This manual presents step-by-step instructions on how to build a Conestoga Hut: a simple, inexpensive shelter for temporary emergency housing. With photos and illustrations, it guides you through the tools and materials you'll need, how to build the five components of a Hut in a shop ahead of time, and how to assemble the components at the build site. The manual also shows how community volunteers can be engaged in the building process, one of the most rewarding aspects of the Conestoga Hut experience.

"It's just a wonderful structure, you could almost kiss it. It's so well thought out. It's a wonderful stopping off point to go from one direction to another. It's an interim thing, to give people that step up they need."

—**John Porter**, former Planning Director for the City of Eugene

"I had heard about the Huts, had seen them from a distance but I had neve been in one. Once I got it, I was like, 'Wow, this is like a castle.' It really is. Just to be able to stand up in the morning, simple things like that, it really is a Godsend. As simple as it's built, I thought, 'Wow, this could really go a long way, to help a lot of people.'"

—**Patrick Blaine**, former Hut resident, Wesley United Methodist Church, Eugene, Oreg

"It's nice to be warm. It's nice to be dry. It's nice to lie down on a bed and not just a sheet and a cold floor. . . . I know I can wake up on a good night's sleep. And then get up, go to work or look for work, knowing my stuff is safe and dry and knowing at night I'm coming home to something. . . . I'm very very grateful for that. [The Huts mean] people are not getting sick and going to the hospital and . . . are keeping people out of jail for trespassing. I wish the community could see more of that."

—**Frank Haller**, former Hut resident

Erik de Buhr and his wife Kristin Fay are the founders and leaders of Community Supported Shelters, a non-profit established in Eugene, Oregon, in 2013 that focuses on creating low-cost, big impact strategies for supplying basic shelter and supportive community to those in need.

Community Supported Shelters

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