



Children's Outreach Project

It is Better to Build Children than to Repair Adults

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2 --- SUMMER 2007

CHILDREN'S OUTREACH PROJECT

EARNs A

FOUR-STAR QUALISTAR RATING!

Children's Outreach Project is the first improvement.

child care program in Adams County to get Programs participating in the Qualistar a Four Star Rating – the highest a program Rating process have taken an important step in can receive. The Qualistar Rating measures their continuous quality improvement journey. the quality of child care programs through “By being part of this process for the past 4 an evaluation of their learning activities, years,” said Paula Neth, Acting President at physical environment, health and safety Qualistar, “Children's Outreach Project has standards, family partnerships, staff training truly showcased their strong commitment to and education levels, adult-to-child ratios the children at their program as well as a larger and group size, and accreditation. Points are commitment to improving child care across the earned in each of these seven areas and are state. We congratulate them on their success added together to arrive at a star rating. Each and 4-star rating, and commend them for being program is also presented with a detailed plan part of this journey and setting an example for outlining specific steps for continued quality the rest of the early childhood community.”

EXCITING NEW PROGRAM BENEFITS C.O.P.

Children's Outreach Project is excited to be LMC Community Foundation pays the credit a recipient of the services offered by the new card processing fees. This means that 100 GivingFirst program through LMC Community percent of gifts made through GivingFirst go Foundation. directly to Children's Outreach Project.

LMC Community Foundation has created If you would like to make a contribution to a link between giving and the community. our organization, or if you would simply like GivingFirst is the Foundation's new on-line tool more information about GivingFirst, please designed to enrich donors' knowledge about visit www.givingfirst.org.

the nonprofit sector and encourage charitable It takes only a few moments to make your giving in metropolitan Denver. donation. Don't forget that your gift may

The goal of GivingFirst is to INFORM donors qualify you for a 50% Colorado state income so they can INVEST in non profits and have a tax credit. For more information about this tax greater IMPACT in our community. credit visit the Colorado State Web site at:

This online resource provides vital facts about www.revenue.state.co.us and click on Children's Outreach Project's management, “Taxation - Tax Information Index - Income finances, and programs and creates a detailed Tax - Credits - Child Care Contribution Income Tax Credit” or call Stephanie Baer at 303-429-0653. After making your donation, the card donations are made through GivingFirst, qualifying tax form will be mailed to you.

Our Mission

To offer an integrated, quality, early childhood education to typical, accelerated, and developmentally delayed children in the metro Denver area.

Our Vision

To provide young children of all abilities with excellent early childhood education and care that is affordable for all families.

Board of Trustees

Magistrate Melanie Gilbert - *President*
Denver County Juvenile Court

Edward Timmins, Esq. - *Vice President*
Timmins and Associates, LLC

Sue Cahlander - *Treasurer*
US Bank

Meredith Toews - *Secretary*
Sports Authority

Margaret Black
Wells Fargo Bank

Dr. Allison Dorbandt
Kaiser Permanente

John Dwyer
ET Investments

Lisa Jelliffe
Slaterpaul Architects

Martin R. Staab, Esq.
Attorney-at-Law

Cathy White
CO Dept. of Public Health



Children's Outreach Project has recently received the most prestigious “4-Star” rating from Qualistar Early Learning.
www.qualistar.org



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Children's Outreach Project is well-known for integrating typically developing and developmentally challenged kids. We are also an agency dedicated to continual improvement to provide the best programs we can to our families.

We know quality early childhood education matters. We understand that exposure to high quality programming can make a positive difference in a young person's life.

In May, C.O.P. welcomed Qualistar to review our program. During a month-long process,

Qualistar made unannounced visits to C.O.P. Adams County. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the committed team of educators and staff members that work with our children and families on a daily basis. It is wonderful that all of our hard work has been recognized by Qualistar.

Perfect scores were obtained in the family partnership and in the teacher/child ratios categories. Of the 233 centers in Colorado rated so far for the 2006-07 school year, only 17 received the maximum four stars from Qualistar, C.O.P. included. We are very proud of this accomplishment. **Children's Outreach Project is the only four-star preschool in**

To our supporters and volunteers, I can assure that we will continue to "raise the bar" to ensure we are offering the highest quality of programming possible.

Fondly,
Stephanie Baer, Executive Director

VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Children's Outreach Project relies heavily on volunteers so the majority of our funding can go into direct programming.

