

Colorado Springs Ecumenical Social Ministries

Women's Transitional Living Program

Submitted by Rev. Ann Lantz

Prepared on: 11/17/17

For the Property of: 201 N WEBER ST COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80903-1309

Legal Description: Lot 7 EX N 8 Ft. of 64 Ft.

Lot 8 Block 64 Colorado Springs

Development Plan Area: 18,488 sq. ft.

Building Height: 30 feet (flat roof)

**Project Description:**

ESM is submitting for the conversion of 6 offices within the existing building footprint to transitional housing units for up to 16 unaccompanied women with an aim for an opening in April. Participants are expected to stay for 3-12 months. Participants will be drug and alcohol free, clean background check and are required to save a significant percentage of their salary. Once employed, required program fee of \$65/week.



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## Women's Transitional Living Program Project Statement

In addition to the current services that Ecumenical Social Ministries provides to our community members in need, we also plan to open a Women's Transitional Living Program (WTLP). We plan on converting office space into a sixteen bed living space for women experiencing homeless along with a computer resource room, living room, and dining area. The requirements/eligibility for entry into the women's program is:

- Unaccompanied woman who are experiencing homelessness
- Minimum of 18 years old
- Must be drug and alcohol free
- Must submit to a background check
- Must be able/ willing to take the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)
- Must be able/ willing to work or be in an educational training program that will lead to work

Women in this program are expected to stay for three to twelve months, depending of each woman's situation. They will be required to save a percentage of their paycheck once employed and pay a program fee of approximately \$65 per week to ESM to get them accustomed to paying rent. The women in the program will also receive intensive case management services that will consist of fulfilling a goal oriented case plan to help them reach their goal of self-sufficiency and permanent, safe and stable housing.

During daytime hours, when ESMs regular services are open, the women will be out of the building at school or work. They will return to ESM in the late afternoon. Any time residents of the program are in the building, there will be a minimum of two ESM staff members present with them. The overnight hours will be supervised by 2 non-sleeping staff members.

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### FOUNDING CHURCHES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH • FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH • FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH • FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
GRACE & ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL CHURCH • ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

**Figure 2 - Project Statement**



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## Women's Transitional Living Program Project Justification

This project does not require any changes to the footprint of the building. All building changes are cosmetic and will be made to the interior of the building. While the hours serving guests will be changing, we hope that this reduces the number of individuals lingering outside of the building during evening and overnight hours. At no time should the value and qualities of the neighborhood surrounding the proposed use be injured. We find that the proposed use will be consistent with the intent and purpose of Chapter 7 of the Zoning Code to promote public health, safety and general welfare. The proposed use will be in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan of the City and has come about as a direct result of the goals set forth by the Open Doors Act of 2020, HUD goals, and the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care strategic goals.

## Issues Suggested by the Pre-Application Meeting

No significant issues were determined at the Pre-application Meeting. Communication was suggested for project with adjacent property owners at time of application. Ecumenical Social Ministries continues to be in conversation with property owners to determine if any concerns need addressing with landlords or tenants before the anticipated opening of the Women's Sheltering Project at ESM. These conversations should and will be ongoing, even after project launch to resolve any unforeseen issues. ESM wants to make every effort available to be good neighbors to those in the area, while serving the greater needs of the city.

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## Women's Transitional Living Program Guest Living Spaces

Room Number	Room Area (Sq. Ft)
1	283
2	248
3	302
4	285
5	250
6	287

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