

# City of Fort Collins

## Social Sustainability Gaps Analysis

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Presented to:



City of Fort Collins  
Board and Commission Members and Staff  
<http://www.fcgov.com/>

Presented by:



Heidi Aggeler, *Managing Director*  
BBC Research & Consulting  
1999 Broadway, Suite 2200  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 321-2547  
haggeler@bbcresearch.com  
[www.bbcresearch.com](http://www.bbcresearch.com)

**C L A R I O N**

Ben Herman, *Director*  
Clarion Associates  
401 Mason Court, Suite 101  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524  
(970) 419-4740  
bherman@clarionassociates.com  
[www.clarionassociates.com](http://www.clarionassociates.com)

# AGENDA

- Purpose of study and focus areas (5 minutes)
- Primary findings by focus area (20 minutes; hold comments until end)
- Small group exercise to provide feedback (three 20 minute sessions)
- Top findings, Q&A, wrap up (20 minutes)

# STUDY PURPOSE

- Inform Social Sustainability Strategic Plan.
- Identify gaps in social sustainability

# STUDY PURPOSE (CONTINUED)

- “Social sustainability” = supportive services and networks needed by residents to achieve and maintain quality of life and self sufficiency. Can be short term (emergency assistance) or long term (quality education)
- Gaps may be quantitative (affordable housing units) or qualitative (frequency and quality of mental health services)
  - ▶ What creates gaps? Market pressures (e.g., housing demand), economic challenges (budget cuts for service providers, job losses for residents) and demographics.

# FOCUS AREAS

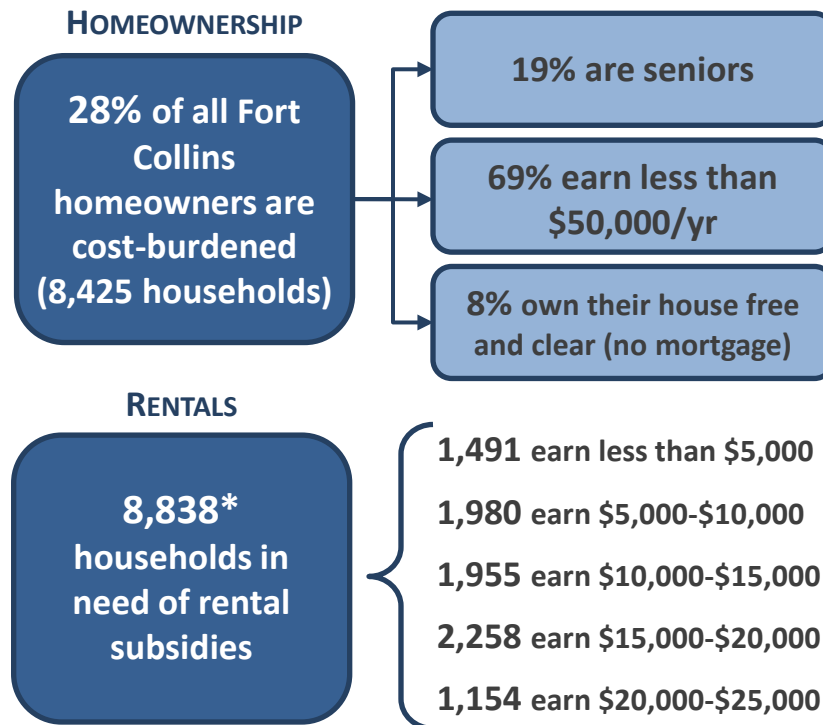
- Housing
- Homelessness
- Poverty
- Health and Wellness
- Education and At-Risk Youth
- Diversity and Equity, including racial/ethnic, religious, and sexual orientation

