



Youth volunteers assist with a neighborhood improvement project.

MISSION
To support and build the capacity of citizen groups in Adams County so they may enhance the economic, social, environmental and cultural well being of their communities.

Office of Community Development
 12200 Pecos Street, 2nd Floor
 Westminster, CO 80234
 303.453.8500
www.co.adams.co.us

2004 Annual Report



Human Development Department
Office of Community Development

Dear Friends:

As members of the Adams County Office of Community Development, it is our responsibility to provide the programs, services, and tools to help empower every resident to build a community that provides a high quality of life for all.

The Office of Community Development (OCD) manages several federally funded programs for housing, community development, neighborhood revitalization, economic development and human service activities. The overall purpose of the programs that are administered by the OCD is to benefit the low- to moderate-income residents of Adams County.

Through our partnership with nonprofit organizations and neighborhood and community groups, the Office of Community Development seeks to empower Adams County's residents through:

- results-oriented projects that have a measurable impact on residents' lives, without losing sight of the human spirit or condition;
- processes that are participatory in nature, reflect the communities' priorities and enable citizens to influence decisions that affect their lives;
- collaborative efforts that forge relationships between communities, the public and private sectors and elected officials;
- the inclusion of the diverse cultures and citizens that make Adams County our home;
- building a core foundation of community organizations that are rich in skills and resources.

We are proud to be a part of the Adams County community and welcome comments, questions and ideas. Please contact us at the Office of Community Development at 303.453.8500. Please enjoy the 2004 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. DesMarteau, Adams County Human Development Director
Keith Frausto, Office of Community Development Administrator

Adams County Office of Community Development Directory of Services

Office of Community Development	303.453.8500
Community Transit Services (A-LIFT)	303.235.6972
Community Development Block Grant Programs	303.453.8516
Community Service Block Grant Programs	303.453.8517
Down Payment Assistance Program	303.453.8510
Food Distribution Program	303.286.4193
Head Start Program	303.286.4145
Housing Rehabilitation & Minor Home Repair	303.453.8509
Human Services Grants	303.453.8513
One Stop Career Center	303.453.8600

Office of Community Development
12200 Pecos Street, (2nd Floor)
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303.453.8505 fax
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2005 Adams County Officials and Office of Community Development Staff

Larry W. Pace, Adams County Commissioner

Alice J. Nichol, Adams County Commissioner

W.R. “Skip” Fischer, Adams County Commissioner

Barbara J. DesMarteau
Adams County Human Development Director

Keith Frausto
Office of Community Development Administrator

Paul Andrus
Community Development Program Supervisor

Vicci Archuleta
Grants Technician

Sedionia Boone
Grants Compliance Coordinator

Coresa Breault
Administrative Technician

Josephine Gutierrez
Grants Technician

Bob Leahy
Income Maintenance Specialist

Mariana Ledezma
Community Development Outreach Coordinator

Craig Machuga
Warehouse Specialist

Claire Mannato
Grants Accountant

Londy Ramirez
Housing Rehabilitation Specialist

Lily Rhoads
Food Distribution Coordinator

Janette Vigil
Grants Management Supervisor

2004 Adams County Needs Assessment

In 2004 the Office of Community Development (OCD) completed an ambitious countywide needs assessment, which included: a survey of 1,200 residents; conducting 13 focus groups in low-income neighborhoods; analysis of 20 existing studies and analysis of the Census 2000 data. The assessment also surveyed nonprofits and other agencies to get an accurate grasp of the existing service delivery in comparison to the current demand.

The implementation of the assessment was carried out through partnerships established between county and municipal agencies, nonprofits, and citizen groups. A Project Advisory Committee was formed to provide oversight to the design and implementation of the project. Ultimately, Adams County residents identified **education, economic development, and housing** as the three top-ranked needs.

Based on the results of the Adams County Needs Assessment, the OCD constructed the Adams County Consolidated Plan for 2005-2009. The plan describes projects, goals, targets and actions to be undertaken by the Office of Community Development and other partner agencies for the next five years. Community involvement in both the Needs Assessment and Consolidated Plan served to form the basis of an emphasis on development at the neighborhood level, and the development of OCD’s ***Target Neighborhood Initiative***, to be launched in 2005.

