

Creating Community

Hope House of Colorado 2011 Annual Report



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What is Hope House?

Hope House of Colorado is a non-profit organization providing hope and stability to parenting teen mothers through several structured self-sufficiency programs. The Residential Program provides a safe, stable home environment for teen mothers while they complete a holistic two-year program. The Mentoring Program matches trained mentors with teen mothers who work together through the steps of a self-sufficiency curriculum. The GED Program provides one-on-one tutoring in a small class environment to teen mothers wishing to earn their GED. Additional Supportive Services include Parenting and Life Skills classes, career guidance, counseling and Healthy Relationships courses.

Executive Director

Lisa Steven

Program Director

Robin Scott

Director of Finance & Operations

Tena Thwaites

Director of Development

Lisa Schlarbaum

Residential Program Manager

Nicole Feltes

Mentoring Program Manager

Lynn Martinez

GED/Career Specialist

Elizabeth Corless

Volunteer Coordinator

Sue Pilon

Parenting Educator

Melinda Smith

Counselor

Trisha Daly

2011 Board of Directors

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Deb Roybal, *Secretary*

Brandon Ideker, *Treasurer*

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Mary Lou Maley

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DEVELOPMENT REPORT



Lisa Schlarbaum

Lisa Schlarbaum
**Director of
Development**

This past year Hope House was blessed to have many successful events. The 2011 Hope House Gala was an incredibly special evening, raising more money than ever before!

What was also exciting is the fact that our Hope House Champions hosted numerous small events throughout the year – they continue to surprise me with their creativity! Our Champions came up with many new ideas and then made them happen: a Motorcycle Poker Run, a Thanksgiving Turkey Trot, Piano Lessons, Mitten Making, and a Bunco Party... to name a few.

One of my favorite fundraisers was held by our longtime champion Marv Gidding, who is retired and apparently not afraid of physical work! Last year he aerated 77 yards, raising \$4,300 once Xcel matched his efforts.

“I give to Hope House because I am here often, and I see the girls getting help with parenting skills and school so that they can be on their own and not have to move back into a dysfunctional situation. Hope House gives them choices, and these girls are true heroes,” says Marv.

To everyone who hosted one of these creative events, we say “THANK YOU” for making a difference in the lives of our teen moms!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Each year I have the privilege of sharing with you what God has been up to at Hope House. This year it comes down to one word – community.

All of our teen moms yearn for a place to belong. Therefore, in 2011 we expanded access to Supportive Services such as Parenting Classes and Healthy Relationship Groups, allowing our young moms to connect with one another and build community with their peers. This change created a critical support network – a support they often do not have in their own (frequently unhealthy) family systems.



Lisa Steven

Lisa Steven

Founder and Executive Director

Our community also expanded with the creation of the Business Partnership Program, the dream of one of our champions. The Program offers a one-year Mentorship at his own company, providing training in employment skills. The young mom is then matched with a second business owner, providing steady employment and a path to self sufficiency.

Finally, it was my privilege to watch our amazing volunteers create community in 2011. Holly, a weekly volunteer, shared at our Gala about her experience as a teen mom years ago and how her family and community had come together to support her. She noted that our young moms do not have that same support. She extended an invitation that I share with you now – come and be a part of the transformational community God has created at Hope House!

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT



R. Scott

Robin Scott

Program Director

Looking back, I can say 2011 was a great year and reinforced our need for the Resource Center. However, new building or not, Hope House was open to all teen moms in the community. We hosted weekly Life Skills and Parenting classes, and we invited the GED moms to stay and eat lunch with us. We opened our In-Kind closet once a month to teen moms in the community so they could receive clothes and supplies. Hope House gave away hundreds of free diapers and also hosted many fun activities, including holiday parties, Friday Fun lunches, boutique night and makeovers. We were blessed by the volunteers who helped us teach and serve these young moms. 2011 also brought our first set of twins to the Residential Program, and we were busy! Thankfully volunteers were here to rock, feed, and change their diapers. Hope House could not have served that sweet family without them.

- 31 teen moms graduated with a GED
- 5 deserving teen moms received donated cars
- 8 moms graduated from the Mentoring Program
- The Mentoring Program served 46 moms
- 70% of our GED graduates went on to further education
- 97 crisis calls from teen mothers and service providers were handled
- 100% of teen moms who attended our Nurturing Parents class improved their parenting score
- Hope House hired an on-site counselor and now offers ongoing healthy relationship classes
- 54 moms and their children were adopted for Christmas

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM REPORT



"...I am loved..."

