

March, 2006

CP of Colorado



In-Touch

"Uniting With Communities and People to Build Opportunities"

From The President and CEO

Imagine, if you will, an academic environment that recognizes and celebrates the diversity, uniqueness, and individual gifts each of our children brings to the world. Imagine a place where youth and adults with disabilities and other barriers to employment are released from the seemingly endless list of "can't do" into a world full of opportunity. Imagine, also, a network of parents and other family members of people living with disabilities connecting with each other and hearing for the first time, "You are not in this alone; I'm here for you." Finally, imagine a playground filled with children, with and without disabilities, playing together, creating pretend worlds, and chasing every hope and dream they have with all the enthusiasm only children can possess.

This is the world that CP of Colorado is building. For those of you that many not have heard our exciting news, CP of Colorado has purchased land at Lowry and is in the process of constructing a 55,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility. The drive behind CP of Colorado's vision for a new facility is one where the promise an education brings to a young person; the hope opportunity brings to his or her parents; and the dignity that comes from earning a paycheck moves from possibility to reality.

In this issue of our CP of Colorado In-Touch newsletter, you'll learn the details behind the vision, about the launch of our \$8.5 million capital campaign and how you, our closest friends and supporters, can help take our organization beyond mere imagination and into a world filled with hope and promise for those seeking a brighter future.

Wishing you well,

Judith I. Ham

In - Touch With Services

Dreams Do Come True

A story of perseverance, determination and self-sufficiency

Since birth, Holly has tackled obstacles with a vehemence few people possess. Her determination, paired with the support of her mother and nine older siblings, became the foundation upon which Holly has built her life of independence.

Born in Casper, Wyoming, and raised in Gettysburg, South Dakota (population 1,247), Holly was facing a life filled with limits. Those include limits on the care she required as a child with Cerebral Palsy, limits on the education she could get in a community with very few, if any, resources for special education; and limits on the work experience she could gain in a

community where jobs are scarce, at best. Holly's mother recognized this and dreamt of the day when she could move Holly and her siblings to a place where possibility replaced despair.

When Holly turned 16, she moved to Denver with her mom and sister, Hannah, where they and two more of Holly's siblings lived in a two-bedroom apartment. The quarters were cramped, but, for the first time, the future was full of promise for Holly. Holly enrolled at Lincoln High School, where she continued her education and eventually received her diploma.

...see "Holly's Story" on back page



Pictured above: Holly, her mother Joanne and sister Hannah

The Future of CP of Colorado Begins Today

By honoring our past, we create new and promising opportunities for the future: a future filled with hope, participation, and acceptance for people of all ages and all abilities.

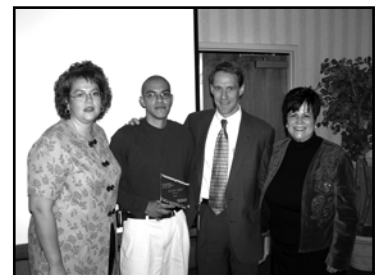
To breathe life into this vision, CP of Colorado has purchased land on Lowry at 8th and Yosemite, and is in the process of constructing a 55,000 square foot facility. On November 3, 2005, CP of Colorado held a groundbreaking ceremony and luncheon at the future site of the facility. The event served as a kick off to the \$8.5 million capital campaign. Colorado's First Lady, Frances Owens, led the groundbreaking ceremony along with Denver City Councilwoman, Marcia Johnson, Colorado State Senator Ken Gordon, former Colorado Senator Penfield Tate and representatives from Congresswoman Dianna DeGette's office. The day was complete with 150 friends of CP in attendance.

The facility will be home to 10 classrooms of the Creative Options

...see "New Building" on page 2

2005 Annual Meeting Celebrates Exceptional Achievement

Held on December 1, 2005, at the Marriot, Denver Tech Center, this year's Annual Meeting was well attended and included a multi-media presentation covering program services and a number of highlights from the last fiscal year. The high point of the evening came with the presentation of the 2005 Annual Awards, which recognized a number of individuals and organizations for their exceptional achievement and their outstanding contribution to CP of Colorado. Heartfelt testimonials from the winners were a poignant reminder of the extraordinary friends that CP of Colorado has made and the impact they make in the lives of others. A special thank you to all who attended and congratulations to all of our award winners!