# FOCUS AREAS

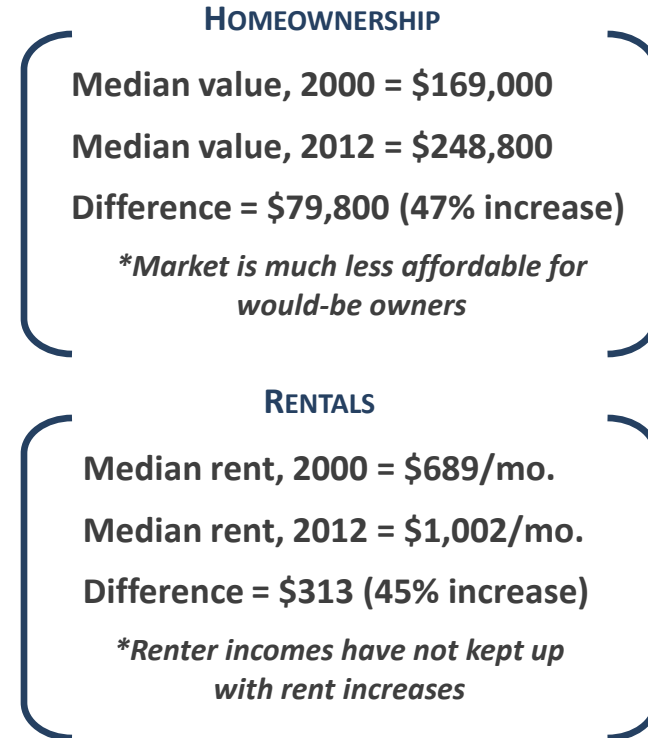
- Targeted Populations, including:
  - Persons with Disabilities
  - Seniors
  - Veterans (discussed in Homelessness section)
  - Victims of Domestic Violence
  - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender residents (discussed in Diversity and Equity section), and
  - At-Risk Youth (discussed in Education section)

# HOUSING

## HOUSING GAPS/INDICATORS OF NEED



*\*up to 4,600 of these could be students*



## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS NEEDS—AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Fort Collins Housing Authority—154 public housing units (1,600 household waitlist) and 1,100 vouchers (waitlist closed)
- Other affordable housing organizations/developers—2,407 units (includes some FCHA vouchers) with 300+ households on waitlists
- A continuum of housing types—limited shelter space, transitional housing, accessible housing
- Local funding/programs—Affordable Housing Fund, development incentives, housing trust fund, land banking, proactive marketing
- Nonprofit organizations—financial services, affordable housing development/advocacy, foreclosure prevention, homeownership programs, rental assistance, community development

# PERSONS WHO ARE HOMELESS

Number of homeless residents at any point in time:  
**250-500**

35% victims of domestic violence  
(90-175 people)

19% chronically homeless  
(50-100 people)

20% children  
(50-100 children)

0.5% chronically homeless families  
(1-2 families)

36% families  
(90-180 people)

20% severely mentally ill  
~50% mentally ill  
(50-250 need mental health services)

87% of adults are parolees/formerly incarcerated  
(175-350 adults)

Veterans  
8% male (20-40)  
1% female (3-5)

6% unsheltered  
(5-10 families)

Number of children homeless during the school year  
~1,000



# PERSONS WHO ARE HOMELESS

## RESOURCES

Coordinated multi-agency one-stop for assistance

### Prevention

- Rental assistance
- Utilities assistance
- Financial counseling

### Emergency Shelter

- Single men and women
- Families
- Domestic violence
- Youth

### Rapid Re-housing

- Rental deposit assistance
- Monthly rental assistance
- Financial counseling

### Supportive Housing

- Housing and services for:
  - *Mental health*
  - *Physical health*
  - *Workforce training*
  - *Case management*

## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE

### PREVENTION ASSISTANCE

**~1,000** Households receiving prevention assistance

### EMERGENCY SHELTER

**115 beds** • Single men  
**22 beds** • Single women  
**12 beds** • Families  
**107 beds** • Domestic violence  
**12 beds** • Veterans

### RAPID RE-HOUSING

**80\*** Households re-housed

### SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

**60** Supportive housing units under development

## AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Transitional housing
- Permanent supportive housing
- Beds for families
- Youth shelter
- Onsite health services at Resource Center
- Day shelter

