

Kids Crossing Newsletter



December 27, 2011

Kids Crossing, 1440 E. Fountain Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, Everyone!

Thanks to all of our amazing donors, the children of Kids Crossing enjoyed another beautiful Christmas!

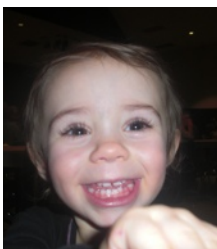


We had a wonderful time at our Christmas parties again this year!

Many of our foster families remarked that the gifts were more generous than EVER and many of their children received ALL of the presents they had asked for!

Jack, a little 5-year-old boy, who received a keyboard, shouted, "This is EXACTLY what I wanted!!!"

One foster mother was so happy to see that her 10-year-old foster daughter received jewelry and a diamond headband, because the little girl was called a boy at school that same week due to her short hair.



Of course, the children's faces showed just how excited they were, and some of the teens especially liked Santa in

Colorado Springs, saying he was really funny and "a cool dude".

It was great to see all of our families interacting with each other -- laughing and having a good time! One of the families had just adopted a sibling group of three, and they said this Christmas party was one of the first things they had done together since adopting." Another family had four little ones going back home -- after more than one year in foster care.



There were so many cute little girls in red velvet dresses!



Thank you, everyone, for all you did again this year to help make our holiday season wonderful for our kids!

(See next page!)

Thank you for keeping our kids in your hearts this Christmas!



Colo. Springs Area Donors:

Cbeyond
Gold Camp Elementary School
ITT
ITT/L3
King Soopers at Uintah Gardens
Pikes Peak Association of Realtors
Prudential Rocky Mountain Realtors
Serco
Street Envy
T-Mobile
USA Volleyball
YMCA Falcon
Individual donors: Debbi A., Petra W., Jennifer T., Ruby & Bert H., Grace M., Karen, Cathy M., Chrystina C., Stacie R.



Denver Area Donors:

ARRIS
Primrose Schools of Lone Tree and Castle Rock
Sahair Salon
St. Mary's Academy
Individual donor: Stacie R.

Pueblo Area Donors:

Praise Assembly of God
Santa's Hot Rod Helpers
Larsen's Automotive & Tire
Pueblo Horizons Federal Credit Union
Dave Feamster of Little Caesars Pizza
Marla Ross, I-Hop N Freeway in Pueblo
Mike Martinez, I-Hop S Pueblo Blvd., Pueblo
Schuster's Banquet Bakery
Colette's Catering
Individual donors: Dave B. & Family; Sledge & Family.



TRAINING & MEETINGS FOR KC FOSTER PARENTS:

Colo. Springs Open House

- Tues. **Jan. 3rd**, 5:30 to 6:30pm.
- 1440 E. Fountain Blvd.
- Open House is for anyone interested in learning more about foster care and Kids Crossing.
- Please RSVP to Melissa at 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com

Colo. Springs Foster Parents Support Group Meetings

- Child care will be provided for those who RSVP.
- KC will provide beverages.
- Please bring a snack to share.

1.Training Group:

- 2nd Friday.
- Jan. 13** ~ 10am to 12pm.
- RSVP to Catania at 660-4173 or catania.jones@youthventures.net

2.Discussion Support Group:

- 4th Friday.
- Jan. 27** ~ 10-11am.
- RSVP to Melissa 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.

3.Mentoring Group:

- This group is for foster parents who have been licensed at least 3 years and are interested in mentoring new foster parents.
- 1st Thursday, every other month.
- Next meeting **Jan. 5** ~ 10-11am.
- RSVP to Melissa 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.

Colo. Springs - CPR/ First Aid Training

- Wed. **Jan. 25** - 6 to 10pm.
- Sat. **Jan. 28** - 9am to 1pm.
- Sat. **Feb. 11** - 9am to 1pm.
- Wed. **Feb. 29** - 6 to 10pm.
- Wed. **Mar. 14** - 6 to 10pm.
- Sat. **Mar. 31** - 9am to 1pm.
- Wed. **Apr. 11** - 6 to 10pm.
- Sat. **Apr. 21** - 9am to 1pm.
- Wed. **May 9** - 6 to 10pm.
- Sat. **May 19** - 9am to 1pm.
- All Wednesday classes are 6 to 10pm.
- All Saturday classes are 9am to 1pm.
- First Aid is covered during the first two hours of class.
- \$45 per person for all classes.
- Sign up with Jackie at 667-7050 or jporter@kidscrossing.com.

Denver Foster Parents Support Group Meeting

- No meeting in January
- Next meeting, Monday, **Feb. 6** at 6:30pm.
- Topic: viewing Buck, the movie.
- RSVP to Amy 303-861-8915.

Pueblo Foster Parents Support Group Meeting

- No meeting in January.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, **Feb. 7th** from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Please bring a snack to share.

Pueblo - Cultural Competency Training

- Pueblo County DSS, Room 410/415.
- January 11th**, 5:30pm to 7pm.
- Instructor: Josette Jaramillo, DSS Caseworker.
- Foster parents will receive 2 hours of training credit for attending.
- Contact Pat Cosyleon with questions at 719-583-6909 or Dorothy Aragon at 583-6884.
- Must register by January 9 with Dorothy Aragon at 583-6884.

Pueblo - CORE

- Wed. **Feb. 22nd**, 6 to 10pm.
- Sat. **Feb. 25th**, 9am to 5pm.
- Please attend both days of class for full credit.
- Location: Kids Crossing, 414 Broadway, Pueblo.
- Trainer: David Atencio.
- Contact: 719-660-0926.
- Must RSVP: 719-545-3882.

Thank you for all you do!



Kudos to Our Every Day Heroes:

Group home operator, Jim, has done a wonderful job preserving a placement for an 18-year-old teen, who struggles behaviorally and emotionally, and trying to help this young man emancipate and finish school.

James and Tracy are new foster parents who have done a great job with getting and maintaining services for the two boys in their home. These foster children have been in multiple placements and have had tremendous difficulties connecting with others.

James and Tracy make sure that the boys continue to have contact with their siblings, who have been adopted in another home.

Kudos and our thanks go to Adela and Dennis for all of their hard work and dedication to the three children who were with them for over three years and who have now moved to an adoptive home.

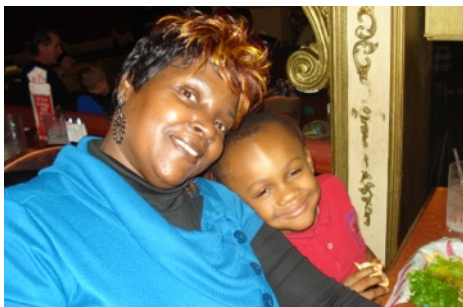
Many thanks to our intern, Michelle. The home coordinators in Colo. Springs couldn't do without her!

Zach and Josh got jobs this month! Way to go, guys!!!

Scott and Dorenda have been awesome proponents for the educational concerns of the children placed in their homes. It definitely has not been an easy road, but both have ensured that the kids receive adequate support and resources.

Congratulations on Adoptions:

- Danielle and David adopted Isaiah!
- Matt and Amy adopted Johnathan, Madison and Ian!
- Kathy and Terry adopted Navaeh and Isaias!
- Joel and Kellie are adopting two little children, who have had multiple placements and struggle with some behaviors that require play therapy on a weekly basis.
- Brian and Tiffany adopted a beautiful little girl on December 1st, who has special medical needs and is G-tube fed. They are amazing with ensuring that her medical needs are met consistently.



Keep doing what you do so well!

