

MAY 2019

CHANGING LIVES

127 YEARS OF SERVICE

-MOVING>
FORWARD

MOTHER'S DAY AT THE MISSION

MEET OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

DENVER
RESCUE
MISSION

Dear Friends,

I am often asked, "How do we solve the issue of homelessness?" During my 20 years at the Mission, I have learned there is no single solution to solving this complex issue. If there was, we would have used it to solve this problem!

Helping people experiencing homelessness takes a collaborative effort. The more people involved with this issue, the better. City government, neighbors, businesses, other service providers, the faith community, and volunteers all make solutions happen. Partners who are in this with us are invaluable in helping people become productive, self-sufficient citizens.

This month's newsletter talks about, and celebrates, four of these partners. Frankly, we could not list all of the partners we have worked with in our efforts to move people out of poverty, but we are so thankful for all of them.

Many of our partners never get credit, but they really are unsung heroes. Sometimes, organizations we work with do what they do out of faith beliefs, sometimes because they just care, but all of them do it because they believe—like us—that helping people is good and the right thing to do. I hope you will enjoy reading about these four partners and will think about what you, your friends, your church, or maybe your company might be able to do to partner in this critical work.

Let me finish with this quote, "You can tell a man's [or woman's] character by what he [or she] does for others who can do nothing for him [or her]."

These four partners, like you—our donors and volunteers—are people of character. Thank you for your partnership!

God Bless,



Brad Meuli
President/CEO



mother's day



On Thursday, May 9, we're celebrating moms who live at The Crossing. All of them are working hard to pursue a productive, self-sufficient life. And as a way to celebrate, we're treating them to a special dinner!

at the mission



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

JOHANNA SPILLE • Family Rescue Ministry Case Manager

I am so grateful, not just for the work God has empowered me to do at the Mission, but also for my family. This month, my husband, Jeff, and I will be married for 23 years. We have four kids who are all high school and college age. We also have two dogs, Sesame and Harley. I have amazing parents. Growing up, they always encouraged me to be adventurous and brave. They taught me to seek God's will for my life, to stand up for others and always keep going.

I think that's where my passion to help people comes from, my parents. I wouldn't be doing what I do today if it wasn't for their influence in my life.

I love what I do; I'm a case manager for Family Rescue Ministry. What's really amazing about Family Rescue Ministry is that we get to tell families that they will no longer be homeless. When we move them into their apartment, there are lots of tears. For many, their identity has become "homeless." We talk about how "homelessness" is part of their story, but it isn't the story. And, at the end of the day, it's about much more than an apartment; it's about community, spreading love and building relationships with people. We get to do that every day.



**WE BELIEVE WORKING
TOGETHER IS THE
BEST WAY TO
HELP PEOPLE
- MOVE FORWARD>**

-MOVING> FORWARD



“I think that if you help someone **move forward—you move forward.”**

When she speaks, Margarita does so with a wisdom that only comes with age. She’s from Barcelona and moved to the states to go to college (she graduated from UC Berkeley). She used to live in a duplex, but when they raised the rent, Margarita could no longer afford to pay it.

She’s been experiencing homelessness in Denver for three years. One Thursday, while she was sitting in the Lawrence Street Community Center, we sat down with her and she shared some of her wise words with us. “Some days I go through things that make me want to pull my hair out,” she said. “Some days I just want to [give up]. But I know that’s not the answer. For me, the answer is to help someone. I never let a day pass that I don’t help somebody. I think that if you help someone move forward—you move forward.”

She isn’t alone; we couldn’t agree more. Because of you, we’ve been helping people move forward for 127 years. And it’s not just us, it’s our partners, too.

Did you know that we work together with organizations throughout the Denver metro area?

Like you, these organizations are committed to doing good and making a difference in our city. Our partners, along with your support, are the reason we’re able to help people like Margarita find a path home.

**DONATE TODAY, AND HELP
PEOPLE LIKE MARGARITA MOVE
FORWARD AT [DENVERRESCUEMISSION.ORG](https://denverrescuemission.org).**

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOUR DONATIONS HELP US COLLABORATE WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



EMERGENCY SERVICES

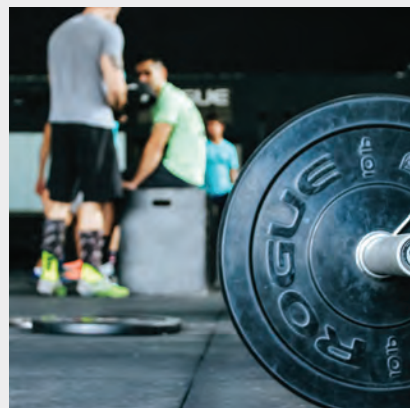


HOUSING RESOURCES

"[OneHome] works with the Mission on improving access to housing resources for people experiencing homelessness enrolled in Next Step," said Bethany Maynard-Moody, OneHome program manager. "The ultimate goal is to work together to end homelessness, and not one organization can do that alone, so if we all work together, then that collective impact is quite powerful." Together, with Bethany and her team, we are finding housing resources through their coordinated entry database for our Next Step members, and our partnership is already having a big impact. This year, 278 people in Next Step have successfully moved out of our shelters and found a path toward housing.