In 2004, the Board of County Commissioners approved funding of the ***Adams County Microenterprise Initiative***, a project to be implemented in 2005 by the Westminster Small Business Development Center at Front Range Community College. The program is designed to provide business training to entrepreneurs who are interested in acquiring the skills necessary to start their own businesses.

Adams County Consolidated Plan for 2005-2009

In the next five years the Adams County Office of Community Development will strive to:

- Maintain and improve the existing supply and quality of affordable housing to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income residents in Adams County;
- Increase the supply of safe, decent and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents to address the need created by economic growth and the creation of new jobs in Adams County;
- Expand first time homebuyer opportunities in Adams County for low- and moderate-income households;
- Provide resources, services and linkages that ensure that low and moderate-income homeowners and renters can afford to stay in their homes;
- Increase access to housing and supportive services for the homeless population in Adams County;
- Strengthen the delivery and coordination of public services in Adams County;
- Enhance the livability of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods in Adams County;
- Develop or increase the capacity and leadership abilities of residents and groups in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods;
- Increase economic opportunities for low-income residents that will increase their personal incomes and move them toward self-sufficiency.

Community Agencies Receiving Grant Awards in 2004

CDBG – Community Development Block Grant Award Recipients

Access Housing
Adams County Aging Network
Adams County Office of Community Development
Adams County Head Start
Adams County Housing Authority
Adams County Santa Claus Workshop
Adams County Public Works for Monaco Neighborhood Group and Berkeley Neighborhood Association
Aurora Community Mental Health Center
Children's Outreach Project
Community Resource Center
Colorado Homeless Families, Inc.
Community Reach Center
Senior Hub, Inc.
Town of Bennett
City of Brighton
City of Federal Heights
City of Northglenn
City of Thornton

CSBG – Community Service Block Grant Award Recipients

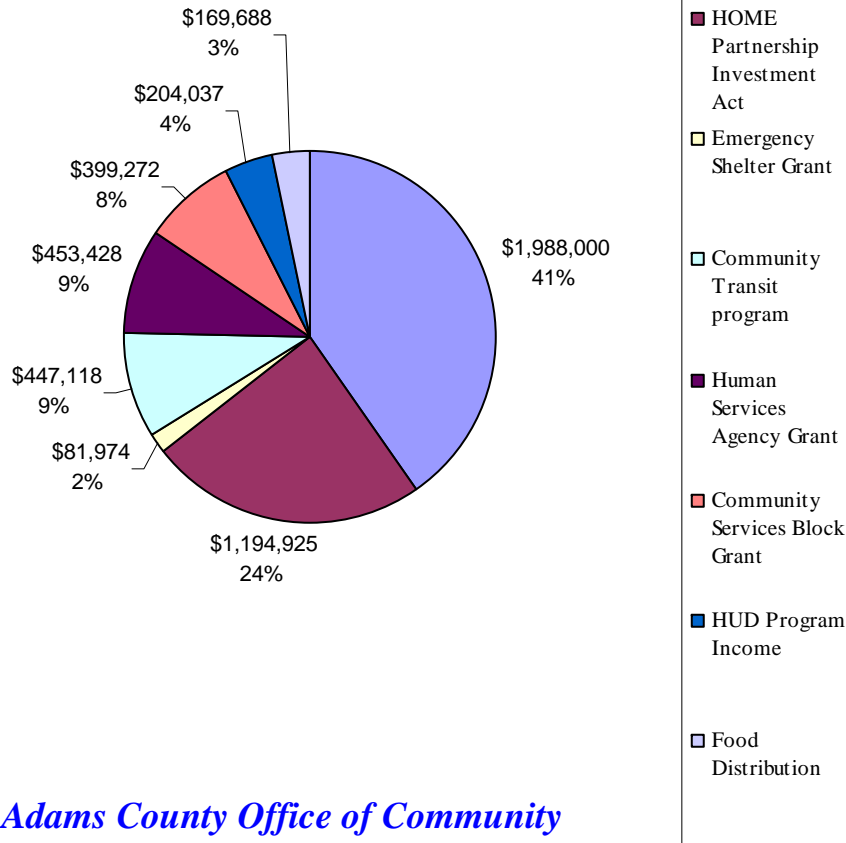
Adams County Office of Community Development/ Food Distribution
Access Housing
Adams County Housing Authority
Almost Home
Alternatives to Family Violence Shelter
Catholic Charities
Senior Hub
City of Thornton Senior Center

HSAG – Human Service Agency Grants (county general funds) Award Recipients

Community Reach Center
Aurora Community Mental Health
Arapahoe House
Clinica Campesina
Colorado Special Olympics
High Five Plains Foundaion
Radio Reading Services of the Rockies
Senior Tax Rebate (Adams County School Districts: 12, 14, 50, 27J)
Senior Hub, Inc.

