HIPPY Preschool Program - Now Enrolling

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado (CC) is partnering with HIPPY USA (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) to encourage early education and empowerment for parents of preschoolers. Preschool has proven to set children up for educational success, and the HIPPY program teaches parents the skills to provide that preschool education in their own homes. Funding for the program is thanks to Parent Possible and the Grinnell Trust.

HIPPY USA began in 1984, but its roots go back to a 1965 pilot program at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Dr. Avima Lombard believed parents were a child’s first and most important teacher, and developed an early education model which was instituted as the national model for early academic success in Israel in 1975.

The HIPPY model structures preschool education around a 30 week, in-home course where parents work with an in-home HIPPY visitor to teach math, science, language and motor skills to their two to five-year-old children. Parents are given lessons which incorporate activities proven to encourage cognitive, emotional, social and physical development in their children. These lessons are combined with group activities facilitated by HIPPY Home Visitors and CC staff. Parents are connected to a support system of other parents, facilitators and staff which encourages and educates parents as their children learn and grow. Most importantly, families begin to actively engage in their children’s educational development and success.

HIPPY Colorado and CC partnered in 2018 to introduce the HIPPY preschool program, at no cost to participants, to the Colorado Springs community. To date, 20 children (and their parents) from 17 families were enrolled in the program through CC. Our HIPPY Home Visitors work with our Family Services staff and volunteers to ensure program participants are connected to a network of support, services and resources geared toward the healthy development of their children.

For more information or to enroll, call 719.866.6429.
FROM THE CEO - ANDY BARTON

Two Harvard economists published a paper last month examining the return on investment in social spending in the United States. It was a part of a nonpartisan project called Opportunity Insights. Their study looked at which types of charitable spending required additional supports over time and which types tended to sustain themselves. The results, which may not come as a surprise, was that spending on children’s programs—specifically education and health care—was most effective. In fact, they found that over time, every $1 spent on low-income children was repaid and earned an additional 47 cents. (Measured by productivity and taxes that recipients ultimately paid.)

I found these economic measures interesting, but limited. Actually, I think scripture may do a better job of capturing the nuance of where our most effective social spending can take place. I am drawn to Psalm 127 in this: “Certainly sons are a gift from the Lord, the fruit of the womb, a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man who has filled his quiver with them.” We understand the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man who has filled his quiver with them.”

The vital importance of family is shared across all faiths and communities of today and tomorrow have both strong arrows and strong warriors.

This idea of the importance of supporting the child and the parent simultaneously is the basis for a model that Catholic Charities embraces called the Two-Generation (2Gen) Approach.

In this month’s newsletter, we have highlighted one component of our 2Gen approach in the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters Preschool Program or HIPPY. What makes HIPPY 2Gen is the focus on early childhood educational for both the child and parent. The child works toward becoming school ready, the parent develops as a learning partner and education becomes a core value for the family. The changes in her son’s behavior and learning ability excited Kelly.

Kelly learned about HIPPY (Home Instruction of Preschool Youngsters) - a free, in-home preschool program - through her son’s preschool. At the time, Kelly was struggling with the difficulties of navigating the educational system and achieving kindergarten readiness.

That is when Kelly met Cristiana, a HIPPY Home Visitor, who shared how the program works. Kelly was intrigued and decided to enroll in the program. She said, “I really liked the idea of how HIPPY helps parents and their children and guides the parents to grow in their child’s education.”

During her first meeting with Cristiana she expressed feelings of being overwhelmed. Her son was already attending preschool twice a week, enrolled in a speech therapy program, and she was struggling with how best to support him. Together, Kelly and Cristiana worked through the hurdles over the 30 week HIPPY curriculum, which focuses on reading, math, science, language, gross motor skills and the alphabet.

The changes in her son’s behavior and learning ability excited Kelly and her husband, who she said, “started to take part in some of the HIPPY activities because he wanted to have fun with learning too!”

In addition to the home visits, the HIPPY program organizes monthly meetings with other parents and children in the program to discuss specific topics, provide socialization, and share and discuss strategies or issues they may be experiencing. Kelly asked for advice on her son’s refusal to read a required book and the parents were eager to share their experiences and techniques. The following week during her home visit, Kelly reported the advice she received from the group had worked; her son had read the book!

Since that first home visit, Kelly says she has grown more confident in her ability to educate her son and navigate the educational system. Her son is engaging confidently with the world around him and has begun writing the alphabet. Kelly is confident he is ready to tackle kindergarten. As a result of her experience, Kelly has become a HIPPY Home Visitor and is eager to share her knowledge, skills and personal experience with other parents so they can achieve what she has: successful learning for her son.

Read more about Kelly’s experience with HIPPY by visiting the Catholic Charities blog, written by HIPPY Home Visitor, Cristiana Swearingen.

HIPPY Success Story: Kelly And Her Son

“From the CEO - Andy Barton

Providing Help. Creating Hope.

