

# PPROEM SW Migrant Informational Update 3/13/2024

Note: Due to operation of federal and state policy, we do not anticipate receiving granular data accounting for individual immigration status, countries of origin, or dates of entry.

#### **PPROEM Intent**

PPROEM will continue to monitor the nature and extent of the situation and will continue to work with community partners, shelters, schools, and hospitals to understand the impact being seen within the Pikes Peak Region.

## Front Range Situation Background

#### • Background

- o Nearly 40,000 migrants have come into the City and County of Denver since January 2023.
- o The majority of migrants sheltered in Denver were processed at the border and have an assigned alien number also known as an "A Number".
- o <u>HERE</u> is a link to the United States Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letter that cites the laws regarding status and documentation requirements and breaks down Refugees vs. Asylees.
- On February 15, 2024, the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency
  Management (DHSEM) established a "Unified Command Structure" for the migrant response,
  in an effort to streamline information sharing and resource connections for local communities.

#### • Anticipated Future Impacts

- As shelter time limits are reached in Denver, we anticipate more independent migrant travel throughout the State of Colorado.
- Increase in traffic at the U.S./Mexico border generally results in traffic in the City and County of Denver.
  - The last two Decembers saw significant increases in traffic; significant increases are anticipated in November/December of this year.
- Per Denver Department of Human Services Spokesperson in a Denver Post article, nearly 4,000 migrants are expected to exit Denver shelters between January 2024-March 2024 as length of stay limits are reached.

#### City and County of Denver Information

• The graphic below shows the overall trends since January 2023 in Denver. The Denver daily public dashboard can be found HERE.





#### • City and County Denver Sheltering and Feeding Operations

- o \$750 per person per week (shelter, food, and services).
- o Denver Department of Human Services is the lead for mass care, sheltering, and feeding.
- Large catering services are contracted for feeding operations.

#### Onward Transportation - Denver

20,000 out of 40,000 migrants have received transportation out of Denver.

- o Bus tickets have proven to be more cost efficient than providing shelter for those who desire to leave.
- There is no ability to coordinate in real time with destination locations the City and County of Denver is buying tickets to hundreds of locations as requested by immigrants.
- The City and County of Denver does not track or follow migrants who leave on their own accord this includes travel coordinated through nonprofits and the independent movement throughout the state and country.
- o Denver has an established process to purchase bus tickets to their desired destination upon arrival.
- City and County of Denver currently does not chartered buses to move migrants throughout the state.
- o Denver does not purchase bus vouchers.

#### Pikes Peak Region Impact

## • City and County of Denver Transportation into the Pikes Peak Region

- Denver Office of Emergency Management was able to confirm that Denver Department of Human Services has purchased three individual bus tickets to the City of Colorado Springs between January 1, 2024 – February 27, 2024.
- o This information became available as a result of a change in DHSEM and Denver's Unified Command structure.
- o Denver does not track or follow migrants who leave on their own accord.

### • Community Partner Resources

- o PPROEM has established weekly and monthly touchpoints with different lead community partners.
- o Each community partner has established their own operational thresholds for services.
- o Regional shelters support all members of our community.

#### Hospital Services

- o UCHealth Stated:
  - The two largest UCHealth locations in Colorado Springs (Memorial Hospital Central and Memorial Hospital North) saw approximately 1,200 new patients between November 2023-January 2024.
  - In an effort to gather this data, UCHealth used the following methodology:
    - Patients that volunteered that they are migrants
    - Patients that did not provide a SSN
    - Uninsured patients
    - Patients ineligible for Medicaid
  - UCHealth stated that the count may also include people fleeing Ukraine, refugees from Africa, and people with visas from around the world.
- o Peak Vista stated: they have not seen an impact on operations or resources.
- o Children's Hospital stated: they have not seen an impact on operations or resources.