2004 Financials

REVENUE by SOURCE



Adams County Office of Community Development has several funding sources that provide help to the county's residents through food distribution, transportation, housing and neighborhood revitalization.

Food Distribution Program

Adams County's Food Distribution Program (ACFDP) provides food supplies and is the certifying agency for twenty-two food pantries in the county.

In addition to distributing food four days a week, the Food Distribution Program participates in Channel Nine Cares Colorado Shares Food Drive and provides food baskets to the homebound, low-income, older adults and extremely low-income citizens.



In 2004, over 5,740 Adams County households were served through ACFDP. This represents over 20,500 individuals who were given food, the ability to maintain essential nutritional levels, and reduce household expenses.

With the help of dozens of volunteers, community partners, and civic groups, and through educational outreach on nutrition and cooking classes, the Adams County Food Distribution Program has strived to include the entire community in the fight against hunger. New effective partnerships are constantly being sought to improve the equitable distribution of resources and to increase efficiency and customer service.

"The most I can say is, if it was not for the Adams County Food Distribution Program my family would go hungry."

Ray S.

- Food Distribution Recipient -

Community Services Block Grant Program

Community Services Block Grants (CSBG) provide funding for a range of services and activities that help at-risk populations and help reduce poverty.

CSBG is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The program is administered by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and funded by the county for local use.



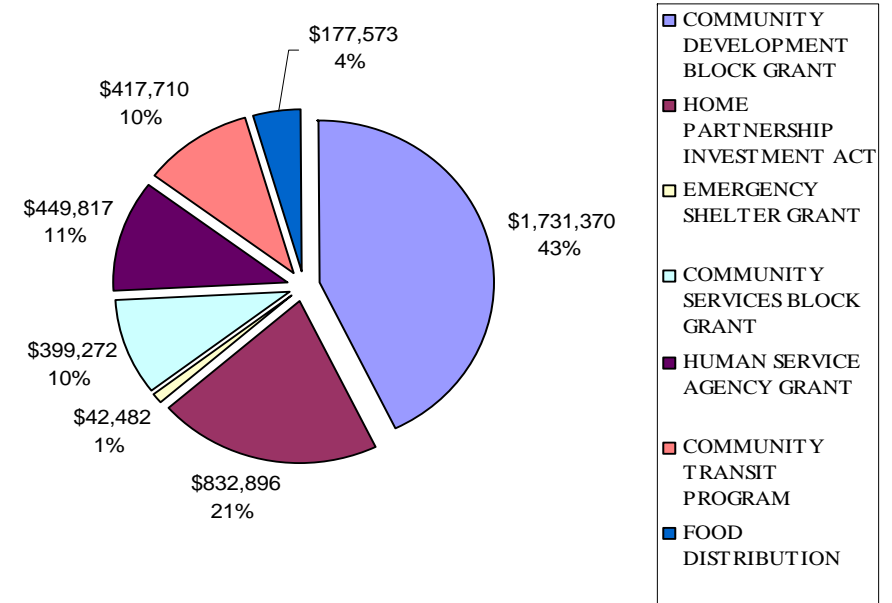
Funding awards are made to community organizations for the homeless and emergency shelter activities, shelter and counseling services for victims of domestic violence, senior nutrition programs (pictured above), respite and in-home supportive services for seniors, emergency assistance to seniors for rent, mortgage and utilities, and for Adams County's food distribution center program.

A total of 9,122 families/households, 13,690 persons, eight agencies and 15 activities benefited from CSBG funds in 2004. Thousands of Adams County residents were able to remain in the community and/or improve their quality of life because of assistance received from Community Services Block Grants.

“CSBG funds in Adams County have been used to establish and grow a core group of agencies, including a community development department, that continues to assist residents with their identified needs. It’s a great program and I am proud to serve as the chair of the CSBG Advisory Board,” -Randy McCall

2004 Financials

EXPENDITURE by GRANT PROGRAM



Adams County Office of Community Development works diligently to provide funding to community programs and services that enhance the quality of life for all Adams County residents.