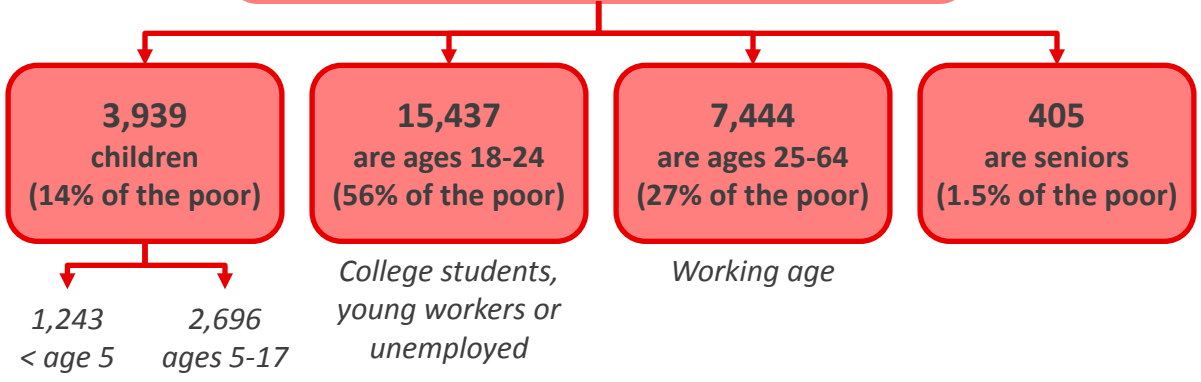
*\*January to October 2013*

# PERSONS LIVING IN POVERTY

## CHARACTERISTICS

19% of Fort Collins residents are poor  
9% of Fort Collins families are poor

**27,225**  
Fort Collins residents live in poverty



What is the federal poverty level?

Persons per household	Poverty threshold
1	\$11,490
2	\$15,510
3	\$19,530
4	\$23,550
5	\$27,570
6	\$31,590

### Disability and poverty

1,457 residents who are poor are disabled (5% of the poor)

Poverty rate of persons with disabilities = 15%

**VS.**

Poverty rate of persons without a disability = 20%

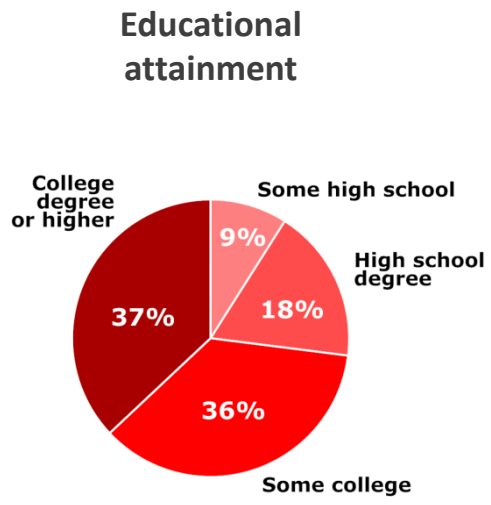
### Familial status and poverty

2,898 families are poor

Poverty rate is:

- 8% for married families with children
- 28% for single dads
- 36% for single moms

### Persons living in poverty are generally educated and employed



#### Employment status

	<u>POOR</u>	<u>NON-POOR</u>
Employed	55%	76%
Unemployed	11%	4%
Not in labor force	34%	24%

