



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **West Mountain Regional Health Alliance Awarded \$2,743,690 for the Valley Alliance to End Homelessness serving Eagle, Garfield, and Pitkin Counties**

West Mountain Regional Health Alliance (WMRHA) was awarded a \$2,743,690 Transformational Homelessness Response Grant for the Valley Alliance to End Homelessness (VAEH), serving Eagle, Garfield, and Pitkin Counties. The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) through the Division of Housing grant will support the VAEH, a regional homeless response system collaborative, comprised of public and private organizations including Garfield and Pitkin Human Services and Eagle County Homeless Services, Catholic Charities of the Western Slope, Mind Springs Health, Recovery Resources and Salvation Army. WMRHA serves as the VAEH backbone and coordinating organization to support and strengthen the region's continuum of care, an array of prevention, shelter, re-housing and supportive housing services intended to make homelessness rare, brief and a one-time occurrence.

The Transformational Homelessness Response Grant Program (THRGP) aims to ensure everyone has a safe and stable place to live and thrive. Funding will support VAEH homelessness response organizations including Eagle County Homeless Services, Catholic Charities of the Western Slope, Mind Springs Health, Recovery Resources, and WMRHA to continue to strengthen the regional service delivery system for our friends and neighbors experiencing homelessness. This award represents the second largest grant amount in Colorado for the first round of the THRGP.

"We are thrilled to receive this regional grant from the DOLA and Division of Housing state partners," said West Mountain Regional Health Alliance Executive Director Cristina Gair. "This funding will transform the regional homelessness response system in the three county West Mountain region, by supporting VAEH homelessness response organizations providing critical services for those experiencing homelessness and move them to housing."

The Valley Alliance to End Homelessness regional collaborative exists to institutionalize best practices in three areas: Policy and Procedure Development, Strategic Planning and Consolidated Regional Funding to achieve a sustainable regional response for ending homelessness. The THRGP grant will provide up to three years of collaborative funding to expand the continuum of care for the region to transform homelessness response and most importantly house more families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

#### About WMRHA

West Mountain Regional Health Alliance's mission is to build an integrated health system to achieve optimal health for all people who reside in the West Mountain region. WMRHA focuses on Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) specifically, housing access and homelessness response through convening and coordinating the Valley Alliance to End Homelessness and food security through convening and coordinating the Mountain Coalition for Food and Nutrition Security (MCFNS). For more information about WMRHA please visit our website at [www.westmountainhealthalliance.org](http://www.westmountainhealthalliance.org). A specific VAEH web page is under development.