



GREELEY

Transitional
HOUSE

Summer Update



Presents...
The 6th Annual

SummerFest!

Comedy for a cause

Saturday,
August 27, 2011
6:00—10:00 p.m.
at the
Island Grove
Event Center

We hope you will join us for an evening of
great fun that benefits the work of the
Greeley Transitional House!

Featuring...

Rocky LaPorte



*As featured on
"The Tonight Show with Jay Leno"
and his own
"Comedy Central Presents" special*

And...

Chris Voth



*Appeared on "Last Comic Standing 2"
Past winner of the
Miller Lite Comedy Competition
of Denver.*

In addition to great comedy there will be a
\$3,000 Grand Prize Reverse Raffle
(runner up prizes worth over \$6,000)
Catering provided by Kenny's Steak House

Tickets: \$150 per couple, \$80 per individual
or \$600 to sponsor a table for 8 people.

To buy tickets in advance call (970) 352-3215 or email jhart@qwestoffice.net

A huge thank you to our Summerfest 2011 Sponsors:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Presenting Sponsor: | EnviroTech Services, Inc. |
| Event Sponsors: | Hensel Phelps Construction Co., Noble Energy, Greeley Medical Clinic, & Flood & Peterson Insurance |
| Corporate Sponsors: | Phelps-Tointon, Inc., Anadarko, Cache Bank & Trust, Kenny's & Cementer's Well Service Inc. |

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GTH Staff:

- Jodi Hartmann: Exec Director
- Lori Casares: Assistant Director
- Maria Hernandez: Follow Up/Champions
Case Manager
- Amber Faiman: Child/Adolescent Program
Coordinator
- Teddy Sanchez: Office Manager
- Alanna Gauthier: AmeriCorps VISTA

Greeley Transitional House
1206 10th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
Telephone: (970) 352-3215
Fax: (970) 352-0130
E-mail: jhart@qwestoffice.net

We gratefully thank the following public, individual, corporate, foundation and church donors for their financial support from January through June:

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The Need is Great and Growing

We have continued to see unrelenting high demand for our shelter services in the first half of 2011. Families are struggling with lingering high unemployment in the community (Weld County's unemployment rate was 9.4% in April compared to 6.7% in Fort Collins/Loveland, and 8.7% for Colorado). High unemployment combined with the lowest vacancy rates in Greeley in nearly a decade are taking their toll on the working poor families GTH serves. Greeley is not alone in the phenomena of increasing homeless families. Across the country, families are making up a growing proportion of homeless people.

The 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report by the Department of Housing and Urban Development found that since 2007, the number of people in families who are homeless has increased by 19.8%. Based on reports from shelter providers nationwide, HUD estimates that people in families now make up 35.6% of the country's homeless population on any given night. That compares with 29.8% in 2007. Homelessness among individuals declined 6.4 percent during the same period.

The typical homeless family, HUD reported, is a mother with two children. The report also cited a growing number of two-parent families experiencing homelessness as victims of layoffs and real estate foreclosures. The movement of people from homeownership (e.g. foreclosure) into the rental market is a primary reason for the increase in homelessness among families. With more people seeking to rent, prices move upward, forcing some at the low end of the market into the street.

Locally, we see this trend clearly. Greeley's multifamily vacancy rate was at a 10-year low at 3.8% for the first quarter of 2011. Unfortunately, this vacancy rate will eventually drive up rental rates creating the perfect storm for very low income families. High unemployment, a shortage of affordable housing, and high rental rates will make it very difficult for struggling families to avoid homelessness. In addition, the recent closure (possibly temporary) of the Room at the Inn program has decreased the shelter capacity for homeless families.

Fortunately, GTH's experienced staff and our variety of programs designed to mitigate the barriers homeless families face will help ease some of the struggle for the families we are able to serve. We seek the community's support in helping us to maintain these critical services that are needed now more than ever.

Jodi Hartmann
 Executive Director

Message from the Board President

As of this writing the Greeley Transitional House has a waiting list of ten families. Currently, we are providing shelter and in-house case management to twelve families. While the economy continues to vacillate between okay and poor, our families struggle to find a job that pays a livable wage and that is why they are homeless. It is depressing news, but on the bright side is all the local support our agency receives from generous community members.

The staff and board work all year on various fronts to raise revenue. We've had several small events - the May 14 garage sale yielded \$1,300 thanks to some wonderful items donated. The first annual CROP event (scrapbooking day) to benefit GTH was a success and raised lots of household items, food and over \$2,000. We sincerely thank Deb Corban and Kris Green (pictured to the right) for organizing this event on our behalf. In addition, a few of our annual operating grants have been renewed. But our biggest fundraising event is coming later this summer.



