



KARIS COMMUNITY
A PLACE OF HOPE & HEALING SINCE 1976



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Karis Community Celebrates 50 Years of Hope & Healing in Denver with Launch of Trauma-Informed Renovation Campaign

DENVER, CO, May 7, 2026 – Karis Community, a Denver-based nonprofit providing a community-oriented residential program for adults managing serious and persistent mental illness as well as co-occurring substance use disorders, is proud to celebrate **50 years of continuous service** in the Denver community.

Founded in 1976, Karis has spent five decades offering an affordable, peer-based model of support that emphasizes connection, stability, and long-term healing. Karis' approach has demonstrated meaningful outcomes. Community Members learn to build daily structure, reduce hospitalizations, and successfully transition to more independent living. Today, Karis serves more than 100 individuals annually across its residential program, transitional housing, referral support, and Alumni Group.

As part of this milestone anniversary, Karis is launching its **Hope & Healing Infrastructure Campaign**, a renovation initiative focused on transforming its historic home into a more trauma-informed, supportive environment. "Environment plays a critical role in recovery," said Annie Wharton, Executive Director of Karis Community. "By creating spaces that uphold the value of community, comfort, and safety, we help individuals build stability and move forward in their lives."

Planned improvements include updated lighting and paint, comfortable and durable furnishings, enhanced shared spaces, and restorative outdoor features such as a gazebo and Zen garden. These upgrades are designed to support both individual well-being and a strong sense of community.

To commemorate its 50th anniversary and support the Infrastructure Campaign, Karis will host a special fundraising event:

50 Years of Hope & Healing Friday, May 15, 2026 Denver Museum of Nature & Science

The event will bring together supporters, partners, and Community Members to celebrate Karis' legacy and invest in its future. "Karis has been a place of healing for decades," Wharton added. "This milestone is not just about looking back, but about ensuring we can continue this work for the next 50 years."

About Karis Community

Karis Community provides a community-oriented residential program for adults managing serious and persistent mental illness as well as co-occurring substance use disorders. Through a peer-based model of care, Karis fosters connection, structure, and long-term recovery in a supportive and affordable environment. Learn more at www.kariscommunity.org.

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