We held our annual Spring Cleanup on April 28th, and primarily because of Rebuilding Together and their wonderful volunteers, we completed some very exciting improvements to the building and the grounds, including a large shade structure and new lighting throughout the building. Thank you, Rebuilding Together and volunteers from the Society of Civil Engineers for all your hard work.

We would also like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their support over the last few months. We know your time and resources are valuable. Thank you for

making C.O.P. a priority in your lives.

- Janet Tisdall of Colorado Striipe Wright for striping our parking lot.
- Shanea King and her Dad, Scott Wamsley for knocking down all the weeds.
- These awesome parents for helping with Spring Clean up: Vicki Dare, Larry and Lori Ann Garcia, Chris May, and Lynda Gonzales.
- Our 2007 Golf committee members: Tim Glasgow, Dave and Mary Lawrence, and Gordon Schick.
- Our 2007 Golf volunteers: Sue Cahlander, Katie Childs, Dr. Ali Dorbandt, Jan Dwyer, Christopher Eddy, Mary Jo Gross, Phil Johnson, Kama Kauffman, Rayme Kavadas,

- Judi Rinaldi, Lindsay Sajban, Kathy Schick, Jolene Teague, and Tom Trego.
- Jon Cohen from Specialty Enterprises, Inc. for his continual I.T. assistance.

THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE!!



Some of our Rebuilding Together volunteers taking a well deserved lunch break in the shade.

2007 GOLF TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS

The 5th Annual Children's Outreach Project Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, June 12th. Although the weather did not cooperate, the tournament was a huge success raising more than \$35,000 for our special needs programming!

The attendees and volunteers had a great time socializing and the silent auction turned a larger profit due to the inclement weather. There were some bidding wars going on which added to the fun and to the success.

We would like to thank all the attendees, donors, volunteers, committee and board members whose efforts contributed to the success of this annual fund raiser. We appreciate your continued support. Without you, it would not have been so successful!

A special thank you goes to our sponsors:

Platinum Sponsors

- Jalisco International, Inc.
- Quality Rail Services

Gold Sponsors

- Compass Bank
- MetroNorth Newspapers

Silver Sponsors

- Citywide Banks
- DoubleTree Hotel Denver North
- Empire Title
- Grease Monkey of Longmont
- Remax Northwest, Inc.
- Specialty Enterprises, Inc.
- Swis Automotive
- U.P.S.
- Vectra Bank Colorado

Bronze Sponsors

- City of Westminster
- Compass Insurance Agency, Inc.
- GCG Financial, Inc.
- Jersey Mike's Subs
- Westcor Land Title Insurance Company

Hole-In-One Sponsors

- LK Enterprises
- Real Estate of the Rockies

Hole Sponsors

- Park Centre Lounge
- Paul Smith

To the people who attended this event we would like to say, "thank you," for your flexibility regarding the weather. We are grateful to have such special supporters.

We hope to see you all next year!

IMPROVED CURRICULUM

This fall, C.O.P. will begin using a new state of the art curriculum in every classroom. The developmentally appropriate tool is called Creative Curriculum. The philosophy, techniques, and assessment outlined by Creative Curriculum are specifically designed to address the development of children in a preschool/kindergarten setting.

The curriculum focuses on four major areas: social and emotional skills, physical growth, cognitive awareness, and language development. Each developmental area addresses several goals, including, but not limited to: developing responsibility for self and others, strengthening gross and fine motor skills, increasing language and problem solving techniques, and improving reading and writing proficiency.

Within the classroom, teachers will strive to

create a positive learning environment for all children by assessing students on an individual basis. Based on the Creative Curriculum assessment tool, teachers will be able to make necessary accommodations through small group activities and one-on-one instruction to assist children in reaching goals and developing new skills.

Creative Curriculum encourages children to explore the environment and learn from hands on experiences. Classroom teachers develop themes and projects based on the interest of the students to maximize the potential for growth and development.

C.O.P. parents can sign up to view classroom observations on-line, which also gives them access to a multitude of resources to enrich their child's educational experience.

www.creativecurriculum.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

C.O.P. will begin its annual E-Book sale on August 1st. Each book is \$10 and will be available until the end of September. The books include numerous discounts across the metro area and yield a high return for C.O.P.

If you are interested in purchasing an E-Book, please stop by or call 303-429-0653.

We are researching the possibility of holding a wine tasting and silent auction to take place some time late this fall or early winter.

If you have any suggestions or information to pass on regarding a fund raiser of this kind, if you would like to sponsor the event or make an in-kind donation, please contact Marla Ledezma at 303-429-0653 or email her at marla.ledezma@cop-denver.org. We appreciate your input.