WELLNESS AND FAMILY

Every year, dozens of our New Life Program participants work out with Mark McIntosh and his team of volunteers at A Stronger Cord. They have four gyms in the metro area, all focused on challenging each other to become more fitness-minded, dependable and productive. They have a saying, "It all starts with the workout," says Mark, founder of A Stronger Cord. Of course, Mark and his team believe exercise is important to our health, but they also believe it's about something more than just being in shape. "When you spend time with these guys experiencing homelessness," said Mark, "you begin to realize that a lot of them don't have a family. For us, it's not just about the workout, it's about the relationships and the community that comes with pursuing wellness. It's about family."



REHABILITATION



TRANSITIONAL

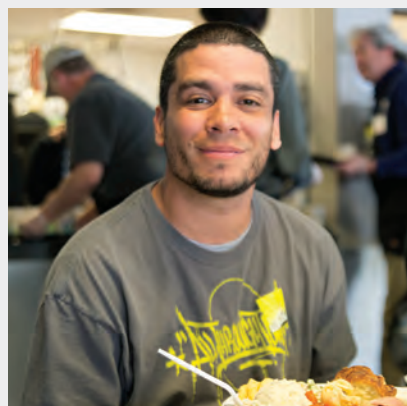


AN ATMOSPHERE OF LEARNING AND SUCCESS

Upon moving into The Crossing, our transitional living facility, parents have to make a decision to keep their children at their original school or transfer them to our neighborhood schools in Park Hill. The STAR youth program, in partnership with Denver's Homeless Education Network, provides guidance for parents on how to make the best choice for each child. Once a decision is made, the Homeless Education Network helps provide school uniforms, meal assistance and transportation needs. "Homeless Education Network is a true blessing to our families," said Joe Bermingham, Denver Rescue Mission's youth program coordinator. "School and education are important for our youth, and our partnership creates an atmosphere of learning and success; they remove barriers, providing avenues for homeless children to have a successful school experience."

MEALS

Your donations, coupled with the contributions of We Don't Waste, help us provide thousands of meals every day. "We Don't Waste is one of our most important food partners," said Jeremy Stubbs, food distribution coordinator at the Mission. "Because of them, we always have fresh vegetables, fruit and other essentials on-hand." Since 2009, We Don't Waste has recovered more than 30,000,000 meals for people in need. They deliver food to more than 60 human services agencies (plus about 130 more through partner redistribution), and we are thankful to be one of their partners. "We're proud of the partnership that has been created, fostered and grown with Denver Rescue Mission," said Arlan Preblud, founder and executive director at We Don't Waste. "[Together, we are making a] lasting impact on serving those less fortunate in our community."



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Who is Same Day Office Supply?

The company was founded in 1982 and we do everything for the office, from paper to coffee to printing. And that's important to us; what's just as important to us is helping others. I have a staff of 30 people and I'm surrounded by employees who just love to give back. We're a family here at Same Day Office Supply and what's so amazing to me is seeing my employees go on to make a difference in their community and their city and get involved in really great ways.



One of the great ways you and your staff are involved in Denver Rescue Mission is through Cartridges with a Mission. Talk about what that program is.

Well, cartridges are these big pieces of plastic and once ink runs out of them, people tend to just throw them in the trash or a dumpster. But, about 10 years ago, people found that they could resell used cartridges and label them as "remanufactured." When we found this out, we started picking up used cartridges and sending them to our suppliers to be recycled. When you do that, the suppliers pay you for your recycled cartridge. That's when I came up with this idea, Cartridges with a Mission. Instead of keeping the proceeds, we decided to donate all of the money we get back from recycled cartridges to Denver Rescue Mission. Obviously, we want to be great at office supply needs, but we also want to be a vessel to help our customers make a difference in their community—they're keeping cartridges out of landfills and also giving back to the Mission.

Why did you and your team choose Denver Rescue Mission?

I believe in faith-based organizations. And I think it's important to provide avenues for people to experience rehabilitation without judgement. When I serve at the Mission, I see good people helping good people. We all face misfortunes, and every one of us needs help and guidance to get back on the right path. I think the Mission provides those avenues for people who want to get help to find it.

What was your first experience at the Mission?

It was probably serving with my children or donating coats with my children. That was always important to me—when my kids were still young to serve with them and show them that it's important to help people who may have stories different than their own.

Bio: Lori is the majority owner and President of Same Day Office Supply, a multi-million dollar corporation that has become one of the largest independent office supply dealers in the greater Denver area. She believes in helping people and preserving the environment and feels that one of the best ways to do both of those is through her company at Same Day Office Supply.

OUR CORE STRATEGIES



EMERGENCY SERVICES

People are invited inside, off the street where their immediate needs are met and critical relationships are built with Mission staff.



REHABILITATION

Men living with an addiction are equipped with work readiness skills, receive help to overcome destructive habits, find permanent housing, and begin a new life.



TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Families and individuals in need receive case management, develop life skills and save for permanent housing.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

People struggling in our community receive assistance with food, clothing, furniture, household items and holiday meals.

LOCATIONS

Lawrence Street Community Center:

Meals, restrooms, showers, washing machines and dryers, clean drinking water, and access to Mission staff for encouragement and guidance



Lawrence Street Shelter: Overnight shelter for men, chapel and health clinic



Holly Center: Overnight shelter for men assigned weekly and lockers for storage



The Crossing: Transitional program for families and rehabilitation program for men



Harvest Farm: Rural rehabilitation program near Fort Collins



Fort Collins Rescue Mission: Meals, shelter and transitional programs



Ministry Outreach Center: Central warehouse facility including food, clothing and furniture distribution



Administration & Education: Entry point for Mission transitional programs and home to the Mission's administrative and development staff



48th Street Center: Overnight shelter for men, operated in partnership with the City of Denver

