



OCTOBER, 2021

Welcome to the South Metro Community Foundation's first newsletter! Thank you for your interest in improving the quality of life for all people living in the South Metro Area.

ABOUT THE SMCF

After establishing 501(c)3 status, a group of South Metro community leaders began meeting in 2019 to study the major issues facing residents of the area, and in 2020 established a distinguished Board of Directors and Advisory Council. You can see the names and titles of those outstanding community leaders on our website.

The South Metro Community Foundation (SMCF), a community-supported nonprofit, can accept donations, run projects, make grants to smaller community groups and accept donor-advised funds.

To learn more about the SMCF, visit www.SMCFinfo.org.

SMCF'S FIRST PROJECT

With no staff, only a dedicated, hard-working Board of Directors, SMCF determined that its first project would be to help raise funds for a Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center for Littleton, Englewood and Sheridan.



Forty service-providing partners of this state-of-the-art Navigation Center will guide people experiencing homelessness to the Center, learn their unique issues, and enter data about services provided into a database to learn what works to prevent and lessen homelessness.

TAKE A QUIZ ABOUT HOMELESSNESS IN THE TRI-CITIES AREA!

Elected officials, managers and police leaders from the cities of Littleton, Englewood and Sheridan met for two years (2019-2020) as the Tri-Cities Homeless Study Group to study the issue of homelessness in the area.



The group commissioned a study by the University of Denver. Do you know some of the basic facts about homelessness discovered by that study in 2020?

Take the quiz here! See the answers at the end of this newsletter.

1. What percentage of homeless in the Tri-Cities are male?
52%
29%
69%
77%
2. What is the largest age group of homeless people in the Tri-Cities?
21-23 years
41-50 years
51-60 years
61+ years
3. What is the race of most homeless people in the Tri-Cities area?
Latinex
African-American/Black
White
Multi-racial
4. What is the highest education level of homeless people in the area?
GED
High school graduate
College graduate
Post-graduate
5. What are the top three causes of homelessness in the area?
Mental health/addiction issues
Loss of a job
Inability to pay rent

Relationship issues

SMCF REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY



In June, SMCF co-sponsored a “thought co-op” with the Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce and Change The Trend, an organization with 40 partner organizations that provide services to people who are homeless.

Approximately 40 people attended virtually and online to hear presentations from stakeholders, including service-providers and advocates, a formerly homeless person, businesses affected by homelessness, an Englewood police officer and the faith community.

A similar community forum has been organized for October 21 by the GraceFull Cafe, Change The Trend and the SMCF. Please join this free informational session by clicking on the attached invitation and sending your RSVP. A free breakfast will be provided for those who attend in person. You can also attend via Zoom.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

The SMCF is a community-supported nonprofit with the potential to do immense good in the South Metro area for years to come. But as a new nonprofit, we need your support!

Please send a tax-deductible donation to SMCF on our website (www.SMCFinfo.org), or by sending a check to SMCF at P.O. Box 401, Littleton, CO 80160.

Questions? Ideas? Comments? We welcome them all at info@smcfinfo.org.

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

Answers according to the Tri-Cities Homeless Study, Oct. 2020:

1. 69% of homeless people in the Tri-Cities area are male.
2. The largest age group of homeless people in the area is 51-60. Thirty percent of the homeless are in that age group, followed by 26% in the 31-40 age group.
3. Seventy-four percent of people who are homeless in the county are White, followed by 7% biracial. Only 2% are African American/Black and only 1% are Asian.
4. Post-graduate. The percent of post-grads among the homeless is small, but 10% of all the homeless have a college degree.

5. The top three causes of homelessness are loss of a job, inability to pay rent, and relationship issues.