

# POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY

ANNUAL  
REPORT 2021



## FORWARD THINKING



# A Note from Your Fire Chief

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE, PLANNING FOR OUR PEOPLE

At Poudre Fire Authority (PFA), we are always working to improve our service to the community and that means planning for the future. The ability to deliver help in an emergency starts years before the call by ensuring the firefighters that respond have the right skills, equipment, and information. This doesn't happen by chance, this happens by hiring great people—responders, data and GIS analysts, building plan reviewers—and working with community partners who are also dedicated to protecting life and property. It happens because of you, our supportive and progressive community.

It is an honor I don't take lightly to oversee the current and future direction of PFA. I am honored to work with the people inside and outside of the agency that show an unwavering commitment to make the community a better, safer place.

**Derek Bergsten** | Fire Chief

Watch this short video to learn more about Fire Chief Bergsten and what makes PFA, PFA.



## Who We Are

PFA is governed by the PFA Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of two members from the City of Fort Collins City Council, two members from the Poudre Valley Fire Protection District Board of Directors, and a fifth member selected by the other four, historically the Fort Collins City Manager. The PFA Board of Directors appoints the Fire Chief, who in turn manages and employs all PFA personnel.

### OUR ORGANIZATION



### PFA IS COMPRISED OF



**229** FULL-TIME POSITIONS



**199** UNIFORMED POSITIONS



**30** CIVILIAN POSITIONS



**35** VOLUNTEER POSITIONS



**20** PART-TIME POSITIONS

# What We Protect

## PFA SERVICE AREA 2021

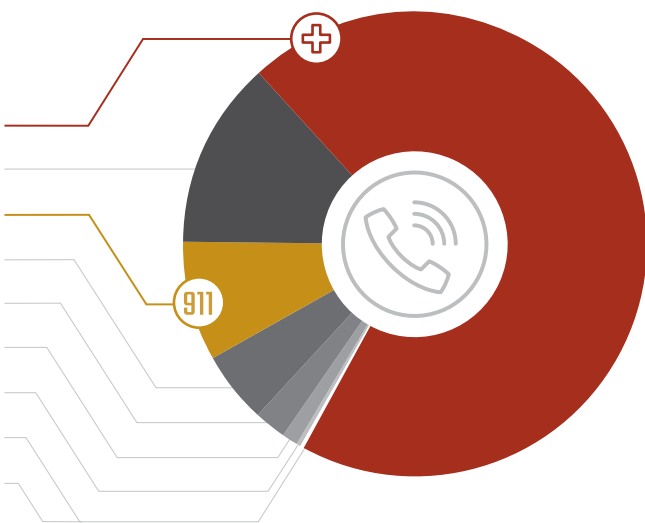
- 1 Fire Station
- 2 Fire Station
- 3 Fire Station
- 4 Fire Station
- 5 Fire Station
- 6 Fire Station
- 7 Fire Station
- 8 Fire Station
- 9 Volunteer Station
- 10 Fire Station
- 11 Volunteer Station
- 12 Fire Station
- 14 Fire Station
- Training Center
- Headquarters



## TOTAL SERVICE CALLS

24,184

<b>Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Calls</b> .....	<b>16,891</b>
Good Intent Calls.....	3,140
<b>General Service Calls</b> .....	<b>2,030</b>
False Alarm & False Calls.....	1,235
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire).....	486
Fires.....	321
Special Incident Calls.....	62
Overpressure Ruptures, Explosions, Overheat (No Fire).....	14
Severe Weather & Natural Disasters.....	5



### Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls

Medical Incidents	12,723
Other	3,010
Motor Vehicle Accidents	916
Search/Rescues	144
Cardiac Arrests	98

### 911 General Service Calls

Assistance Requested	1,045
Other Services	443
Police Department Assist	270
Illegal Fire/Unauthorized Burns	124
Water (Leaks)	105
Animal	43

## PFA PROVIDES MANY SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING:

-   
Fire Protection Services
-   
Emergency Medical Response
-   
Fire Suppression
-   
Haz-Mat Response
-   
Technical Rescues
-   
Wildland Fire Response
-   
Volunteer Firefighter Program
-   
Fire Investigations
-   
Inspection Services
-   
Public Affairs and Education

# The People of PFA

## THANK YOU PFA VOLUNTEERS

PFA benefits greatly from the dedicated men and women who serve as volunteer firefighters. They train year-round following the same training calendar as career firefighters. They staff and respond to calls from Stations 9 (near Horsetooth Reservoir) and 11 (in Redstone Canyon) as well as special events. Along with motor vehicle accidents, rescues, medical calls, and service calls, these firefighters respond to wildland fires west of Horsetooth Reservoir.



“Being a volunteer at PFA gives me the ability to give back to my community, make a difference when it is needed, and provides camaraderie and career advancement.”

## WHY PFA?

Why a career in the fire service and why PFA? These two questions guide our hiring process. Our commitment to the recruitment and retainment of a diverse, engaged, and skilled workforce means identifying barriers, understanding needs, and investing in development. We are only as good as our people and what better way to know “Why PFA” than to ask them directly. Check out what they said!