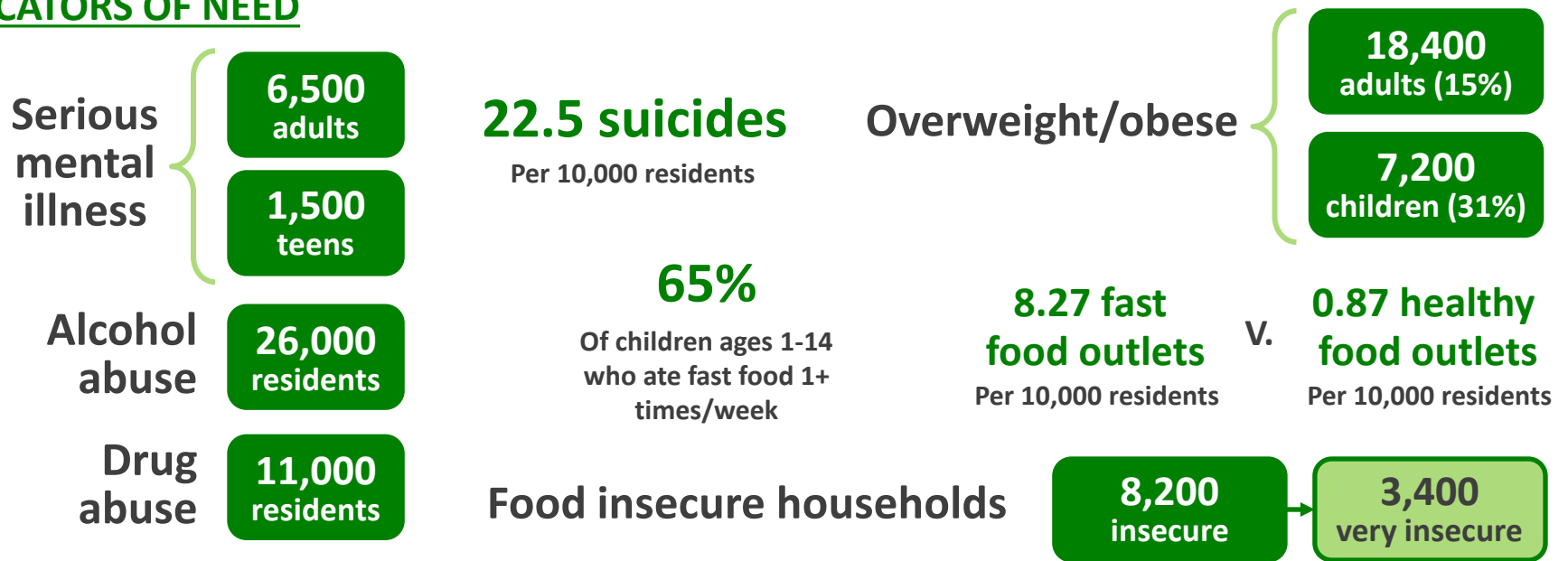
# PERSONS LIVING IN POVERTY

## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS NEEDS?

- Income support for those who cannot work
- Housing subsidies
- Job training and skills development
- Economic development to support living wage job creation
- Child care and before/after school care for working families
- Education system that addresses needs of students who are academically challenged
- Variety of social service supports
- Comprehensive coordinated approach to alleviating poverty

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## INDICATORS OF NEED



## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE?

### MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT



### SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

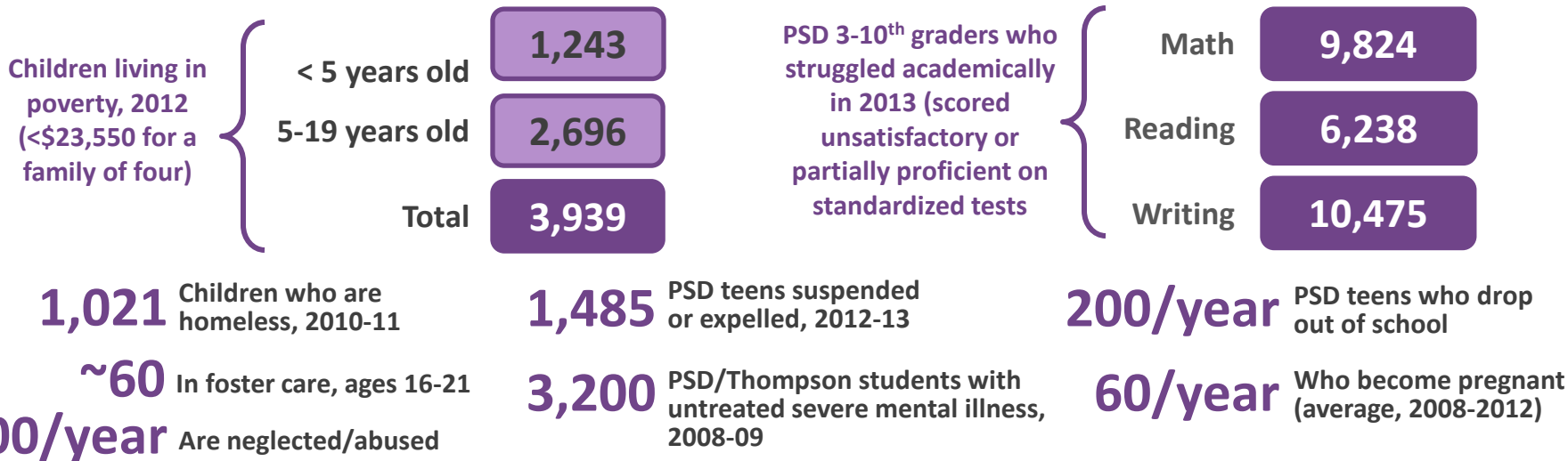


## AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Easy, 24/7 access to quality mental health services
- Detox center
- Respite and residential mental health care
- More sober living facilities for men
- Sober living facility for women

