



GROWING HOME'S CANOPY PROGRAM UNDERGOES CHANGES

Growing Home was originally founded in 1998 to provide haven for families in need of emergency shelter. Growing Home affiliated with the Interfaith Hospitality Network - now known as Family Promise, an association of religious and secular organizations committed to housing families experiencing homelessness. In time, Growing Home added services to provide wrap-around support for families in need. Today, the shelter program, now known as Canopy, remains essential to our mission, and almost two dozen different community organizations provide sites and/or volunteer hosts to assist Growing Home families.

Growing Home's Canopy Program has been strengthened in 2016 to enhance skills and increase chances for successful transition out of homelessness. By increasing the time that families can stay in the program from 60 to up to 90 days, families have a better chance of securing affordable housing, saving money, and meeting their goals. Together with the Family Support Coordinator, families set attainable and measurable goals that are reviewed every 30 days. A family in the Canopy program must also save some of their income so that those savings can be used for housing costs once they exit the program.

The longer stay allows families to enroll in the many classes Growing Home offers, such as Parents as Teachers and Incredible Years. Each family is closely followed by a Family Support Specialist even after they exit, to ensure that the family can fully utilize Growing Home services (such as the Food Pantry) as they transition to self-sufficiency.

Finally, the school-aged children of families in the Canopy program must be enrolled in school and attending regularly.

Growing Home believes these changes to the Canopy program - modest, but critical - will result in families who are more self-sufficient, more stable, and more likely to succeed.

Interested in serving as a Canopy host site? Contact Charlene (Charlene@growinghome.org), for more information.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE ALMOST HERE!



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!

Regularly scheduled tours are every 2nd Thursday of the month at 12:00pm and every 4th Wednesday at 5:30pm (note special tour times for November and December).

The next tours are:

Wednesday, October 26th from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday, November 16th from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 14th from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Other dates/times available upon request for groups of 10+

[Sign up now!](#)

GROWING HOME'S PRESIDENT AND CEO INVITED TO TALK AT TEDxMILEHIGH

Teva Sienicki, Growing Home's President and CEO, was selected to speak at the annual TEDxMileHigh Women: It's About Time talk, October 28, at the Temple Buell Theater, in Denver.

TEDxMileHigh exists to spread big ideas and elevate inspired citizenship in Colorado. It is a community of



The holidays are not far off! Last year, Growing Home served hundreds of families through our Thanksgiving and Adopt-A-Family programs and this year we want to do even better. Help us make this holiday season a joyful time for families in our community!

Growing Home has many ways for you, your family, your office, or your faith group to make an impact this holiday season. A few ways to help:

1) Donate Thanksgiving Baskets:

Provide a traditional Thanksgiving holiday meal to a family. Please include a gift card for the family to purchase their own turkey or ham, as Growing Home does not have the storage capacity to keep turkeys safely, and many families who use public transportation are unable to take large, heavy items with them.
Drop off: Thursday, Nov. 17th & Friday, Nov. 18th from 8:30am-5:30pm; or by special arrangement.

2) Adopt-A-Family:

"Adopt" a family by purchasing gifts for all members, kids and parents included. Give hardworking moms and dads a bit of a surprise along with their children. Each family will write a wish list that includes gift ideas, totaling under \$75 per family member.
Drop off: TBD

3) Volunteer:

There are many opportunities for individuals, groups, and youths to volunteer this holiday season at Growing Home. Conduct a food drive within your workplace or faith group. Help sort or pass out food baskets or gifts to families for our Thanksgiving and Adopt-A-Family events. Sort, label, and stock our Food Pantry. Have other ideas on how you want to give back this holiday season? Please reach out to us.

You can put a smile on a child's face this holiday season!

For more information call or email Kristen Raisch at Kristen@growinghome.org or 720-407-1970

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: TWO VETERAN TUTORS SIGN UP FOR ANOTHER YEAR



Growing Home is pleased to highlight Rob Rebel and Dan Ryan as Volunteers of the Quarter.

Rob and Dan have been volunteering at Growing Home since 2014. They first learned about our efforts in the Blocks of Hope community when they attended a Growing Home presentation (known as a "Tour in a Box") at their office, LT Environmental. Rob and Dan were immediately drawn to Growing Home's tutoring program at Tennyson Knolls elementary during the presentation. Both of them were eager to volunteer and were excited to work with elementary school students throughout the school year.

That was in 2014. This September, Rob and Dan began their third year as Tennyson Knolls Elementary School tutors. The first graders they mentored in 2014 are now third graders - all of whom continue in the tutoring program, all of whom enjoy the tutelage of Rob and Dan.

Rob and Dan show up every week, they love what they do, they're there for these students, and - for those reasons - we salute them as Volunteers of the Quarter!

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AT WORK!

Growing Home's Community Organizer, Lynette Garcia, worked with her women's group at Hidden Lake Apartments, here in Westminster, to create a playground for apartment tenants. Good job!



thinkers and doers, ideators and creators, activists and enthusiasts. TEDxMileHigh showcases innovative Coloradans, no matter the sector, who each give the 'talk of their life' around the power of ideas.

This diverse group of thought leaders and innovators educate, inspire, and stimulate change with the ultimate goal being deep discussion and action across our communities. TEDxMileHigh is made possible by the work and effort of the broader community: inspiring attendees, the efforts of thousands of hours from a large, committed team, deep involvement from partners and sponsors, and a wealth of brilliant innovators in Colorado who donate their time, energy, and talents to contribute to "Ideas Worth Spreading."

WAYS TO GIVE

By Pell Fender, Development Director

As we approach the holidays, and the end of 2016, the thoughts of many Growing Home supporters turn to charitable giving. There are a number of items to remember as December 31 approaches.

First, Colorado Gives Day is **Tuesday, December 6**.

Community First Foundation and FirstBank collaborate to boost online giving to not-for-profits such as Growing Home. Giving this day boosts your contribution by about 10%. Follow this link - especially on December 6 - to make the most of your online gift:
<https://www.coloradogives.org/index.php?section=organizations&action=newDonation&fwID=27345>

Next, did you know you can receive as much as 25% back from the gift you make to Growing Home, deducted directly from your Colorado state income tax? Growing Home resides in an Enterprise Zone. Not only does a gift to Growing Home qualify for both federal and state deductions, the donor receives an additional 25% of that deduction as a subtraction from state tax liability. Colorado is practically paying you to give. In order to process the paperwork, the donor must supply the last four digits of his or her social security or tax ID number.

Finally, our thanks to all of you who donate time and/or funds to Growing Home. We are truly grateful for the support you give year after year. From the smallest gift to the philanthropy of our Building Homes Society members, from adopt-a-family to donations of food, you provide means for us to stabilize our families. It's been a great year. Thank you.

For more information about giving to Growing Home, contact pell@growinghome.org for more information; 720-407-1986.

SHOUT OUT

Thank you to the following foundations and agencies for their recent grant awards to Growing Home:

- CSU-Global
- Carmax Foundation
- Spirit of Christ Church
- Lutheran Church of Hope
- Anonymous (for intensive case management)
- Westminster Human Services Board

READ MORE

[Mile High Connects Grantee Highlight: Growing Home](#)

*For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.*



JOB OPENINGS

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

DONATE NOW

Please consider making a gift to Growing Home today. Help us help families remain stable, or regain their stability through family support, food, shelter, and parent education. Click here to [DONATE](#).

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



FOOD (OR ARTICLES) FOR THOUGHT

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/alicia-silverstone/how-fees-and-fines-hurt-o_b_12158084.html

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2016/10/the_burden_of_prison_debt_on_the_formerly_incarcerated.html

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