Read their full stories here.



**Captain Bren Dee Rogers**

Captain Brig. Gen. Bren Dee Rogers leads a fire crew and is also the third female commander of the Colorado Army National Guard.



**Firefighter Gabriel Marquez**

The great grandson of community leader Librado “Lee” Martinez, he wanted to give back to the community that raised him. Read how a frightening incident led him to his calling.



**GIS Analyst Laura Robinson**

Geography and GIS, plus a desire to support the community, led this modern-day cartographer to a career that gets responders to the right place at the right time.

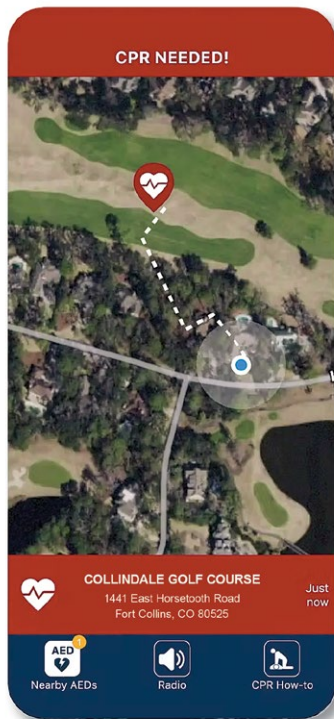
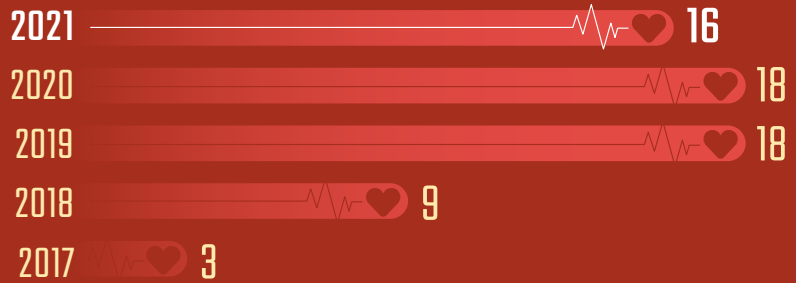
# EMS & UCHealth Partnership

PFA has been able to adapt to meet the changing needs of the community, in part, thanks to a 30-year partnership with UCHealth. This relationship has resulted in seamless EMS and recognition as a national leader for neurologically intact cardiac arrest saves.

## Surviving Cardiac Arrest

Across the U.S., nearly 90 percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests are fatal, but by working together we're beating the odds. This chart shows how far we've come. Sixteen may not seem like a high number, but we're leading the nation in cardiac care.

## Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) Survivors



## PulsePoint

**BE A LIFESAVER!** Sign up for the app that alerts you when someone suffers a cardiac arrest nearby. Hands-only CPR in the minutes before professional responders arrive can increase the person's chance of survival dramatically. It takes a community to save a life.



**PulsePoint**



We urge all businesses to register their AED locations at [aed.new](http://aed.new) or on the **PulsePoint AED app**

# Fire & Water

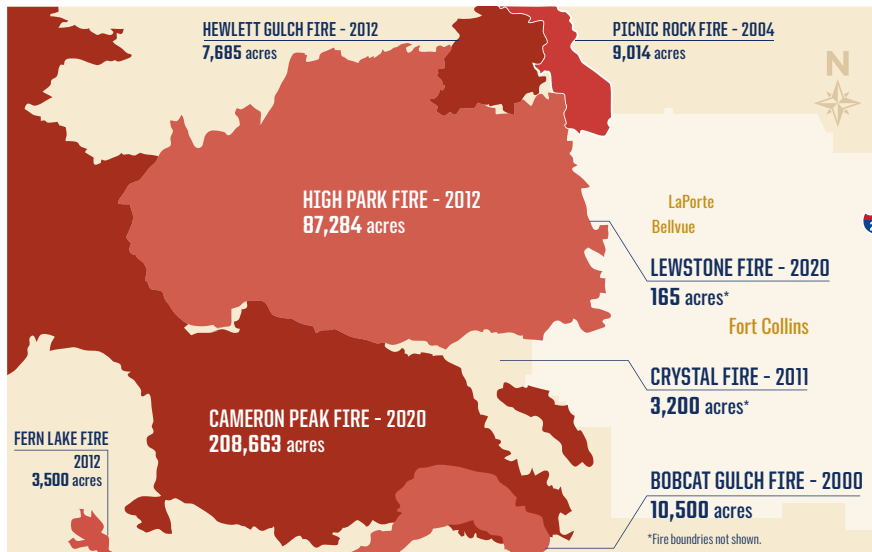
With numerous record-setting wildland fires recently, it is hard to miss the impacts up and down the Front Range. What many may not see is quite literally the downstream impact of these events.

Burn scars can affect rivers for years. The change in vegetation and soil can lead to an increase in the amount of debris and moisture that enters the water. Areas can be more prone to flash floods and strainers, which are debris accumulations that water can pass through but not people, kayaks, or tubes creating something that can easily trap river recreators and separate them from their flotation devices. PFA rescued 20 people from the Poudre River in 2021.



