



A YEAR IN REVIEW

Thank you to all our donors, partners, volunteers, board members, and staff for another great year! In 2015, Growing Home proudly served more than 10,000 children in 5,000 families with the programs and services that make a difference in a family's life. Just a few of our accomplishments include:



- Parents as Teachers worked with 456 kids and their families to ensure these kids are learning, growing, and ready to succeed in school
- We launched Cradling Literacy classes and the Literacy Passport, two literacy focused programs that build

Join us for a Tour!



Learn more about Growing Home's work nurturing children, strengthening families, and creating community. And find out how you can help!

The next tours are:

- community strength and increase reading in the home
- 1,310 students received free backpacks and school supplies at the start of the 2015-16 school year
- In partnership with the Colorado Center on Law and Policy and The Denver Foundation, Growing Home completed a [community survey of the Blocks of Hope neighborhood](#)
- Our Board of Directors adopted a new [strategic plan](#) to guide Growing Home's development over the next three years

2015 was a big year, and 2016 promises to be even bigger! We have a lot of work to do, join us as we transform lives by nurturing children, strengthening families, and creating community.

2015 HOLIDAY PROGRAMS A SUCCESS!!!



The holiday season has ended and we're happy to report another successful year of providing families food items and presents for the Thanksgiving Giveaway, Adopt a Family, and Toy Giveaway programs.

Growing Home had one of the biggest, busiest, most productive holiday seasons ever! With your help this holiday season 296 families received a Thanksgiving dinner, 96 families were given presents for our Adopt a Family program, and 1,015 children received toys during the Toy Giveaway.

We would like to thank everyone for helping make this year a huge success. Thank you all for any way you were able to help, from volunteering, to people who were able to adopt a

Wednesday, January 27 @ 5:30pm

Thursday, February 11 @ 12:00pm

Wednesday, February 24 @ 5:30pm

RSVP to kristen@growinghome.org

VOLUNTEER

We're still looking for tutors to work with 1st and 2nd grade students in the areas of reading and math. Growing Home's tutoring program takes place on Tuesdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm. Please contact Erik at erik@growinghome.org if you're interested in helping.

WAYS TO GIVE

By Pell Fender, Development Director

In December Congress approved The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, which includes several items that benefit donors, charitable organizations and the communities they serve. In particular, The PATH Act enacts permanent tax incentives for donations of food, land for conservation purposes, and cash from Individual Retirement Accounts.

While these policies were available year-to-year, Congress recently made them permanent. Now, donors can count on these charitable giving incentives and make plans accordingly.

The IRA Rollover provision allows donors to make direct transfers from IRAs to charitable organizations such as Growing

family, or donate food and/or toys. We couldn't have done it without your support. THANK YOU!

A LETTER FROM A GROWING HOME FAMILY

Good Morning,

My name is Priscilla and I am here today to share a little bit about how Growing home has helped my family with the support of Adams County.

Before I came to Growing Home, my life was very stressful. Due to unprecedented family matters and economic hardships I was faced with caring for four generations, all under one household. Even though it is a joy to have my family all living together, so many of the things we take for granted - like fixing my car or changing the carpet in our basement after it flooded - were just not possible. And I was worried that things would never change.

Then I found a flyer in my great-grandson's school back pack that described the Blocks of Hope initiative at Growing Home. My feelings of desperation turned to optimism because the rental assistance I received has allowed me to keep my family safe and with a roof over our head. Growing Home has also provided my family with utility assistance, and this year my great-grandchild will participate in the Blocks of hope tutoring offered at Tennyson Knolls Elementary. Within a few months my family's life turned completely around.

Our family was then selected to receive a Thanksgiving food basket and participate in the Adopt-A-Family program, allowing us to truly enjoy the holidays.

I hope that Growing Home will continue to grow and help more families like mine, and I look forward to staying involved, as I have put in my volunteer application for the food pantry to show my appreciation support for all that they do. Thanks you for your time and I hope you too will consider supporting the work that Growing Home carries out.

GROWING HOME IN THE NEWS

Home with no tax consequences. The IRA Rollover provision excludes private foundations and donor advised funds.

Taxpayers age 70½ and older are required to make annual distributions from their IRAs which are then included in the taxpayers' adjusted gross income (AGI) and subject to taxes. The IRA Charitable Rollover permits those taxpayers to make donations directly to Growing Home from their IRAs without counting them as part of their AGI and, consequently, without paying taxes on them. There is no tax deduction, as contributions to the IRAs in question were deducted from taxable income.

A donor's total combined charitable IRA rollover contributions cannot exceed \$100,000 in any one year. Distributions can only be made from traditional Individual Retirement Accounts or Roth IRAs. Charitable donations from 403(b) plans, 401(k) plans, pension plans, and other retirement plans are ineligible for the tax-free treatment. Distributions must be made directly from the IRA trustee payable to the public charity, the donor cannot receive any goods or services in return, and the charity must issue a written receipt.

Contact pell@growinghome.org for more information; 720-407-1986.

SHOUT OUT

Thank you to the following foundations and corporate giving programs for their recent grant awards to Growing Home:



Growing Home has been fortunate to be featured in the press quite a bit lately. We'd like to keep you updated so please check out the articles below:

President & CEO Teva Sienicki was interviewed on CPR in a live Colorado Matters story on people working on the front lines of poverty: ["For Those Who Work With Colorado's Poor, Frustrations With Inspiration"](#)

An article by Chalkbeat Colorado on Growing Home's place based initiative in partnership with Adams 50 school district: ["How an ambitious new program aims to fight poverty and help kids learn, one block at a time"](#)

CPR conducted an interview with the author of Chalkbeat's article on Growing Home: ["Start Small: How 'Blocks Of Hope' Thinks They Can Improve Student Success"](#)

A Growing Home family was featured in a CPR story in which we collaborated with Colorado Center on Law and Policy on wages not keeping pace with the cost of living: ["Map: Ever Wonder What Coloradans In Your Area Make In A Year?"](#)

JOB OPENINGS

Are you interested in joining Growing Home's growing team? Visit our website to learn about [Careers at Growing Home](#).

Every penny counts!

Please consider making a gift to Growing Home today. Click here to [DONATE](#).

Thanks for reading and thanks for being a part of our Growing Home family.



- The Anschutz Foundation
- The Club at Rolling Hills
- Colorado State University Global Campus
- Helen K. and Arthur E. Johnson Foundation
- Rose Community Foundation
- Sam S. Bloom Foundation
- Walmart Foundation

READ MORE

[NPR: "Simple Number, Complex Impact: How Many Words Has A Child Heard?"](#)

["America's Middle-class Meltdown: Fifth of US adults live in or near to poverty"](#)

GROWING HOME

3489 W. 72nd Ave. Suite 112
Westminster, CO 80030
303-426-0430

Like us on Facebook!