# AT-RISK YOUTH AND EDUCATION

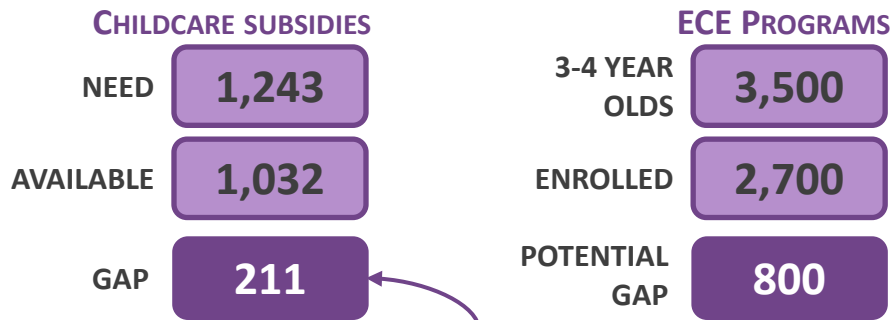
## INDICATORS OF NEED



## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS NEEDS?

- Early childhood education
- Before and after school programs
- Parent/caregiver support and education programs
- Youth safehouses
- Subsidized housing for low income and homeless families
- Therapy for abused, emotionally disturbed children
- Substance abuse treatment

## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE



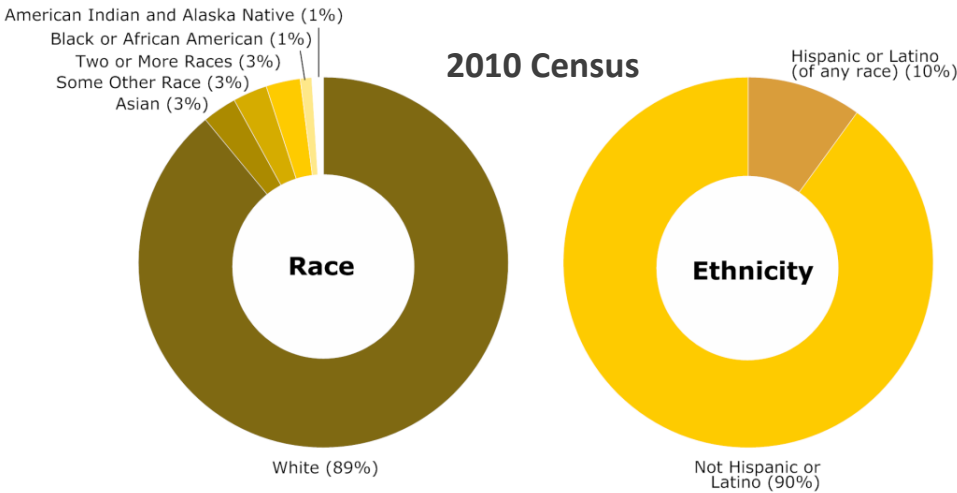
(likely to increase when program eligibility changes to 130% of poverty level)

## AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Child care (~100) children on wait lists, mostly infants
- Before/after school, summer programs (50-75 families earning < \$40,000/year need assistance)
- Subsidized housing for families
- Housing and supportive services for youth aging out of foster care
- Counseling, mental health, substance abuse services

