



## UniverCity Connections Homelessness Task Group

### Volunteer list

**Chris Kneeland** - Co-Convener and CEO of Center Partners  
**Jim Sprout** - Co-Convener and Northern Colorado Chairman of First Western Trust Bank  
**Gail Barrera** - Community volunteer  
**Joyce Berry** - Vice President for Advancement and Strategic Initiatives at Colorado State University  
**John Cordova** - Safety Technician at New Belgium Brewery and formerly homeless  
**Ray Caraway** - Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado  
**Dawn Davis** - First Bank loan officer  
**Mike Dellenbach** - Owner of Dellenbach Chevrolet  
**Doug Johnson** - Director of UniverCity Connections  
**Bill Kneeland** - Attorney  
**Corey Longhurst** - Colorado State University student  
**Daniel Covey** - Colorado State University student  
**Heather Meyer** - Human Services Technician for the city of Loveland  
**Sister Mary Alice Murphy** - Homelessness Advocate  
**Wendie Robinson** - Director of Neighbor to Neighbor  
**Helen Somersall** - Director of Catholic Community Services Northern  
**Gordon Thibedeau** - Executive Director of United Way of Larimer County

### Background

The Homelessness Initiative Task Group grew out of a community visioning process called UniverCity Connections. You can find complete information about this process at <http://www.univercityconnections.org>. During the UniverCity Connections process, concerns were raised about the impact of possible initiatives to the homeless and near homeless population present in the UniverCity geographical area. As the issue was raised, the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado received an anonymous grant to help support best practices research based on Homelessness. UniverCity Connections leadership convened a group of interested people and the decision was made to create a Homelessness Initiative Task Group.

The vision of the Homelessness Initiative Task Group is to integrate the needs of the homeless/near homeless (in the UniverCity Connections geographic focus area) into all UniverCity Connections initiatives.

The Phase 1 Action Plan for the Homelessness Initiative Task Group included promoting integration of thoughtful consideration of the issues and needs of the homelessness/near homeless populations into all UniverCity Connections initiatives; and sponsoring best practices research on how communities are proactively addressing the needs of the homeless and near homeless populations to end homelessness. This research takes into account what is known about the homeless and near homeless in the UniverCity area, contains a complete survey of what is currently being offered and offers recommended action steps.