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## *House of Representatives*

HONORING THE MINISTRY AND COMMUNITY IMPACT OF  
MR. LARRY YONKER AT SPRINGS RESCUE MISSION

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**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 4, 2021*

**Mr. LAMBORN.** Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor the ministry and community impact of Mr. Larry Yonker at Springs Rescue Mission in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Springs Rescue Mission has become a pillar of the Pike's Peak region, not only by caring for the homeless but as a model of local business, government, and faith-based collaboration, for the good of the community.

It was only one decade ago that Springs Rescue Mission was working to create its first shelter. The focus of its humble campus was still on feeding the homeless, men's addiction recovery, and some limited daytime services. Under Mr. Yonker's leadership, the Mission has become an expansive homeless resource campus — a Community of Hope for the most vulnerable men and women of Colorado Springs. With 450 beds, the Mission is now the largest homeless shelter in the region. The Resource Center offers case management and other essential services to help those in need to regain their health, return to work, and find permanent housing. Every day, hundreds of neighbors in need come to the Mission for a filling meal, a hot shower, a warm bed, and compassionate care. Just next door, 65 chronically homeless people have found a home at Greenway Flats. And in the middle of it all, a new 200-seat Samaritan's Kitchen, recently opened their doors to our community.

As a Colorado native and graduate of the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo, Larry is motivated by a deep faith in God and compassionate love for his neighbors. Larry's drive and focus is derived from Matthew 25:34-40, and has been the inspiration for Larry's tenure at Springs Rescue Mission, "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'"

Over the years, Mr. Yonker has been committed to bringing community partners both in the private and public sectors together, with a mission to provide lifesaving and life-building care for those most in need. He has been a champion for those trapped in homelessness, addiction, and poverty and for collaboration and partnership across every walk of life to ensure people receive the care they need.

As Larry retires, it is my highest privilege to honor and thank him for being a "faithful servant" to Colorado's Fifth Congressional District.

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