A PFA Firefighter on the scene of the Marshall Fire in Boulder County.

## FIRES IN LARIMER COUNTY



### CAN THAT HAPPEN HERE?

These fires, the Marshall Fire especially, have led to many in the community asking, "Can that happen here?" The truth is yes, it can, but there are many practices and resources in place to mitigate and prevent it from happening.

[Learn more](#)



## RESCUES ON THE RIVER



(L) PFA firefighters rescue people separated from their tubes and stranded on a strainer under the railroad overpass in Fort Collins.

(R) PFA firefighters and swiftwater technicians work to retrieve a raft after rescuing two people from the river.

# 2021 Budget & Funding Outcomes

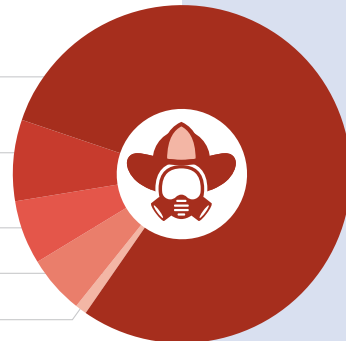
## TOTAL REVENUE **\$38,033,296**

Intergovernmental .....	\$36,813,541
Fees & Charges for Service.....	\$739,897
Miscellaneous Revenue .....	\$260,500
Licenses & Permits.....	\$179,358
Earnings on Investments.....	\$40,000



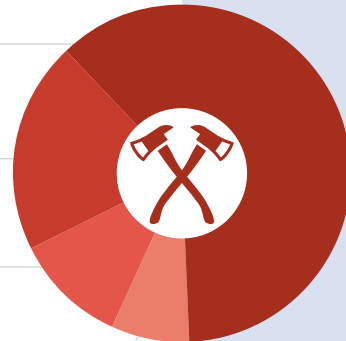
## EXPENDITURE – TYPE **\$38,698,205**

Salaries & Benefits .....	\$30,808,612
Other Purchased Services .....	\$2,953,125
Materials, Supplies, & Equipment.....	\$2,415,452
Capital Outlay .....	\$2,161,994
Other Purchased Services.....	\$359,022



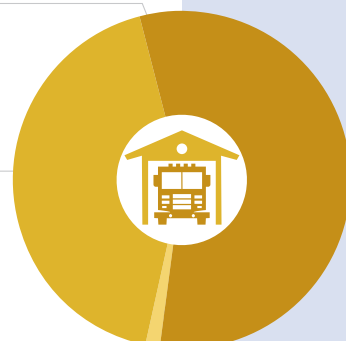
## EXPENDITURE – DIVISION **\$38,698,205**

Operations .....	\$23,768,122
Support.....	\$7,869,825
Administration.....	\$4,169,330
Fire Prevention & CRR.....	\$2,890,928
Grants/Projects .....	\$0



## CAPITAL BUDGET **\$2,666,264**

Apparatus Replacement.....	\$1,498,316
Station 6 Shop .....	\$1,132,397
Station 7 Remodel.....	\$35,551



### Reserves

**\$10.1** Million  
26% of the Budget

### Expenditures

Underspent by **\$780,000**  
2.1% of the Budget

# Anticipating Community Needs

It's no secret that the region PFA serves is growing in population as well as area. PFA is being proactive in our response to this growth, ensuring we have the personnel, the infrastructure, and the partnerships to meet the ever changing needs of our community.



## FIRE ACADEMY

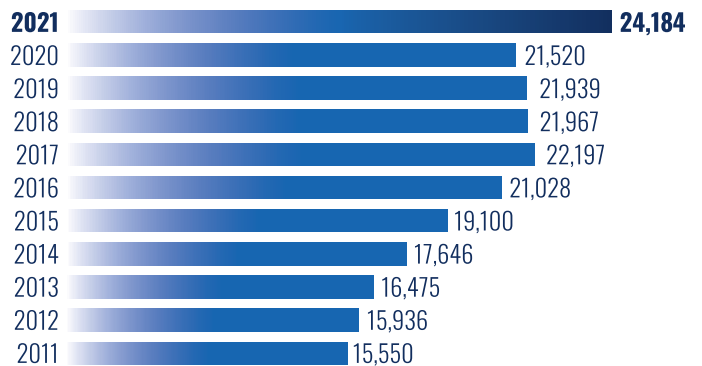
PFA welcomed 15 new firefighters to the PFA family after they completed the Front Range Fire Consortium Fire Academy. The 2021-1 Academy (Top) was one of our smallest groups, 2021-2 (Bottom) was one of our largest.



## STATION 6 REMODEL

Station 6 has housed the PFA mechanics shop since it was built, keeping the fire fleet ready to respond. Renovation/ expansion began in September 2021 and is expected to finish in June 2022.

## SERVICE CALLS CLIMBING



The growth of the area, changes in the use of 911, and the diversity of our services has contributed to a continuous increase in the number of calls PFA responds to.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

PFA worked with the Center for Public Safety Excellence to create the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. The community-driven planning process included feedback from internal and external stakeholders and will guide PFA for the next three years.



See even more in the expanded annual report online.

