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New Permanent Supporting Housing Community ‘The Commons’ Now Open in Colorado Springs

Official ribbon cutting to be held on April 25 at 1 p.m.

Colorado Springs, CO, April 11, 2023 – The Commons, a new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) community for Veterans, families and individuals seeking stable housing, is now open in Colorado Springs. The first phase of The Commons includes 50 one, two, and three-bedroom apartment units for individuals and families experiencing unstable housing and who are in-need of clinical services. Sixteen percent of the units will be reserved for Veterans. The Commons is a partnership between Colorado Springs-based non-profit [Homeward Pikes Peak](#) (HPP) and Denver-based affordable housing non-profit [Rocky Mountain Communities](#) (RMC). The community is located at 3745 Marion Drive near the Citadel Mall, just one block from public transportation. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the property on April 25 at 1 p.m. At the ceremony, Mayor John Suthers, among others, will speak about the property and its impact on the community. Tours of the facility will be provided.

“The Commons is the first Permanent Supportive Housing community in our area to provide housing and additional supports to residents including individuals and families, which is unique,” said Beth Roalstad, executive director of Homeward Pikes Peak. “It was built using Housing First principles and trauma-informed design principles. Our team will provide residents with case management, health care, support groups, substance abuse recovery groups, job skills training and support, recreational and socialization opportunities as well as financial management. These services will not only positively impact our residents but will indirectly prove to be beneficial for the greater community, too.”

The four-story building includes an elevator, a large multi-purpose room, an area for health and fitness, library and computer lab. The building was designed with lessons learned from trauma-informed care that will help support residents’ needs for safety while improving lines of sight for staff to ensure the security and safety of residents, staff and visitors. HPP accepts residents with no income or insurance, with criminal histories, evictions and with domestic violence issues. This is the first phase of a two-phase development. Phase two will include an additional 70 units.

“RMC has decades of experience as an affordable housing developer and property manager in

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Colorado where resident services are an integral component of the community, and we are excited to add The Commons to our management portfolio,” said Dontae Latson, chief executive officer at Rocky Mountain Communities. “Our goal with The Commons as with the nine properties we own and manage, and the additional properties we manage across the state for other organizations, is to support residents so they can live fuller, more successful lives.”

The development team for The Commons includes partners Homeward Pikes Peak and Rocky Mountain Communities, and development consultant Dominion, a national for-profit developer of affordable housing, who provided pro bono development services to the project. E+A Architects designed the project and coordinated engineering and consulting services. BeauxSimone Consulting assisted in navigating the complex landscape of state and local regulations related to creating service-enriched housing. Bryan Construction, headquartered in Colorado Springs, was the general contractor.

Construction and permanent financing was provided by ANB Bank. Tax credits awarded by Colorado Housing Finance Authority resulted in financing through Enterprise Housing Credit Investments. Additional funding was provided by Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Colorado Division of Housing for tenant services, the City of Colorado Springs and El Pomar Foundation. The project received a grant through the FHLB Topeka Affordable Housing Program. The Colorado Springs Housing Authority is a special limited partner.

About Rocky Mountain Communities

Rocky Mountain Communities (RMC) builds brighter futures and inspires hope by providing affordable housing and resident-focused services to individuals and families in Colorado. Currently, RMC owns 1,240 affordable housing units for underserved populations statewide and manages an additional 245 units through its Pillar Property Services entity. RMC works with partners to provide free programs and services at properties that address the social determinants of health because we believe that everyone should have access to a quality home that promotes health, wellness and economic opportunities. Our resident services range from education to health-and-wellness programs to community-building activities. Since its founding in 1992, RMC has responded to the need for housing and program services for more than 11,000 families. RMC is a 501(c)(3) organization. For more information, visit www.rockymountaincommunities.org, follow us on [Facebook](#) @RockyMountainCommunities and on [LinkedIn](#) @rocky-mountain-communities

About Homeward Pikes Peak

Homeward Pikes Peak (HPP) empowers individuals and families to access stable housing, increase mental health, sobriety, and economic stability. HPP has been serving this community since 2002 as an advocacy and direct service provider. We serve over 750 clients per year through a continuum of programs that includes addictions treatment, supportive housing and street outreach, HPP works with individuals to overcome barriers to developing and maintaining stable housing and recovery. To do this, we adhere to commonly held social work values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. HPP partners with the City of Colorado Springs,

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El Paso County, the State of CO and HUD and a constellation of other service providers to ensure our clients get the assistance they need.. For more information visit www.homewardpp.org and on Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/company/homeward-pikes-peak/>

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