Juan Xoy receives award for Outstanding Family Support. Pictured (from left to right): Lori Medina-Anderson, Juan Xoy, Jim Reuter and Judith Ham

2005 Annual Award Winners

- Outstanding Corporate Partner of the Year: **All-Phase Concrete**
- Community Business of the Year: **Achievement Consulting & Training, Inc.**
- Outstanding Family Support of the Year: **Juan Xoy**
- Outstanding Policymaker of the Year: **The Honorable Ken Gordon**
- Outstanding Community Volunteer of the Year: **Dr. Jim Ledbetter, MD**
- Outstanding Individual of the Year: **Holly Huyck**
- Outstanding CP of Colorado Employee of the Year: **Tia Nemitz & Wendie Edwards**

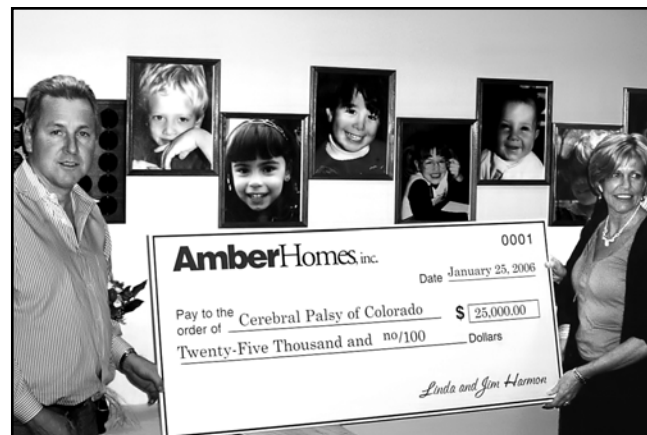


CP of Colorado Receives \$25,000 Gift From Amber Homes, Inc.

Amber Homes, Inc. named Presenting Sponsor of CP of Colorado's Mother's Tea

Cerebral Palsy of Colorado is gearing up for the 5th Annual Mother's Tea, presented by Amber Homes, Inc. This event celebrates the contribution, sacrifice, and commitment mothers make in the lives of their disabled child on a daily basis.

This year's gala will be Saturday, May 13, 2006 at the Westin, Tabor Center. The festivities begin with a Champagne reception, followed by a luncheon, inspirational keynote address and fashion show. Evelyne Villines will deliver the Keynote Address to an anticipated 400 women. Ms. Villines, disabled herself, is the Chairperson of the Family Support Committee of Children and Families of Iowa and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Metropolitan Transit Authority. She was inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Persons with Disabilities and has served two Presidential Appointments to the Committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled. Ms. Villines is truly a pioneer in the civil rights movement for individuals with disabilities.



Jim and Linda Harmon of Amber Homes, Inc. present \$25,000 check as presenting sponsor of this year's Mother's Tea.

The Mother's Tea kick-off luncheon was held January 25, 2006 at CP of Colorado's corporate office. At this luncheon Linda and Jim Harmon of Amber Homes, Inc. presented a lead gift of \$25,000 as the Presenting Sponsor for the event. "Amber Homes is committed to helping people of all abilities," said Linda Harmon. "We are proud to be part of an event that celebrates the indescribable love a mother has for her children and to support the life-changing work for which CP of Colorado is so well known."

This event is a way for the community to recognize the commitment and sacrifice mothers make in the lives of their children. A key feature of the Mother's Tea Luncheon is pamper packages which are given to six very deserving mothers. These pamper packages provide a break in the hectic life of these extraordinary women by allowing for spa treatments, fine dining, overnight accommodations and entertainment at venues throughout downtown Denver.

