

# 2021 Arizona Housing Forum

## BRIAN MICKELSEN HOUSING HERO AWARD Outstanding State Administered CDBG Funded Project

Show Low Senior Center • City of Show Low

The Show Low Senior Center Kitchen Addition project is being recognized for utilizing CDBG funding to improve meal service to the senior population of Show Low and for expanding their services outside the city limits to accommodate new clients resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Show Low Senior Center had experienced a 40% increase in the senior congregate meal program during the first half of 2021 as compared to the same period in 2019. The increased demand for meals in Show Low and outside the city limits severely strained the kitchen's capacity to store perishable and non-perishable food, and did not allow it to function efficiently.



The work involved a 400 sq ft stockroom addition to the Show Low Senior Center kitchen and space for a commercial refrigerator and freezer.

The city's CDBG Administrator and Transit Manager, Lisa Robertson, tackled every hurdle as it developed from proactively finding eligible respondents for her RFQ for architectural services, to exhaustively hunting down walk-in coolers that would meet the budget.

Upon completion of the expansion, the existing kitchen was reconfigured to create functional workspace for meal preparations and a work station for packaging home delivered meals.

The final product is an attractive addition to the existing senior center that blends in perfectly, and provides all the needed space for the additional storage. The project was completed ahead of schedule and within budget.