VOICE OF A C.O.P. PARENT

My name is Judy and I am raising my six year old granddaughter, Morighann. She has beautiful red hair and the biggest brown eyes you have ever seen. She had a serious infection at birth which led to a later diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy. She's also been diagnosed with a genetic disorder called Neurofibromatosis.



Morighann poses with Ms. Allita, and a friend at the Family Picnic on May 25th, 2007.

I learned of Children's Outreach Project from a friend 2½ years ago, when Morighann was just three and I was having trouble finding care because her needs were higher than caregivers were willing to provide. My friend's son was enrolled at C.O.P. and was receiving therapeutic services there at no additional cost to her.

I toured the school and was impressed by what I saw. I knew Morighann would receive quality care, and didn't hesitate to enroll her, thus beginning our wonderful relationship with the C.O.P. staff.

In the beginning, Morighann would slowly maneuver her walker down the narrow hallways at C.O.P. which caused many traffic jams. Eventually, she was able to walk with the use of only her leg braces. Walking is very important to Morighann so she was given permission to take a lap around the funny, dome shaped building several times each day.

In April, Morighann required another operation. By June, she had already had three casts on each of her legs and would require several more on each leg over the next several months. She became dependent on others for her mobility.

Caring for Morighann is quite a challenge and many providers would have given up on us, but instead, the staff at C.O.P. met with me to brainstorm ideas. Together, we found ways to meet Morighann's needs.

I am a single grandma/mama, so I need to work to provide for Morighann and myself. Because C.O.P. exists, I have been able to go to work each day without worrying. Morighann and I have only each other and for this reason, the C.O.P. staff and students have become like family to us, sharing our lives.

I thank the Children's Outreach Project staff for all the "courage" and "commitment" that they have pledged to all children.

WWW.CHILDRENSOUTREACHPROJECT.ORG

We are very excited to be working diligently with a web design company and are currently building a new web site. While the current web site still provides valuable information, some of it is outdated and it is time for a change.

The new site will have a brand new look while being much more informative and user

friendly than our current site. We will be able to manage the site in-house, updating the information on a regular basis. This will allow us to keep the web site fresh and interesting while providing current, accurate information to all who visit.

We are excited to offer some new features, such as a contact page, giving visitors the

opportunity to share their opinions with us or ask for more information. Also, look for our testimonials page where parents share some heart warming stories.

We should have a launch date soon! Please keep checking in at:

www.childrensoutreachproject.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Children's Outreach Project
8000 Pecos Street
Denver, CO 80221
303-429-0653
www.childreusoutreachproject.org



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP C.O.P.

Do you use the internet? You can help Children's Outreach Project raise funds simply by using the Yahoo! search engine through GoodSearch.com.

- Log onto www.goodsearch.com
- Type in "Children's Outreach Project" under "Who Do you GoodSearch for?"
- Use their yahoo driven search engine and raise cash for C.O.P.

You can check the amount raised to see the benefit of your involvement. We earn a penny for every search and this can really add up!

Join IGive.com. Once you are a member, you can log directly onto the web sites you currently shop at and a portion of your purchase, if they are a participating retailer, will be donated to C.O.P.

They are always adding new retailers and you are certain to be buying from some of them now.

Retailers donate a portion of their profits from your purchase to C.O.P. so the donation

doesn't cost you anything. Registering is easy and you only do it once!

- Log onto www.igive.com
- Type in your email address to register
- Type in "Children's Outreach Project"
- Choose "Colorado" and click "Search"
- Children's Outreach Project will populate after processing your request.
- Click on the C.O.P. name
- Enter the required information to join
- Download the "shopping window" so each time you log onto a participating store the window will appear and let you know you are making a donation.
- **START SHOPPING!!**

Do you use ink jet or laser cartridges? If so, please bring them in to C.O.P.

OR

Contact Cartridges for Kids directly and choose Children's Outreach Project as your charity of choice. Access Computers will pick the cartridges up from your office so

you won't be hauling cartridges around, but you can feel good about recycling while making a donation to C.O.P.

- Log onto www.cartridgesforkids.com
- Click on the "Welcome" button on the library located on the top of the screen
- Click on "Business Enroll" under the "Business" button located at the top of the screen
- Follow the enrollment instructions and be sure to enter C.O.P.'s information. This needs to be done only one time. It will take less than 5 minutes and will make an impact on the environment and on C.O.P.'s financial health.

Children's Outreach Project
8000 Pecos Street
Denver, CO 80221
303-429-0653

A representative of Cartridges for Kids will contact you after registering.

THANK YOU!!