If you would like to be a sponsor, or would like to purchase a table or individual tickets to this joyous celebration, please visit www.cpc.org or call 303-691-9339 ext. 32. If you would like to nominate a mother of a disabled child for one of the pamper packages, please do so by visiting www.cpc.org and click on the Mother's Tea link on the home page and complete the online nomination form.

New Building from page 1

Center for Early Education. Children and families will receive strong support from our highly trained staff and dedicated team, which consists of early childhood educators, occupational therapists, speech therapists, social workers and classroom paraprofessionals. Every child in the Creative Options program is screened for developmental and health concerns. These screenings trigger a series of supportive services for families with children with developmental disabilities or delays, social-emotional challenges or other health related issues.

This facility will be home to CP of Colorado's Employment Works program. In keeping with CP of Colorado's mission of promoting personal choice and self-fulfillment, Employment Works provides job readiness, job placement, retention, and benefits planning, including intensive case management for youth and adult job seekers with disabilities or other barriers to employment. The strategic location of this new facility is sure to have an impact on the employability of the families in the shadows of the new Fitzsimmons campus. With an anticipated 10,000 new jobs in the area, CP of Colorado plays a vital role in preparing those families for the jobs of tomorrow. The facility will provide a state of the art technology center for job seekers, as well as, an entrepreneurial

incubator where like-minded individuals can find resources, support and guidance.

It will be home to a comprehensive grassroots network of parents and individuals with disabilities connecting to create public policy change, offering support and educating our statewide community on the abilities of



Breaking New Ground (from left to right): Juanita Tomblinson, James Reuter, Frances Owens, Penfield Tate, Judith Ham and Pam Weinstein.

all people. Through the parent and family focused support networks of Parent to Parent of Colorado, EMPOWER Colorado, Faith in Action, Family Voices and the Infantile Scoliosis Outreach Project, thousands of Colorado families have access to the support, information, and referral to resources in every community in our state. The new facility will create opportunities for these organizations to leverage knowledge, expertise

and networks to further support the emerging needs of families affected by physical or developmental disabilities.

It will be home to a K - 8 Charter School, which focuses on realizing the potential of every child through a rigorous curriculum, an inclusive learning environment, and a teaching model that pairs one

elementary education teacher with one special education teacher, plus a teacher's aid in every classroom. In addition to three teachers per classroom, the school will provide on staff social workers, occupational therapists, speech therapists and mental health professionals. This co-teaching model, in partnership with the rigorous curriculum, will result in levels of student proficiency significantly greater than that of students learning in typical public

schools. This facility will provide an academic environment where every child has the opportunity and support to fully participate in his or her education.

Finally, it will be home to CP of Colorado's corporate headquarters. The operational model at CP of Colorado is successful because of the commitment to keep administrative costs at a lean 10%. For every dollar raised, ninety cents goes directly to support the life changing work at CP of Colorado! This new facility will allow CP of Colorado the opportunity to shift lease expenses of over \$200,000 annually into creating a significant asset, which will have a lasting impact on thousands of lives for years to come. The most important measure of the asset is not on the balance sheet at CP of Colorado; rather, it is on the number of lives that will be better as a result of services provided at the CP of Colorado facility.

Please help us make this vision a reality. Together, we celebrate the courage, hope and triumph of our founding mothers; the promise of a future filled with opportunity for those to follow behind them; and our commitment to continue their legacy of creating a community, where every person deserves a chance to participate.

Holly's Story from page 1

By this time, Holly, Hannah, and their mom lived together in a very small, rented trailer house on Morrison Road. The women grew to know and love the neighborhood. They did all of their shopping at the Albertsons store at Alameda and Sheridan. Holly liked the store; she liked the people and she knew where everything was in that store. One of Holly's dreams was to work as a Courtesy Clerk at that Albertsons. Holly's solid work ethic, charm, perseverance and determination landed her that dream job.

