Samaritan House is a ministry of Catholic Charities of Denver. Catholic Charities operates 23 different programs to help individuals and families in our community.

For more information, contact

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**THE HISTORY**

Originally founded in 1986 by Msgr. Charles B. Woodrich—also known as Father Woody—and Archbishop James Casey, the shelter made headlines as the first in America to be designed and built specifically for the homeless. In a story published November 1984 in the *Denver Post*, Father Woody said, “Our Samaritan Shelter has a different bottom line—one that stresses a caring, human dimension to restore the personal dignity of those who’ve been denied a sense of self-worth.”

**A HAND UP**

It’s not just a place to sleep. We provide a temporary home, a place for new beginnings. In addition to overnight emergency shelter, Samaritan House provides a longer-term transitional program to help residents regain independence. Each of our residents is matched with a case manager who helps him/her navigate our 120-day Levels Program. The men’s dorm has 126 beds, the women’s dorm has 48 beds and there are 21 family rooms.

**THREE YEAR PLAN**


**PHASE 1**

$1,750,000

**FAMILY SHELTER, KITCHEN, EXTERIOR GROUNDS**

**PHASE 1 OPPORTUNITIES**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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Total $1,750,000

**PHASE 2**

$2,500,000

**1ST FLOOR SHELTER OPERATIONS**

Updated women’s emergency shelter, men’s and women’s dorms.

**PHASE 3**

$1,750,000

**2ND FLOOR SERVICES**

Expand dining and offices, update patio, rec room, chapel and veteran’s facilities.

**THE NEED**

Samaritan House, at 2301 Lawrence Street, requires significant capital improvements to continue its mission of serving those in the greatest need. Goals include:

Expanding...

- the number of rooms available on the family floor from 21 to 23
- resources by adding a dedicated training room for both staff and clients
- by adding a job service training center and more case management offices
- the ability to better serve homeless women with dignity by upgrading additional bathroom facilities

Updating...

- the building’s heating and HVAC systems which are inefficient and unreliable
- the building’s flooring and ceiling grid systems that are worn, stained and damaged
- a commercial kitchen that is outdated and utilizes undersized equipment, making it challenging to continue to serve the needs of the shelter and other Catholic Charities programs
- the lighting systems that are dated and inefficient. LED technology is needed to lower energy costs and improve lighting to brighten the space
- the perimeter security fence and landscaping

Upgrading...

- Child Care and teen rooms
- Computer lab facilities
- Family room

**Fawn found the support she needed to rebuild her life.**

The 45-year-old single mother of three and grandmother found herself homeless again after a job loss and eviction. She was living in a program with her two younger children, but time was limited. “I got evicted and then I lost my job and then, it went down the drain,” she said.

Fawn was living on the streets for a couple of days while 10-year-old Jaydin and 15-year-old Kiko stayed with their older sister. Just as Fawn was losing hope, Samaritan House shelter in Denver called. It had space for her and her two children.

Fawn found the support she needed to rebuild her life.

She used the program to her advantage by taking available classes for substance abuse prevention, finances and more. She started to regain hope.

“I was very broken, very broken when I got here. I mean, I’m 45. And I just thought, ’I’m not good enough,’ Fawn said. “I think this place gave me the support, because they knew I could do it.”

In the spring, Fawn and her family moved into their own place together. They feel confident and stronger now that they’re on the right path.