Summerfest will occur on Saturday, August 27th from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM at Island Grove Event Center in Greeley. This year we will feature funny man Rocky LaPorte of Comedy Central fame. Moreover, we will have several door and cash prizes for participants. All the proceeds of this event will be directed back to GTH to serve people who are homeless. Tickets can be purchased at GTH or from any one of our board members listed in this newsletter. Please come out and join the fun and support a great agency.

Another new way to financially support GTH is through an automatic withdrawal program set up through Wells Fargo Bank (a generous community supporter). You can now effortlessly donate \$10, \$25 or \$100 a month by simply filling out a short form and submitting it to your bank. Please consider becoming a sustaining supporter of GTH by contributing this way.



However you support us, we are grateful. We vow to continue our quality care and services, plus provide special events to make giving to us worthwhile and FUN!

Deb DeBoutez
Board President

Amanda and her three young daughters came to GTH after having suffered through domestic violence which eventually left the family homeless. She worked hard throughout her stay at GTH on finding affordable housing and soon moved to her own apartment. Amanda does not receive any child support and works hard as a hair stylist to support her daughters. Amanda has worked faithfully with her Follow-Up case manager since leaving the shelter, and has kept current on her rent and bills in order to improve her credit. Her long-term goal is to apply for a home through Greeley Habitat for Humanity. In addition, Amanda has received a promotion to manager at her work and has continued to care for her family very responsibly. We admire Amanda - she is working hard, taking care of her beautiful daughters, and using the support of our Follow-up case management program to help keep her on track and pursuing her goals.

Celebrating Success!



Become a "Friend of GTH"

During the first few years of the economic downturn GTH was fortunate to have maintained relatively stable funding for our programs. Unfortunately in 2011 we have begun to experience reduced levels of funding from federal sources (HUD's Emergency Shelter Grants and the Emergency Food & Shelter Program) and some private foundations (a major foundation partner is dissolving its fund and another is no longer funding emergency services). While we continue to be financially strong, we will not be able to sustain our current level of services indefinitely without growing other areas of our funding to mitigate these reductions.

You can help us bridge the gap of this reduced funding by becoming a **"Friend of GTH"** and becoming a sustaining supporter of our programs. The enclosed brochure provides details on how you can become a monthly contributor and have your donation automatically withdrawn from your bank account. Our goal is to secure 200 donors providing at least a \$10.00 monthly "Friend of GTH" donation. Of course if you are able to help us with a greater monthly donation that would be very much appreciated. As with all donations to GTH, your "Friend of GTH" automatic monthly donation would be tax deductible and you would receive a year-end statement acknowledging your gifts. If you are currently a regular donor to GTH our hope is that you will either maintain, or grow your contribution through this convenient donation process.

Won't you consider becoming a "Friend of GTH" and help us to continue to provide the quality, proven programs that are helping homeless families get back on their feet?

Helping homeless families help themselves



GTH Tidbits...

- GTH has a new logo! You might have noticed that we are sporting a new “look”! After 25+ years we decided it was time to retire our old logo and move to a more modern look. Thank you to Eric Shrader at ETime Design Studio for creating our new logo and also for helping us renovate our Website. Let us know what you think! 
- The GTH Kid’s Garden is sprouting with fun! This Spring the kids staying at GTH planted a garden full of veggies to make salsa and strawberries to add to desserts. We appreciate the Weld County Community Garden program for support for this project.
- Do you sometimes wish you could make your car clean up it’s act? No worries! GTH will be holding a Car Wash fundraiser on July 23rd. Mark it on your calendars and stop by 9am-1pm! If you have any ideas for future fundraisers or if you’d like to get involved in an upcoming one, contact GTH or write it on our Facebook wall.
- Look for GTH on Facebook! Simply search for us under “Greeley Transitional House” and “like” us, and you will be able to see frequent updates and news. Pass the word along to your Facebook friends as well!
- GTH had six rooms painted by volunteers on United Way’s Day of Caring ! The new color really warmed up the rooms and made it a nicer place for a temporary stay. Thank you volunteers for the wonderful work!

CLIENT SERVICES

YTD 2011

- Provided approx. 5,100 individual nights of shelter
- Served 45 homeless families
- Provided shelter for 140 people - 63 adults & 77 children
- Provided 52 Life Skills Classes for families
- 38 families found permanent affordable housing
- 50 adults found employment
- 90 families participating in our Follow-up and Champions programs received 740 hours of case management
- 42 children received case management, school support services, clothing and other resources and participated in fun activities each week