



# GREELEY Transitional HOUSE



Helping homeless families help themselves

## Holiday Update—2011

### 2011 Board of Directors

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### GTH Staff

Jodi Hartmann, Exec. Director  
Lori Casares, Assistant Director  
Maria Hernandez: Follow Up/  
Champions Case  
Manager  
Abby Smith, Child/Adolescent  
Program Coordinator  
Teddy Sanchez, Office Manager  
Alanna Gauthier, AmeriCorps  
VISTA

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## You Made a Difference



Greetings to all of our friends and supporters of the Greeley Transitional House. It's hard to believe we are once again at the holiday season – where did 2011 go?

It has been a great and challenging year at GTH. The board and staff have worked hard all year to continue to provide strong and effective programs that truly do make a difference for struggling families. Over 75 families (including 130 children) found safety, stability, and support as they worked hard to get back on their feet.

As the economy continues to be sluggish, the need in the community has grown. Since July we not only have been continuously full, but daily have had to turn away two to three families requesting services. Our shelter partners in the community are all experiencing this same high need, and we are all working together with United Way and other community partners to try to determine what is behind this increase in need and how best to meet it.

We have had some great events this year as well. Our annual special event, Summerfest, was again well received and grew another 35% this year thanks to our great corporate and individual sponsors. We are looking forward to another

successful Summerfest next August and we hope you'll join us. GTH was also actively involved in the recent Weld Project Connects event which brought together over 500 community volunteers and 1,100 participants to provide critical services for the neediest in our community. This year we found new friends in Deb Corban and Kris Green who will be dedicating the proceeds from two of their quarterly CROP scrapbooking fundraisers to GTH each year.

Many, many of you gave generously to GTH through your time, in-kind, and financial donations throughout the year and we hope you know how much your gift means to the families we serve – we couldn't do this work without you. With your help, families with nowhere else to turn find hope and support within our walls. Please consider an additional holiday donation to help us continue to help homeless families help themselves.

Thank you for supporting GTH and have a wonderful holiday season!

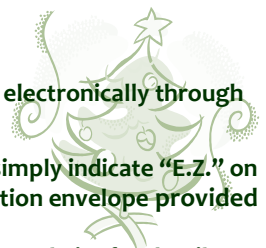
*Jodi Hartmann  
Executive Director*



***“With your help, families  
with nowhere else to turn  
find hope and support  
within our walls.”***

## Giving Options:

- ✓ Use the enclosed envelope to send a check
- ✓ Visit our Website at [www.greeleytransitionalhouse.org](http://www.greeleytransitionalhouse.org) to donate electronically through Paypal or other credit card
- ✓ To receive a 25% State Income Tax Credit on donations of \$100.00 simply indicate “E.Z.” on your check, make it payable to GTH, and mail it to GTH in the donation envelope provided (see back of newsletter for more details)
- ✓ Sign up for our new “Friends of GTH” sustaining membership. See Website for details.



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT**

## Homeless Prevention Activities

Providing a safe, supportive emergency shelter program for families will always be the cornerstone of our work at GTH, but over the years we have added several transitional housing programs that provide long-term support and prevent reoccurring homelessness. Our two year Follow-up case management program is one of those programs as is our United Way funded Champions program. Both programs provide case management and access to resources to help stabilize families and increase their self-sufficiency.

Since 2009, GTH has been administering HUD's Homeless Prevention & Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) which has allowed us to assist over 86 Weld County households with more than \$178,000 in rent assistance, security deposits, and utility assistance. We are pleased to have been able to have such a direct impact on preventing homelessness in the community with this program.

We will be actively pursuing several opportunities for increased homelessness prevention activities in upcoming months and will report on any new programs that develop once they are finalized.

While helping homeless families with immediate needs, we will continue to find ways to support them after they leave the shelter and strive for self-sufficiency.

