COLVILLE FAMILY HAVEN

Housing, as a basic human need, is essential for all. Colville cannot thrive if its residents cannot find homes that meet their needs at prices that are affordable.

-Colville 2020 Comprehensive Plan

Catholic Charities Residents
Imagine waking up one day to discover you don’t have a home. A place to live. A space to function and take on day-to-day challenges. For too many in the Colville community, this is a reality.

Catholic Charities Eastern Washington (CCEW) and Rural Resources Community Action (RRCA) are partnering to ensure more accessible, safe housing for vulnerable families in Colville.

The proposed Colville Family Haven is a 72-unit supportive housing community located off Buena Vista Drive, across from the Border Patrol station. Here, families will experience a stable and nurturing environment that aims to break cycles of intergenerational poverty and create opportunities for a brighter future.

**Colville Family Haven**

- Permanent, supportive housing providing forever homes to 72 families
- 1, 2, 3-bedroom units, with a common gathering space and playground
- On-site support services including counseling, health care, access to healthy food and more
- Construction to begin summer/fall 2022, with completion by summer/fall 2023
Helping Families Thrive

Bringing together safe, secure housing with easily accessible support services in partnership with CCEW and RRCA will establish Colville Family Haven as a place of healing and transformation for families in need.

RRCA, is a trusted service provider in rural communities throughout Eastern Washington, will lead coordination and delivery of on-site services. As in other Catholic Charities family housing communities, services will include healthcare services, resident activities, employment assistance, mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, family services, medical transportation, senior support, and delivery of fresh, healthy food. A wide range of additional services will be available to residents through referrals to partner organizations.

The cost of the project is estimated not to exceed $25 million. Funding will be a mix of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit dollars and a Housing Trust Fund loan. 50% of the available units will be available to serve families who have experienced homelessness. All units will serve families earning less than 60% of the average median income (AMI), with priority for those earning less than 30% of the AMI.

The property is one of 18 affordable housing projects Catholic Charities has completed since 2012. Construction is expected to begin in July 2022 and be completed by June 2023. Units will include 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments, a clubhouse, and recreational amenities including a playground and community room.

“It’s often been said that there are many of us that are only a paycheck or two from becoming homeless ourselves. In these times of struggle, illness and political strife, I truly believe that if help comes at all, it will come from those here that care and have in their hearts a true compassion for their fellow man. I promise to continue to do all that I can to work towards an outcome on the matter that truly serves us all.”

Mayor Ralph K. Lane, Jr.
August 10, 2020
The Need

Catholic Charities Eastern Washington commissioned a market study in Colville, WA to assess demand for affordable housing in 2020. The results of the study demonstrated an overwhelming demand for affordable family housing and a low supply of available units. The study reported vacancy levels at or below 1% and that 1,841 households eligible for subsidized affordable housing, 76 households experiencing homelessness, and 12 chronically homeless households.

The market study echoes the Colville 2020 Comprehensive Plan, which identifies housing as a critical issue. According to the plan:

Housing is a critical issue for Colville, with residents reporting difficulty finding available housing across all segments of the housing market. This challenge has both humanitarian and economic dimensions, as homelessness appears more prevalent and as business owners report difficulties in hiring workers due to the inability of those workers to find affordable housing in town. Many residents and stakeholders indicated that Colville’s predominantly single-family development pattern does not provide the broad array of housing types that is necessary to satisfy all segments of the market. Multifamily housing of various types, including duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, apartments and condominiums, would offer variety for current and prospective residents that are currently unable to find housing appropriate to their needs. As Colville’s population ages, these types of units would also cater to older residents looking to downsize.
Being a Good Neighbor

We believe that everyone deserves dignity and respect. That applies to not only to our residents, but to our haven neighbors and local businesses.

At Catholic Charities, we infuse values of respect, compassion, collaboration, and justice in our commitment to being a good neighbor in the communities we serve.

Here are just a few ways in which we collaborate with residents and communities to promote safety and mutual respect:

- All housing residents sign a Good Neighbor Agreement as part of their lease. This holds residents accountable for their behavior so that the neighborhood is safe and welcoming for all.

- We do not allow illegal substances inside of our housing. We recognize that some of our residents are struggling with substance use disorder and that while treating this disease, our residents will make mistakes and slip up. Although we do not evict residents because of their disease, we do require that they behave in a way that creates a safe community for all. If a resident is actively using or in possession of illegal substances, they are putting their housing at risk.

- We provide residents with access to clinically trained case managers, licensed counselors, peer supports and other resources to improve their lives. When a resident’s behavior violates our standards of conduct, including our good neighbor policy, they are required to access these services to change their behavior or they will face eviction.

- We utilize controlled and monitored access points on our buildings to ensure that only residents and authorized guests access the property. We limit overnight guest stays and require all guests to be accompanied by a permanent resident when they are on the premises. We use security cameras and safety personnel to monitor activity in and around our housing communities.

- If there is any criminal behavior by residents, we support law enforcement engagement.

- Any concerns from residents or neighbors are addressed in a timely manner, with the goal of reaching a resolution that reflects the values of Catholic Charities.
About Catholic Charities & Rural Resources Community Action

Colville Family Haven is anchored by the partnership between two respected nonprofit service organizations serving residents of Eastern Washington.

Catholic Charities Eastern Washington affirms the dignity of every person, partnering with parishes and the greater community to serve and advocate for those who are vulnerable, bringing stability and hope to people throughout Eastern Washington.

Since 1965, Rural Resources Community Action has helped residents of Northeastern Washington help themselves and each other. Through education, resources and support, we offer real hope to children, seniors and families, by working to create a stronger and more stable community for us all.

Each year, over 14,000 people in communities throughout Eastern Washington turn to Rural Resources for short-term assistance and long-term solutions to help them take control of their lives and their futures.