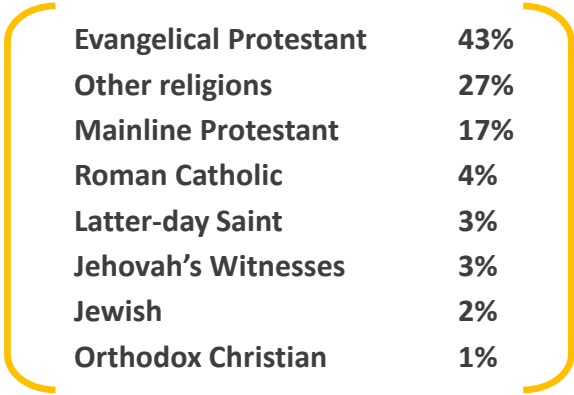
# DIVERSITY/EQUITY

## RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY



## RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

### Larimer County

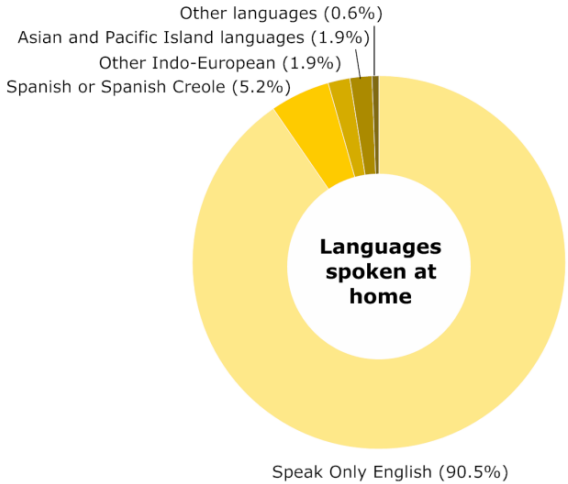


## INCLUSIVENESS/TOLERANCE

### 2011 Hate Crimes

State	Population	Total Number of Incidents Reported	Total Number of Reported Incidents, per 100,000 People
U.S. Total	286,010,550	6,222	2.18
Colorado	4,992,496	186	3.73
Fort Collins	146,494	6	4.10
Loveland	68,024	1	1.47
Greeley	94,507	10	10.58
Boulder	99,081	2	2.02

## LANGUAGE DIVERSITY



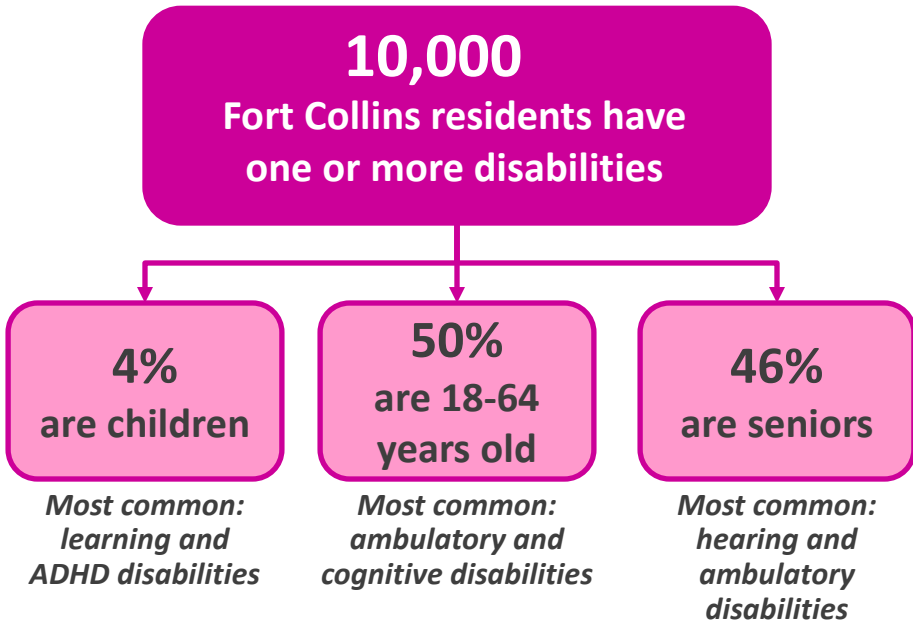
# DIVERSITY/EQUITY

## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE?

- Access to GLBT resources in high schools and CSU
- Access to counseling and other resources for the GLBT community
- Access to languages other than English on city and school websites
- Fort Collins International Center:
  - Conversational English classes
  - Cultural understanding programs
  - Intercultural education programs
  - Foreign student hospitality program
- Assorted cultural and heritage organizations/associations
- Resources for immigrants
- Anti-hate crime community organization
- Diverse places of worship

# PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

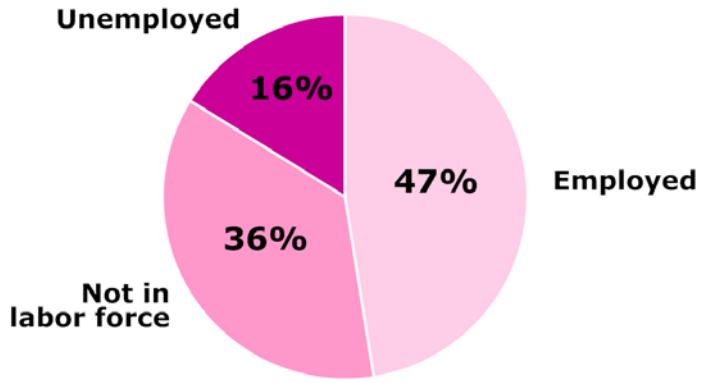
## CHARACTERISTICS



Average social security amount received by persons with disabilities in 2013

**\$1,129/mo.**  
or  
**\$13,500/yr.**

### Employment status



### Median earnings (2012 inflation-adjusted dollars)

Men with disabilities	<b>\$21,334</b>
Men without disabilities	<b>\$26,886</b>
Women with disabilities	<b>\$12,040</b>
Women without disabilities	<b>\$16,922</b>



# PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS NEEDS?

- Affordable housing (rents < \$300/mo.)
- Affordable, accessible housing, near transit
- Public transit with after-work, weekend hours
- Supported employment services (relationships with employers)
- Respite care, adult day care
- Educational supports for children
- Adaptive recreation opportunities
- Knowledge among landlords, businesses about reasonable accommodations

## WHAT IS IT MISSING?

Affordable housing  
(rents < \$500/mo. and  
housing choice  
vouchers)

~200

New accessible units

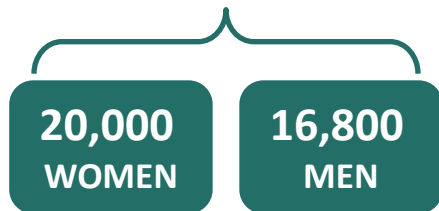
~60

- Quick access to medical care when needed  
(current wait = 6-8 weeks)
- Jobs for persons with disabilities who are unemployed  
(~1,000 residents)
- Supported employment services
- Transit that is available after work hours (6-10 p.m.)  
and on Sundays
- Accessibility improvements to existing homes/apartments  
(2,000 need rehabilitation)

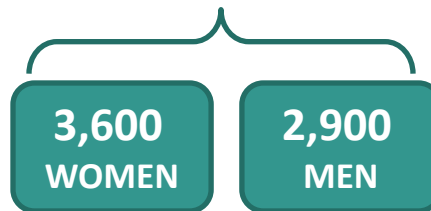
# VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## INDICATORS OF NEED

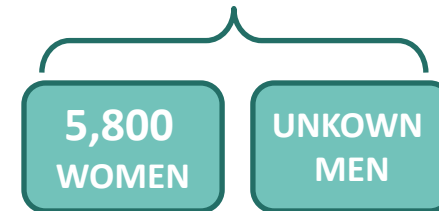
Estimated Fort Collins residents who have ever experienced domestic violence in their lifetime



In the past 12 months



Have long-term health impacts from domestic violence



## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS NEEDS?

- Emergency health care services
- Safehouse/emergency shelter for women and men
- Transitional housing
- Job training and education
- Counseling and mental health support

## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE?

