, the manager of the Murphy Center since 2013, remains committed to addressing homelessness in Fort Collins, but plans to focus future efforts on preventative strategies, which include operation of the new SERVE 6.8 Resource Center at 1600 E. Mulberry St. The coalition of community partners and SERVE 6.8 are working together to ensure a smooth transition aimed at providing uninterrupted services to guests at the Murphy Center. The group plans to complete the center’s transition to new management on Dec. 7.

“The City of Fort Collins has been a long-time collaborator on homelessness issues, and based on this experience, we are confident that this coalition of nonprofits has the right experience, team and commitment to serve people who are homeless or near homeless at the Murphy Center,” said Deputy City Manager Jeff Mihelich. “We thank the staff and board of directors of SERVE 6.8 for their leadership and dedication over the past two years, and are pleased that they will continue to serve the needs of our community in other important ways,”

Since taking over the Murphy Center in July of 2013, SERVE 6.8 has facilitated 79,424 visits at the center.

“It has been our honor to serve the families and individuals who rely on the Murphy Center for assistance and to help stabilize this critical community resource during the past two years,” said Mike Walker, executive director of SERVE 6.8. “We are committed to our local community and look forward to continuing to strive to create significant and sustainable change in northern Colorado through other service initiatives. The Resource Center located at 1600 E. Mulberry is serving an average of 60 people per week who are at risk of being homeless if they are not connected to needed resources in our community.”

The new coalition of community partners will maintain the Murphy Center as a space in which multiple agencies can collectively and collaboratively provide a continuum of services to individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The agencies will work closely together to ensure that services are coordinated and delivered in accordance with best practices.

United Way of Larimer County, an organization firmly committed to supporting people who are homeless through services provided at the Murphy Center, is helping to facilitate a smooth transition to the new operating and ownership partners. United Way and a number of foundations, churches and individual donors provide funding for the Murphy Center.

#### ABOUT THE SISTER MARY ALICE MURPHY CENTER FOR HOPE

Named in honor of Sister Mary Alice Murphy, a Larimer County pioneer of service to neighbors in need, the Sister Mary Alice Murphy Center for Hope celebrates compassionate action and serves as a resource center for families and individuals who face homelessness. The Murphy Center opened in 2009 and has proven to be a model for community collaboration and an essential resource in Larimer County. More information is available at [www.murphycenterforhope.org](http://www.murphycenterforhope.org).

#### ABOUT SERVE 6.8

SERVE 6.8 is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that creates significant and sustainable change in northern Colorado by expanding and enhancing the impact of community and faith based organizations and by maximizing the full potential of compassion-driven organizations. More information is available at [www.serve68.org](http://www.serve68.org).

#### ABOUT BOHEMIAN FOUNDATION

Bohemian Foundation is a private family foundation established in 2001. Based in Fort Collins, Colo., Bohemian Foundation works to empower citizens and impact communities through its responsive grant making programs and special initiatives. More information is available at [www.bohemianfoundation.org](http://www.bohemianfoundation.org).

### ABOUT HOMELESS GEAR

Homeless Gear operates a family of six programs that provides a continuum of services to individuals and families who are homeless: supplies that help them survive in the short-term, connections to resources in the interim and links to employment, housing and self-sufficiency in the long-term.

### ABOUT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Denver has been serving the Northern Colorado community since 1983. We serve thousands of people each year in three areas: Shelter Services, Senior Services and Emergency Services. Catholic Charities is open to, and serves, all people. We collaborate with Catholic parishes and local churches, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, medical facilities and educational institutions. Our shelters provide short- and long-term housing and supportive services with the objective of helping people become self-reliant.

### ABOUT NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization serving as a primary housing resource for Larimer County residents since 1970, with services from homelessness to homeownership. N2N has operated its Fort Collins Renter Program at the Murphy Center since 2009. N2N's Renter Program offers the following services: Emergency Rent Assistance, First Month's Rent Assistance and Housing Search Assistance. N2N impacts over 5,000 individuals each year.

### ABOUT SUMMITSTONE HEALTH PARTNERS

SummitStone Health Partners is a private non-profit whose mission is to provide unsurpassed behavioral health prevention, intervention and treatment services in Larimer County. With 23 locations throughout Larimer County, SummitStone Health Partners provides mental health and substance abuse treatment that center on improving the lives of people served by building healthier individuals and families. Over 50 products and services allow SummitStone Health Partners to meet the individualized needs of consumers and their families through evidence-based and consumer-focused care. For more information, please visit [www.summitstonehealth.org](http://www.summitstonehealth.org).

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