### CLIENT SERVICES YTD 2011

(est. year-end)

- Will have provided approx. 11,800 individual nights of shelter
- Served 75 homeless families
- Provided shelter for 225 people – 91 adults & 130 children
- Provided 94 Life Skills Classes for adults
- 65 families will have found permanent affordable housing
- 72 adults will have found employment
- 90 families participating in our Follow-up and Champions programs received 1,350 hours of case management
- 130 children will have received case management, school support services, clothing and other resources and participated in fun activities each week

## What Families Find at GTH



We gratefully thank the following public, individual, corporate, foundation and church donors for their financial support to date in 2011

Sylvia Perchlik	Jennifer Moore	Michael Muskin & Diane Murata
Kevin & Kristen Whyrick	Robin Stanske	Conquest Companies
Weld County Garage Employees	Martin Family Fund at the	UMB Bank
Doris Stillman	Community Foundation	Gale & Karen Giebler
Ranelle Lang	City of Greeley	Randy Watkins
Teresa Warner	American Pizza	Kevin & Elaine Quam
Janet Shulz	Jennifer Shute	Ehrlich Toyota
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Candi Headly	Diane Stephens	Judy Layton
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Mandy Hydock	Diane Miller	Michael Engrav
Pam Stoll	Jackie Lyman	Ray & Judy Knapp
Betty Hoffner	Steve Clark	Front Range Roofing
Teddy Sanchez	Brandon Houtchens	Warren Yoder
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless	A.V. Hunter Trust	Ron Wildeman
Westside Carwash	St. John's United Church of Christ	Steve Baker
United Way of Weld County	Hensel Phelps Construction	Advantage Bank
Ray & Debbie Ulibarri	Poudre Valley Health Care (Greeley	Lee Smith
Sears Real Estate	Medical Clinic)	Innovest Portfolio Solutions
Deb DeBoutez	Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Ron Randel
Mary Linda Pickering Gerwig	Noble Energy	Judy Marillaro
Jim & Von Prichard	EnviroTech Services, Inc.	Steve Clark
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Academy of Nat. Therapy Employees	Phelps-Tointon, Inc.	Christopher Hughes
St. Paul's Congregational Church	Anadarko	Andy & Jennifer Laycock
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First Christian Church	Cementer's Well Service, Inc.	Melissa Malde
Steve & Laura Connolly	Travis & Jennifer Gillmore	Katherine Johnson
Cache Bank & Trust Employees	Phelps-Tointon, Inc.	Jack Temkin
Patricia Albrandt	Steve & Kathy Bytnar	Red Wing Shoes
Fred & Gerre Tjardes	Community of Christ Church	Bruce & Jan Lichtenberger
Roger Harbert	Thomas & Tyler LLC	Steve & Nancy Teksten
Phyllis Hansberry	Houtchens, Houtchens, & Greenfield	Valerie Bass
Richard Peterson	Zarlengo Raub LLP	William Eastwood
Gordon Hall	Robert & Diane Miller	Gloria Reynolds
Melvin Morton	MC Construction	Laura Beer
Claudia Dennison	Bruce Cooper	1 <sup>st</sup> Bank
Joel Midgarden	Orthodontic Associates	Larry Wood
Vicky Graninger	Shirazi-Miller	W.S. Kurz
Heitman Family	Cache Bank & Trust	Chris Gentle
Charles Winston	Kathleen Hagihara	Tim & Sally Warde
Hewlett Packard Employees	Gay & Lesbian Fund	Best Buy
David Haining	Flood & Peterson Insurance	Bev Gray
Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson Foundation	Kyle Rutz	William & Sharon Farr
Larry Hall	John & Jodi Hartmann	Diane Gaede
Scott's Import Specialists	Gordon Sawatzky	Northern Colorado CPA's
Donald Kirby	Gretchen Howland	Sam S. Bloom Foundation
	Margaret Weigand	

## Message from the Board of Directors by Deb DeBoutez, President

Like a good marriage, time spent together cultivates fondness and that is how I feel about my time affiliated with the Greeley Transitional House. I have been involved with GTH one way or another for the last fourteen years. By far, the most rewarding time has been the last six years on the board, where I really got to know the organization.

I've come to admire the resilience and fortitude of the families that have lived at the shelter; the recidivism rate is outstanding at below 5%, which speaks volumes to the character of our clients and the effectiveness of our programs. I've learned to honor the staff who work day in and day out with these families—empowering them to help themselves. In addition, staff work hard to keep the shelter safe and running smoothly. I've appreciated the time, energy and resourcefulness of the board members who come to meetings, share their ideas, help at events and raise money for the agency.



And, I've marveled at the ongoing community support people in Greeley have provided GTH for over 25 years.

Alas, there is still more we all can do. Family members can stay in school, get job training, and learn to tend to their health and well-being. The staff can continue to support one another in this tough job of empowering families, writing grants and advocating for people who are homeless. The board can resolve to raise more funds as the cost of running the programs continue to rise. Finally, the community can learn more about the causes of homelessness and support GTH's programs that

deal with the causes of family homelessness.