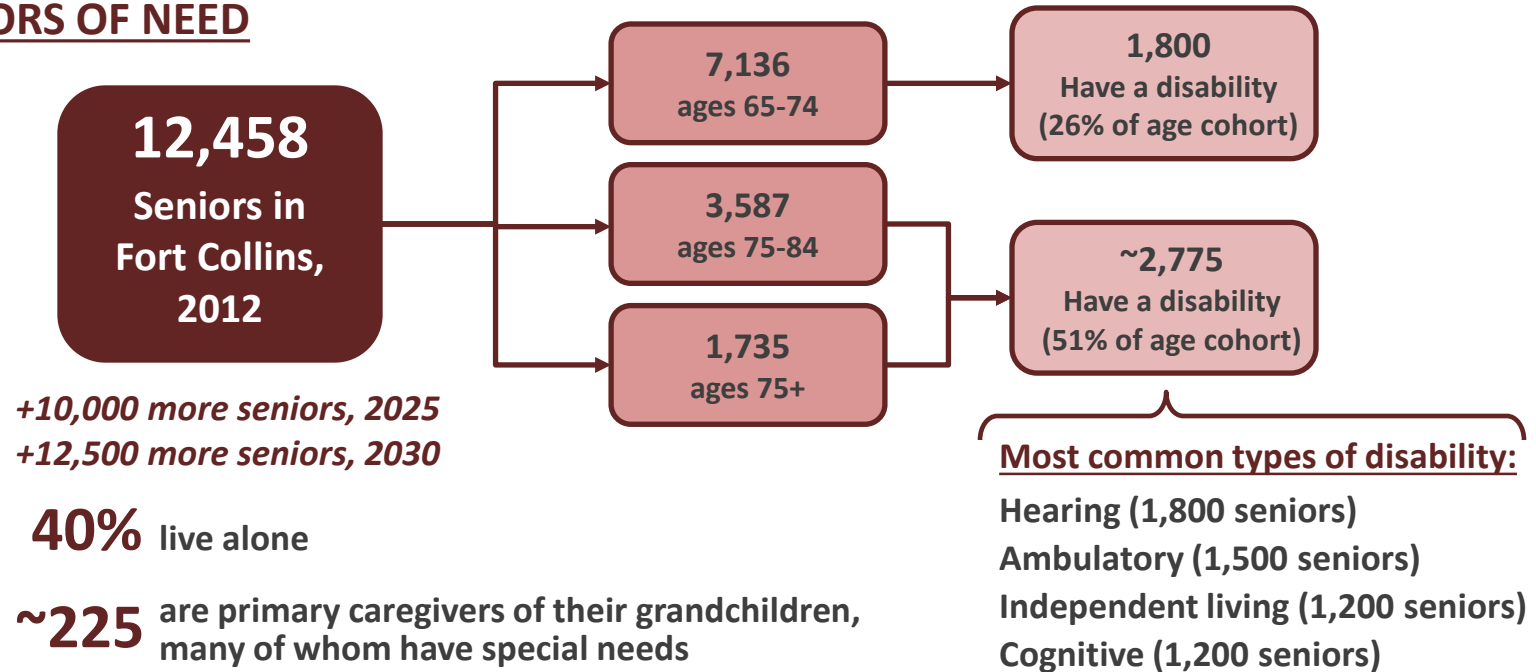


## AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Faster access to mental health services
- Permanent, affordable housing for victims

# SENIORS

## INDICATORS OF NEED



## WHAT DOES FORT COLLINS HAVE

- Aging and Disability Resource Center
- Family caregiver support
- Nutrition services
- Transportation assistance
- In-home day care and visiting nurses
- Respite care
- Household services—grocery shopping, small home repairs
- Emergency assistance with home repairs

## AND WHAT'S MISSING?

- Housing options for low income grandparents caring for grandchildren
- Accessibility improvements for low income seniors
- Visitable housing
- Stable funding for senior service provision

# SUMMARY OF TOP NEEDS

Note: social sustainability not an elimination of needs, but management of resources to meet needs.

## Primary needs (short and long term):

- Rental gap = 8,800 units/vouchers for renters earning < \$25,000/year. Wait lists for housing assistance = 1,500. *Long term need for permanent, affordable housing.*
- 100 chronically homeless residents. 1,000 children experience homelessness during school year. *Short term need for shelter beds during peak demand periods and transitional housing. Long term need for services and permanent, affordable, supportive housing.*

# SUMMARY OF TOP NEEDS

## Primary needs (short and long term) continued:

- Half of residents who are poor work. 30-40% of homeless work. Unemployment rate for persons with disabilities = 16%. *Need for jobs that pay living wages; accommodating employers.*
- Serious mental illness = 6,500 adults, 1,500 teens. Suicide rate higher than state's. 26,000 residents abuse alcohol; 11,000 abuse drugs. *Short term intervention, long term supports, easy access to mental health care and rehabilitation.*

# SUMMARY OF TOP NEEDS

## Primary needs (short and long term) continued:

- 4,000 of the city's children are poor. 3,000 have untreated mental illness. 10,000 lack math or writing proficiency. *Educational and parenting supports.*
- 10,000 residents have a disability; many cannot afford housing. 2,000 residents need accessibility improvements to their homes. *Short term need for accessible housing and improvements. Long term income and housing supports.*

# SUMMARY OF TOP NEEDS

## Primary needs (short and long term) continued:

- 3,600 women and 2,900 men experienced domestic violence in the past year. 300 children are abused or neglected each year. *Short term crises and health services; long term mental health supports.*
- Qualitative gaps in depth of service provision.

# Now, YOUR INPUT!

Please visit 3 focus area tables. Choose topics you are most knowledgeable about or have an interest in.

You have 20 minutes at each table.



# NOW, YOUR INPUT!

Please answer the questions posed about each issue area.

1. What information in the presentation surprised you?  
What did you learn?
2. Is there anything you disagree with?
3. Given what you heard today, what are the top needs in the focus area?
4. Do you have ideas for how the City could address these needs? Best practices you know of?

After your 3-table rotation, we'll discuss commonalities in the comments, answer your questions, and wrap up.