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# STATE OF COLORADO

## EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

136 State Capitol  
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792  
Phone (303) 866-2471



Roy Romer  
Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

### CREATION OF THE

### COLORADO COORDINATING COUNCIL ON HOUSING AND THE HOMELESS

WHEREAS, the affordability, availability and accessibility of housing are critical issues affecting a cross section of Colorado's population; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of very low-income individuals and families are in need of housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, the housing industry substantially affects the the state's economy and employment; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments, nonprofit organization, churches and foundations and private industry have forged effective community-based partnerships to help address these housing needs in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the work of these partnerships could be enhanced by the coordination of resources and information and by a focused statewide housing agenda; and

WHEREAS, on an average day 3,200 people are homeless in the state of Colorado, including 500 children, and an estimated 52,000 people in Colorado are at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the homeless are a diverse population, including those who are homeless for economic reasons, those who are homeless because of personal or family problem and those who are homeless because of mental illness or substance abuse, each with distinct needs for support and assistance; and

WHEREAS, federal funds are available under the Stuart B. McKinney Act to provide matching funds and entitlement monies to states for varied purposes related to the homeless; and

WHEREAS, the nonprofit organizations, church groups and local jurisdictions who provide services to the homeless could benefit from a state effort to coordinate outreach and services to the homeless, to provide technical assistance and referrals, and to remove barriers among state agencies and between state and local agencies who serve the homeless; and

WHEREAS, a statewide mechanism to coordinate policies and programs for housing and the homeless would facilitate an effective public, private and community response to these issues; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Unified Housing Task Force and the Governor's Task Force on the Homeless recommended that a state coordinating council would be a useful tool in addressing issues relating to housing and homelessness in Colorado,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Roy Romer, Governor of Colorado, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws of Colorado, DO HEREBY ORDER THAT:

1. The Colorado Coordinating Council on Housing and the Homeless is created. The council will consist of the executive director or designee of the Colorado Department of Health, the Colorado Department of Social Services, the Colorado Department of Institutions, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and four to six members from the private sector. The Executive Director of the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority and the Director of the Division of Housing shall serve as ex officio members of the Council. All members, including the Chair, shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at his pleasure. Members shall serve without compensation.
2. The coordinating council shall be housed in the Division of Housing and the Division will be the lead agency through which the council acts.
3. A standing advisory committee on the homeless shall be appointed to advise the Council on matters relating specifically to the needs of the homeless population. The committee will consist of representatives from the volunteer and provider groups who serve the homeless and from Stuart McKinney entitlement jurisdictions. All members to this advisory committee shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at this pleasure. Members shall serve without compensation.
4. The Council shall have the following duties:
  - a. Develop and maintain policy and procedures for the council's operation.
  - b. Serve as the liasion to federal agencies and departments with jurisdiction over housing and homeless issues.
  - c. Work with the State Board of Housing to implement the statewide housing agenda developed by the State Board of Housing.
  - d. Coordinate the delivery systems for housing and respective support services within the State of Colorado.

- e. Develop a coordinated state government response to the homeless by linking relevant state programs, evaluating the effectiveness of current spending on the homeless, reviewing regulations governing present programs and responding to requests of groups serving the homeless for information or assistance.
  - f. Develop a data base and computerized clearinghouse of housing related statistics, programs and resources.
  - g. Develop an effective strategy concerning the maximization and distribution of Stuart McKinney funds to local projects and services to assist the homeless.
  - h. Sponsor competitive demonstration programs aimed at testing alternate service models to assist different kinds of homeless households.
  - i. Develop a technical assistance program to help providers be more effective in their delivery of services to the homeless.
  - j. Develop a coordinated plan for technical assistance to support local housing providers, especially in the rural areas of the state, with information about available resources and support and with training in finance, development and administration.
5. The council shall meet at times and in places designated by the chairman. The council shall submit periodic reports of its activities to the Governor.

Given under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado, this 15th day of  
May, 1989



Roy Romer  
Governor

