



TO THE TOWN OF LYONS AND LYONS BOARD OF TRUSTEES OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIP REQUEST

OUR MISSION

LEAF offers resources to grow health and wellbeing in the Greater Lyons area.

OUR VISION

LEAF envisions a resilient and healthy community where everyone can grow and thrive.

LEAF provides the community-based human and behavioral health services in Lyons. In **2023 WE SERVED 30% OF THE POPULATION** through our programs, most of them many times. The majority of our clients (**80-85%**) live in the Town of Lyons. Our participation **LEVELS FOR 2024** and beyond will be higher, due to expanded Mental Wellness & Addiction Recovery services and corresponding participation levels, and to increased access and attendance at the Food Pantry.

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for additional information about LEAF and what we deliver to the town of Lyons.





**LEAF WILL MOVE TO OUR
DEDICATED AND
ACCESSIBLE LOCATION
SOON.
THIS NEW MOVE IS A
BREAK-THROUGH FOR
THE COMMUNITY!**



You have likely seen the progress unfolding at our new location! LEAF's new property will be an asset about which we can all feel proud, and a space for LEAF to continue to grow its impact within the community. Thanks to our work so far and ongoing capital fundraising, **304 2ND AVENUE** will feature:

- An enhanced and energy efficient exterior and roof, plus Lyons' **FIRST** net-zero all-electric renewable energy non-residential property
- A main level Pantry, gathering area, meeting room, offices and flex work space, kitchen, laundry, and ADA-compliant bathroom with shower
- A lower level Mental Wellness & Addiction Recovery center, with offices (even one outfitted for a medical provider), reception, a comfortable "den" where people can gather for fun or groups, a large classroom, and bathroom
- A beautiful landscape, including fire wise and water conserving design, a Lyons sandstone patio area for gathering, raised garden beds, and more





OPPORTUNITIES LIE BEFORE US -

all based on participant and community requests and feedback

- **Truly local, equitable access to services - *a first for Lyons!***
- Food Pantry can serve more than once a week for more than 2.5 hours
- People can seek behavioral or substance abuse services with greater discretion
- Local youth can participate in programming on-site, including anticipated drop-in lunches for high school students
- LEAF can meet needs as they arise (e.g. suicide education and training, grief/ptsd support, a place for firefighters to rest, etc.)
- LEAF can serve as a “post crisis” touchpoint to collectively engage the community in healing and building resilience.
- LEAF and partners can meet flexibly and in confidence with clients and guests
- Team members will have a place to work and collaborate for the first time

CHALLENGES LIE AHEAD, TOO

- Operating expenses (insurance, utilities, supplies) will increase
- Recently announced, Boulder County funding is in jeopardy (up to \$143,848)
- We still need to raise considerable funds to complete our property renovation

WITHOUT LEAF

... and the services our teams provide, local government would have to provide human and behavioral health services to Town of Lyons residents. This would create a significant burden on Town of Lyons budget and staff.

Conservatively, LEAF delivers **\$1.3 MILLION** in services each year in Lyons.

OUR WORK INCLUDES

WHAT	IN 2023...	2025 ESTIMATED COST OF SERVICE IF NOT PROVIDED BY LEAF	NOTES
Lyons Community Food Pantry	242 people served, 1772 visits	\$550,000	We can open up for more hours in our new home
Meals on Wheels	2003 hot meals & warm "hellos"	\$140,000	People can remain at home, where they want to be
Basic Needs & Resource Matching	Case management, referrals, and direct financial assistance to 117 people	\$70,000	Supporting housing stability in Lyons
Lyons Volunteers	14 projects, 44 Weed Posse deployments	\$60,000	2024 value - expect to reinvigorate for 2025
Mental Wellness & Addiction Recovery	Served over 10% local population in Q2 2024 thru individual and group services, classes, youth services, Front Porch, suicide training/education, outreach	\$475,000	Local, community based, accessible services for everyone

In addition to these program expenses, we are making a significant capital investment of nearly **\$1.9M TO PURCHASE**, improve and renovate a local property, making it perfectly serviceable for this community. Without LEAF, the Town or another organization would be called upon to provide a suitable and equipped facility.

With a tiny staff and an army of volunteers, LEAF grows health and wellbeing in Lyons, which in turn fosters self-sufficiency and stability across our community. We expect to deliver all of these offerings - and more, from our bright new home! - with a 2025 budget of just **\$670,000**. We run lean. But with cuts from our primary funders and our community's current fragile emotional and financial state, we will need help to continue delivering the services our community needs.

OUR ASK

We come to the Town requesting a financial partnership in support of the valuable and unduplicated services that LEAF brings to the community and that the people of Lyons deserve. It's going to take all of us working together in unified purpose. We ask the Board of Trustees to consider using Marijuana Tax, Opioid, ARPA, or other funding mechanisms to demonstrate its commitment to the health and wellbeing of Lyons residents through a meaningful partnership with LEAF.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, 200+ volunteers, and approximately 800 people served, we are requesting:

- Annual funding in the amount of \$50,000 or greater
- An adjustment to our utilities rate. We are currently billed as commercial, but we are not a business. We request a rate similar to the one provided for low income residential, or perhaps a new rate for human services nonprofits.

Like all of you, **LEAF LOVES LYONS**. We look forward to growing a partnership with the Town of Lyons that ensures the stable and consistent provision of local, accessible human and behavioral health services for the people of Lyons.

THANK YOU