Two years ago, Holly and her mother moved from that small trailer in west Denver to a nice, two-bedroom apartment in Arvada. This would take Holly far from Albertsons at Alameda and Sheridan and far from her dream job. However, in typical Holly fashion, determination won her a transfer to Albertsons Grocery Warehouse at 44th and Wadsworth. The store was arranged differently, the faces were all new, but Holly did her best to learn how this store, and its employees, worked. It was not long before Holly had acclimated to her new environment, and she had won over the employees and customers at her new dream job.

Holly's mom was very proud of how Holly made this move into a new neighborhood, new job, new bus

route and new friends. Holly's mom was witnessing her own dream of a better life for Holly come to fruition: her daughter was earning a paycheck and living a life filled with dignity.

Last year, Holly's mother passed away. Holly and her family were devastated. Holly and her mother were much more than mother and daughter - they were best friends and roommates but, most importantly, they shared a dream. That dream brought them to Denver a decade earlier.

With this loss so sudden, the biggest question now was how would Holly survive without her mother? The answer lay in the calm, determined eyes of Holly. Holly looked deep inside herself and found hope and possibility where sorrow and grief most recently lived. She set her sights on having her own apartment and the independence that comes with it.

It was not long before Holly moved into her very own apartment within minutes of her job. The death of her mother shattered the world Holly knew. However, all the pieces of that shattered world came together.

Now, Holly is going on her 6th successful year of employment with Albertsons; she is nearing her two-year anniversary of living in her own apartment; and recently, she has been heard talking about finding a condo to purchase!

Dreams do come true! Holly's mom had a dream of a future filled with possibility for her daughter. Through hard work, determination, charisma and love, her dream has become a reality by building the foundation upon which Holly has created her life of self-sufficiency.



Rose Compton presents Holly with award as the Outstanding Individual of the Year at CP of Colorado's Annual Meeting.

Holly has been supported by CP's Employment Works department for the last 6 years.

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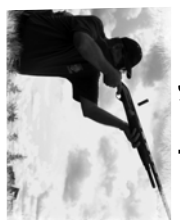
- ▶ Michael Smith, Dillon Ridge Liquors
- ▶ Juanita Tomblinson, Founding Mother

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Mark Your Calendar



Sunday, September 24, 2006 Inaugural Straight Shot Sporting Clay Shoot

7:30 A.M. Registration, Kiowa Creek Sporting Club
Take your best shot at this thrilling and entertaining event! You won't want to miss the inaugural year of what we are certain will become one of the Denver areas most unique and successful fund-raisers. Proceeds benefit CP's Infantile Scoliosis Outreach Program, which improves the standard of knowledge, means of treatment and prognosis for infantile scoliosis. Whether you're a professional or recreational shooter, with a cause this important, you can't miss!

Corporate Sponsorship opportunities are available for all of our special events.

Let us tailor one just for you.

Detailed information about our special events and programs can be found on our web site at www.cpcoco.org



Saturday, May 13, 2006 5th Annual Mother's Tea, presented by Amber Homes, Inc.

11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Westin Tabor Center - Downtown Denver
This event celebrates the contribution, sacrifice, and commitment mothers make in the lives of their disabled child on a daily basis. The festivities begin with a Champagne Reception followed by a Luncheon, inspirational keynote Address by Evelyne Villines and Fashion Show by Hanna Andersson. Benefiting CP of Colorado's Family Support Services: The Infantile Scoliosis Outreach Program, Parent to Parent of Colorado, Family Voices Colorado, EMPOWER Colorado and Faith In Action. Please reserve your seat today by calling 303-691-9339, ext. 32 or purchase online at www.cpcoco.org/motherstea.htm

Sunday, June 4, 2006 23rd Annual Exotic Sports Car Show & Concours d'Elegance

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Arapahoe Community College (lawn)
This exciting event will feature the best and the most beautiful sports and exotic automobiles, ranging from early classics and collector cars to vintage and current models, with food, drinks, and fun for the entire family. Proceeds benefit CP of Colorado's Children's Programs. Call Sandy at 303-691-9339 for additional information or to register your exotic car.



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