“The Lord’s presence dwells in real and concrete families, with all their daily troubles and struggles, joys and hopes.”

- Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia

At Catholic Charities, we help families succeed so they can thrive, and not just survive. Luis and his mom are successfully achieving their goal of financial health and stability through employment, educational opportunities, and working with a Family Life Coach for ongoing support. Invest in success at 719-866-6422 or CCharitiesCC.org.

ANOTHER #SUCCESS STORY

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

“I can see him (my son) writing his letters he found on the page!”

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Providing Help. Creating Hope.
This summer, two interviewing skills classes were offered. All including a job skills training class, monthly employment over the previous year. At this rate, the center is on track to set a record seeking more stability in their lives. This represents a 17% increase filled, but in the last 12 months, 169 jobs were filled with HEC clients growth over the past year. Since its inception, 515 jobs have been he championed the needs of children.

The Hanifen Employment Center (HEC) has seen significant growth over the past year. Since its inception, 515 jobs have been filled, but in the last 12 months, 169 jobs were filled with HEC clients seeking more stability in their lives. This represents a 17% increase over the previous year. At this rate, the center is on track to set a record for helping people find employment in FY 2019/2020. The HEC has added new classes and employment opportunities including a job skills training class, monthly employment information sessions, monthly hiring events and resume reviews. This summer, two interviewing skills classes were offered. All services are provided at no cost to the clients.

Monthly hiring events include five to eight local companies and staffing agencies with immediate openings available. These employers have partnered with HEC to fill open or new positions with people who are traditionally unemployed or difficult to employ, including individuals experiencing homelessness and those with criminal records. The HEC also has worked with clients to place them into internship programs, including the Marian House Works! and HBA Careers in Construction programs.

Case managers and employment advocates at the HEC have worked with volunteers, community partners, and employers to ensure clients have the clothing and personal items necessary to secure and retain employment. This includes working with local barbers to provide haircuts for free or at a reduced cost, and providing bus passes to clients to travel to work or interview. Once employed, transportation can be a challenge, so donations of working vehicles are appreciated.

For more information on the Hanifen Employment Center, visit www.CCharitiesCC.org/paths-to-opportunity/hanifen-employment-center. To donate a working vehicle, visit https://www.CCharitiesCC.org/donate-donate-material-goods.

The City of Colorado Springs has released the working document on the Homeless Initiative (www.helpcoso.org). It includes five goals: 1) inform the public; 2) increase access to shelter and services; 3) decrease barriers for people ready to exit homelessness; 4) increase access to housing; and 5) clean up illegal camps and protect the environment.

Goal 2 - Access to Shelter & Services includes an objective to add shelter options for families experiencing homelessness. The Homeless Family Solutions Collaborative (HFSC) - comprised of Catholic Charities, Partners in Housing, Family Promise and the Salvation Army - played an integral role in getting family homelessness included in the city plan by developing a white paper in the issue (www.CCharitiesCC.org/get-informed). The key recommendations included developing 20 emergency family units and 40 transitional family units based on a variety of research including the Point In Time Study (PIT) conducted in January 2018. The most recent PIT from January 2019, continues to show a need for emergency and transitional family shelter.

Some progress has been made toward identifying potential transitional housing units - 40 in total - that would be managed by Partners in Housing. However identification of appropriate units and securing funding has been challenging in a very tight affordable housing market. Family housing units are critical in helping families reach stability. Last year, 65 to 100 families who ask for shelter were turned away most months due to a lack of appropriate shelter. This includes a father with young children, a mother with a teen son, or no available lower bunk beds for young children at the shelter.

As affordable housing options in Colorado Springs and surrounding counties continues to be an issue, finding an affordable solution to acquiring the 60 housing units remains critical.

For more information, visit our website at CCharitiesCC.org and click on the Get Informed tab.

What a difference a DAY makes!

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<td>7/21</td>
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<td>7/26 Today's Meal is in Thanksgiving for Our Blessings - A St. Peter Parishioner</td>
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<td>7/28</td>
<td>Thank you Lamar Outdoor Advertising for All of Your Support</td>
<td>7/29 Today's Meal is in Memory of Andy Anderson</td>
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<td>7/30</td>
<td>Today's Meal is in Memory of Andy Anderson</td>
<td>7/30 Today's Meal is in Memory of Matthew Schell - Happy Birthday!</td>
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<td>7/31</td>
<td>Today's Meal is sponsored by Story Coffee Company</td>
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<td>Today's Meal is in Memory of Anne H. Lauper</td>
<td>8/3 Today's Meal is in Memory of Helen &amp; George Marvin</td>
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To date, the progress has been slow as options for developing 20 emergency family shelter units have not materialized due to timing and the cost to purchase existing properties for emergency housing.
NEWS

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE
Catholic Charities’ Castle Rock and Family Connections programs are in need of working vehicles in good condition for several families. Your donation will help move these families toward stability and financial security.

