



April, 2022

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

News in this issue:

- SMCF receives major grants to establish the Tri-Cities Navigation Center!
- April 20, 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Sheridan community forum on homelessness at Sheridan City Hall.
- SMCF invited to join the Tri-Cities Homeless Policy Group
- Tri-Cities Action Plan earns Vision Award from the Denver Regional Council of Governments

SMCF Receives \$310,000 from Arapahoe County to Establish the Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center!



SMCF has been awarded \$300,000 over three years by Arapahoe County from its American Rescue Plan Act funds to establish the Tri-Cities Navigation Center, as well as a grant of \$10,000 from the County's Aid to Agencies fund.

SMCF is very grateful for the strong vote of confidence from Arapahoe County as well as for the support of Arapahoe County Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully.

Daniels Fund Provides Grant of \$50,000 for the Navigation Center

SMCF has received a major award from the Daniels Fund, which learned of the community forums on homelessness in Englewood and Littleton sponsored by SMCF, Change The Trend (CTT), the Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce and GraceFull Café.



After reading about the Littleton forum, a program officer from the Daniels Fund contacted SMCF and CTT to learn more about the Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center. He subsequently invited SMCF and CTT to jointly to submit an application to support the Navigation Center, and has now provided a grant of \$50,000.

The Daniels Fund, established by cable television pioneer Bill Daniels, is a private charitable foundation dedicated to making life better for the people of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming through its grants program, scholarship program, and ethics initiative. Visit DanielsFund.org to learn more.

Sheridan Rising for Equity Awards \$2,500 to SMCF

Sheridan Rising for Equity has generously awarded SMCF \$2,500 to help develop the Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center.



SMCF also has requests for support out to numerous other grant-makers. SMCF will continue writing grants to ensure that the Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center is sustainable in the future.

Forty CTT agencies and organizations that serve people who are unhoused will bring their clients to the Navigation Center, where their unique needs will be assessed, where they will be mentored and guided to services, and where their progress toward stability and safe housing will be tracked with a computer program.

Report on Homeless Forum Scheduled for Sheridan, April 25

In June of 2021, SMCF co-sponsored a “thought co-op” with the Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce, GraceFull Café and Change The Trend, an organization with more than 40 partner organizations that provide services to people who are homeless.

SMCF helped organize a similar community forum in Littleton in October of 2021. Almost 200 interested people attended. You can view the forum at [Challenges Of Homelessness - YouTube](#).



SMCF is working on a similar forum to be held in Sheridan. Partnering with SMCF is the City of Sheridan, CTT, the Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce, Sheridan Rising for Equity, Arapahoe County and others. SMCF Board member Mike Sandgren will facilitate the forum and Board member Sandra Blythe-Perry, Executive Director of Integrated Family Community Services, will be among the panelists.

The free Sheridan community forum will be held April 25, from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. with a light dinner provided. Everyone is invited, but please RSVP your acceptance to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-challenges-of-homelessness-a-sheridan-community-forum-tickets-300993007187>

Report on what's going on SMCF Invited to Participate in the Tri-Cities Homeless Policy Group

The Tri-Cities Homeless Policy Group was organized three years ago to study the growing problem of homelessness in Littleton, Englewood and Sheridan. The Policy Group, which consisted of elected leaders and senior staff from the three communities plus representatives from the police, service-providers and the faith community, established a Homelessness Action Plan in 2021. The Navigation Center was one major recommendation in the plan.

Now SMCF has been invited to join the Steering Committee of the Policy Group while it works to implement all of the parts of the plan.

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 the SMCF website.

As a community-supported nonprofit, SMCF can accept donations, run projects, make grants to and serve as fiscal umbrellas for smaller community groups, and accept donor-advised funds.

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

We Need Your Support!

The SMCF has the potential to do immense good in the South Metro area for years to come. But we need your support!

Please send a tax-deductible donation to SMCF on our website (www.SMCFinfo.org) via Colorado Gives or the QR code below; or by sending a check to SMCF at P.O. Box 401, Littleton, CO 80160. Please indicate the percentage of general support for SMCF and how much is support for the Tri-Cities Homeless Navigation Center.



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

SMCF appreciates a \$1,000 grant to support SMCF's operational expenses from FirstBank!