Housing Rehabilitation & Minor Home Repair Program

Funded by the HOME Program and Community Development Block Grants, residents receive help through Adams County Housing Rehabilitation and Minor Home Repair programs. Low interest loans or grants to low- and very low-income homeowners assist in repairing or replacing major housing systems that are potential health concerns.



In 2004, HOME loans and grants contributed to the rehabilitation of 53 properties, including 30 single-family rehabilitation projects and 23 minor home repairs (pictured above).

HOME funding totaling \$66,000 was awarded to two Habitat for Humanity projects to be completed in 2005 and will result in eight new affordable homes.

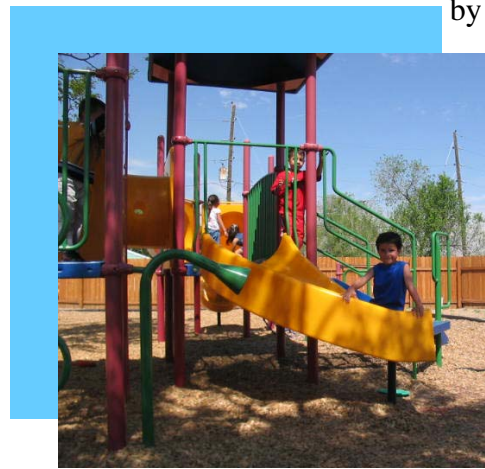
HOME funds totaling \$400,000 were awarded to the Adams County Housing Authority for the Creekside project in Thornton, which will preserve over 200 affordable rental units.

Finally, the Springbrook Apartment project received \$300,000 in HOME funding for the construction of 120 new affordable rental units.

“A warm and sincere thank you for all the help you have extended to me in the repair of my home. You and the people of your organization have made my life great and did something that I could not afford.” - Rehab Program Award Recipient -

Community Development Block Grant Program

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program, was created



by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The intent of the program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-incomes.

CDBG provides grant funding for community service projects that:

- improve public facilities;
- improve infrastructure;
- help housing rehabilitation;
- remove architectural barriers;
- foster economic development;
- promote community enhancement.

In 2004, funds were awarded to 12 nonprofit organizations, which resulted in projects that included mental health programs, rehabilitation to homeless shelters, public housing improvements, and Head Start playground upgrades (pictured above). CDBG also provided funds for senior programs, which included resources and referrals, meals, transportation, and senior centers. Projects completed benefited 31,053 persons and improved 88 homes.

“CDBG funds helps with bettering the community and provides the ability to better others.” - Jeremy Pakiser -

Community Transit Program

The Community Transit Program, A-LIFT, is a cooperative effort between Adams County and the cities of Arvada, Commerce City, Federal Heights, Thornton, Northglenn and Westminster that provides transportation to adults, 60 and older, and residents with physical limitations. Rides to doctor appointments, the grocery store and nutritional meal sites are provided on a donation basis.



Operating with a total of six vehicles and the use of private vendors, the A-LIFT provided 21,017 no-cost transportation trips to 553 older adults and disabled persons in 2004. The demand for transportation has steadily increased over the past four years. For example, in its first year, 2000, the A-LIFT provided 12,000 trips. The increase has been fiscally accommodated through the use of federal grants to purchase vehicles and equipment, fundraising efforts and the efficient use of the low-cost transportation brokering method.

*"I don't know how I would get to the doctors without the A-LIFT. I really appreciate the help!"
- Betty Cummings - A-LIFT Rider*

Down Payment Assistance Program



The Adams County Housing Authority, in partnership with the Office of Community Development, administers the Down Payment Assistance Program, which receives funding from the HOME Program. This innovative program provides down payment assistance funds in the form of a

deferred loan to very low- and low-income families.

In 2004, Adams County offered loans to 18 eligible citizens for down payment assistance for home purchases.

Human Services Agency Grants

Human Services Agency Grants (HSAG) are Adams County general funds used to support community-based organizations and public entities in order to provide programs and services to Adams County residents. Past funding awards to nonprofits and school districts have benefited mental healthcare programs, senior tax preparation, the senior property tax rebate program, Special Olympic programs, health and medical services, senior volunteer activities, rural emergency assistance, services for the seeing-impaired and senior transportation.

A total of 34,702 persons, 13 community agencies, and thirteen targeted activities benefited from Human Services Agency Grants in 2004.