Call 720.215.4521
https://www.CCharitiesCC.org/donate/donate-material-goods/

GET A JOB!
Visit our newly expanded Hanifen Employment Center.
M - F 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Staff and volunteers will help with computer skills, one-on-one mentoring, life skills, resume help, job applications, job fairs and so much more.
Call us today at 719-866-6445!
515 jobs filled to date

SPEAK ENGLISH BETTER
Teacher, Assistants, and Child Care Volunteers are Needed for ESL Classes
English as a Second Language classes are preparing for the next academic year, 2019/20, and need volunteers to conduct classes for students and provide child care for children of the students.

Day and Evening Classes
Enrollment Begins on Aug. 26
Call 719-866-6510
for more information

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS
Care and resources are provided to clients every day through partnerships with Penrose-St. Francis Health Services, SET Clinic/Peak Vista, AspenPointe and CHP/Medicaid at the Marian House. Our health partners are providing vaccinations and testing for communicable diseases, as well as critical medical services to our clients.

CALL 719-866-6559
or email
Volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org
TO GET INVOLVED

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS
Volunteers are always needed for Marian House Soup Kitchen shifts:
Mon. - Sat. - 7 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

&
Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
We also need volunteers for a number of other programs and projects!

CALL 719-866-6559

COmmunity First Foundation
10 a.m.
Marian House Services
at Catholic Charities
917 E. Moreno Avenue.
CCharitiesCC.org/Tours

Two Hanifen Employment Center Clients Graduate from Careers in Construction Program
In May, two Hanifen Employment Center clients were selected to participate in the Housing & Building Association’s Careers in Construction Program. The eight-week program helps participants gain on-the-job skills and training, providing transportation to and from classes, and even provides tools and boots that participants keep when they graduate. Participants are taught the skills needed to pursue a career in the construction industry and earn OSHA certification upon graduation. For more information on this program: https://www.csba.com/careers-in-construction.html

Congratulations graduates!

TAKEN A “TOUCH THE NEED” TOUR
First Friday Tour at Catholic Charities
Family Connections: 9 a.m.
917 E. Moreno Avenue.
Marian House Services: 10 a.m.
14 W. Bijou Street.
Register online for these tours at:
CCharitiesCC.org/Tours

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FOLLOW OUR BLOG!
The Catholic Charities Blog is a collection of work and ideas from our Catholic Charities team.

CCharitiesCC.org/Blog

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MISSION STATEMENT: In response to Jesus Christ’s call to affirm the value and dignity of each human life, to build solidarity within the community, and to advocate for justice for the poor and vulnerable, Catholic Charities of Central Colorado humbly engages in the ministry of charity for those in both economic and spiritual poverty so that all — staff, volunteers, and clients — may fully achieve their God-given potential.

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At Catholic Charities, we respect everyone who comes to us for help. Many are working toward a fresh start in life. So while their stories are true, client names and images may have changed to protect their privacy.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY MAKING A GIFT

SPECIAL STATE INCOME TAX CREDITS
Enterprise Zone 25%
Check donations to Marian House of $250 or more
Child Care Contribution 50%
Donations to Child Care Contribution or Life Connections

GIFT SOCIETIES
• Caritas Society ($10,000/year)
• 1968 Founders Society ($1,968+/year)

OTHER WAYS
• IRA Distributions, Stocks/Securities
• Sponsor-A-Day at Marian House
• Tribute Gifts – In Honor or Memory
• Planned Giving or Estate Planning
• Employer Matching Gifts

MONETARY DONATIONS & TAX CREDITS:
719-866-6422 or 719-866-6440

MATERIAL DONATIONS
Food: Spoons, ground beef, hot chocolate, spices, canned vegetables, nondairy (powdered) coffee creamer
Infants & Children: Size 4 diapers; baby food, NEW children’s underwear (sizes 3T-8), new small toys for Birthday Buddies
Home & Transportation: Dishes, pots & pans, working vehicles, grocery store, bus pass and gas gift cards
Clothing & Essentials: NEW XL+ sweatshirts & hoodies, Men’s/women’s underwear, gloves, beanie caps, blankets, razors, shaving cream, and deodorant

Drop donations at the Marian House Dock Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

MATERIAL GOODS: 719-866-6550
Vehicles: 720-215-4521

THANK YOU GRANTORS!
City of Colorado Springs (CDBG)
El Pomar Foundation - Pikes Peak Regional Council
Colorado Springs Health Foundation
Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities
Philip S. Miller - Douglas County
Pikes Peak United Way - Community Impact Fund
SC Ministry Foundation
Marson Foundation
Ford Motor Company
Eastern Colorado Bank

Colorado Springs Office
228 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-636-2345  F: 719-636-1216

Castle Rock Office
410 S. Wilcox Street, Suite 102
Castle Rock, CO 80104
T: 720-215-4521

The Marian House
14 West Bijou Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-475-7314  F: 719-633-0289

Helen Hunt Campus
917 E. Moreno Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-578-1222