Giving to GTH is so essential and so easy. You can make your financial contribution once a year, month to month, or by attending one of our special fundraising events. You can volunteer to provide life skills classes, help maintain the property, or perform office duties. However you decide to support GTH, we are very grateful. Thanks to you all for your support. May you have many blessings in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Deb DeBoutez  
President



### Holiday Wish List

The following items are needed year round, but would also very much help us stock our shelves during the holiday season (these items are given to families both while they live with us and when they move to homes of their own)

- ▲ Towels & Linens
- ▲ Toiletries
- ▲ Cleaning Supplies
- ▲ Feminine Hygiene Items
- ▲ Diapers (all sizes)
- ▲ Formula & Baby Food
- ▲ Food for Food Pantry
- ▲ Pots & Pans (new or used)
- ▲ Eating Utensils (new or used)
- ▲ Pillows & Blankets
- ▲ Gift Cards (grocery cards & restaurant cards are ideal)

### Employee Spotlight— Abby Smith



We have a new face at GTH we want to introduce. Abby Smith joined the staff as our part-time Child/Adolescent Coordinator in

July 2011. As Coordinator, Abby provides case management for the children and youth living at GTH to make sure their unique needs are met.

Abby is from Lyons, Colorado and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from UNC in May 2011. Abby has worked extensively with special populations including three years as a paraprofessional in School District 6 working with students with severe special needs, and as an intern and case worker at Lutheran Family Services where she worked in community outreach to refugee families. Abby's great social skills, bubbly personality, and compassionate nature have made her an effective liaison between the children, their parents, and the community.

Welcome Abby!

### Stay at GTH "Life Saving"

The following quote was taken from the Exit Evaluation of the "Palmer Family" (name has been changed) who along with their two young children, stayed at GTH for several weeks last spring. We're pleased to report that the family is stable in their housing and continuing to work with our Follow-up program.

"Our stay at GTH was very insightful for both my wife and me. At GTH we were welcomed into a safe and secure home where all the staff members were kind and very understanding. Not a single time did we ever feel judged or looked down on. Everyone always kept an open mind and ears when we approached them with a problem. GTH is a life saver when life throws

you so many unexpected obstacles. GTH gave us a miracle when we didn't have anywhere else to go or stay for the night. And we have been able to get back on our feet thanks to the effort and help we received from GTH and its staff members. Thank you for everything and for giving us the skills to move forward with our lives. May God bless you all at GTH."



### HELP US GO GREEN AND SAVE SOME TREES!

Please call (352-3215) or e-mail us with your e-mail address so that we can send this newsletter to you electronically. Send e-mail to: [jhart@qwestoffice.net](mailto:jhart@qwestoffice.net). Your e-mail will not be shared with anyone but GTH.



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*Helping homeless families help themselves*



#### GTH TIDBITS....



- ✦ GTH currently has two vacancies on our Board of Directors. Please consider whether this might be an opportunity for you to become more involved in our mission. The Board meets once a month for a general meeting and at least one other time for subcommittee meetings. Contact Jodi Hartmann if you are interested in learning more.
- ✦ Don't forget that you can receive a 25% state income tax credit for your donation of \$100 or more to GTH. We are an approved enterprise zone contribution project which enables donors to take a direct 25% credit against their state income taxes for a donation. All you have to do is indicate your desire to take the E.Z. credit on your check and make it payable to GTH. We will take care of the rest! First time enterprise zone donors must include their social security number or federal ID number on the check. This information will be kept confidential on file with the Upstate office. Checks must be received by GTH by December 31 in order to get the tax credit for 2011.
- ✦ We are on **Facebook!** (who isn't?). Please "like" us under "Greeley Transitional House" and become our friend so that you can receive regular updates on GTH news and events.
- ✦ Did you know that GTH is a beneficiary of the community Northern Colorado Empty Stocking Fund program during the holiday season? Sponsored by the El Pomar Foundation, the United Ways of Weld & Larimer County, and area media outlets, the fund supports seven northern Colorado emergency services agencies including GTH. Consider adding this fund to your holiday giving and help several emergency programs in the community.
- ✦ Visit the GTH Website at [www.greeleytransitionalhouse.org](http://www.greeleytransitionalhouse.org) and let us know what you think of our new improved site!
- ✦ A special thanks to First Christian Church for their "above and beyond" volunteerism at GTH this past year including parties for the kids, yard work, financial and in-kind donations, and organization of our garages. We appreciate you all!