Kiarra, age 18, & Alleara, age 2
Teen Mother, Residential Program

Hope House has taught me so much. When I first moved in 8 months ago, I was in a bad place in my life. I had almost no confidence in myself. I also didn't know what it meant to be a loving, nurturing mother. Then I met the staff, girls, and volunteers. I almost instantly felt a sense of love and security. My daughter certainly felt at home, too. The Residential Program isn't easy, but if it was, I wouldn't get anywhere, and with all the support and encouragement Hope House has provided, I can do anything. Hope House has definitely taught me a lot, like how to be a good mom, student, employee, friend, and overall person. **But the most important thing that I have and will learn here is that I am loved, and no matter how hard things get, I can always pick myself up and keep going.**

GED PROGRAM REPORT



"...Hope House is like my guardian angel."

Demiann, age 17, & Draeden, 5 months
Teen Mother, GED Program

Before coming to Hope House, I didn't know if I would ever accomplish anything in my life. I had a lot of trouble in school and had been ditching most of my classes. I didn't really care about the consequences. I was kicked out of school my sophomore year because of my attendance; I really thought I was invincible. My junior year I found out about the little bundle of joy growing inside of me. Then it clicked; I knew I needed to do something. A friend told me about the Hope House GED Program. I felt so comfortable and welcome at Hope House. I knew this was where I needed to be. I thought it would take forever to pass my GED, but with Elizabeth's help, I knew I could do it. I passed most of my tests the first day I went to the class! The GED program has helped me so much. Hope House made me see my full potential, that I CAN accomplish whatever I set my mind to. Thanks to Hope House I will not just survive, I will strive for excellence, which will help my son do something fantastic with his life when the time comes. **In a way, Hope House is like my guardian angel.**

MENTORING PROGRAM REPORT



"Thank you so much..."

Brianne, age 20, Aiden, age 3, & Madilynn, 6 months
Teen Mother, Mentoring Program

My name is Brianne, I have a boy Aiden who is 3 years old and a girl Madilynn who is 6 months. I have been in the Hope House Mentoring program for about 3 months now. This program is giving me the independence that I need for me and my children. Hope House is helping me get back into school and helped me get my car fixed, which I am very thankful for. **I really enjoy being in this program, and I am really glad that Hope House is here for teen moms.** Without them, we would not have access to some of the amazing programs they provide. They help us become self sufficient and more independent. Thank you so much for helping me and my family!

PARENTING REPORT



"I have seen a change in myself..."

Brianna, age 19, & Brooklyn, age 1
Teen Mother, Parenting Classes

Parenting class has taught me that my daughter comes first. Hope House has helped me be a better, more understanding parent. I have learned that disciplining my child should not be physical and that I should look at it through her eyes and understand how she will feel. I have seen a change in myself since being in the Hope House Parenting class. I have learned to put my daughter in time out, and I feel like I have more control. Hope House is a great program. **Without the support of Hope House and my mentor, I would not be the mom I am today.**

2011



Hope House received an automatic hand washer, leaving all of our hands germ free.



Teen moms with Miss Colorado at our Halloween Friday Fun Lunch.



Several of our teen moms receive cooking lessons from the chefs at the Omni Interlocken Resort Hotel.

Hope House supported teen mom, Veronica, and her son, Emilio, at the CF Walk.



Teen moms and kiddos gathered together to support Suubi House, our sister home in Uganda.

Teen moms all dressed up for our 2011 Hope House Gala.



7 Teen moms graduating at one of our many Hope House GED Program graduations.



Teen moms and their kiddos outside of Suubi (Hope) House, our sister program in Kampala, Uganda! 3 Staff went to visit them in May.



Hope House staff at the Mile High Society event in April.



Our Volunteer Coordinator with Pam, our Hope House Volunteer of the Year.



Teen mom Kiarra and her little one outside of Echter's Nursery and Garden Center at their "Party with a Purpose."



Teen moms studying in the GED lab, part of our Hope House GED Program.



Kids gather for a picture at our annual Hope House Christmas Party.

A group of volunteers from Gap, Inc. after a long day of staining our deck.





Sue Pilon

Sue Pilon

Volunteer Coordinator

Creating Community...

**Creating Community among our teen moms as a place to belong.
Creating Community where “Champions” can serve and connect.**

“I started volunteering at Hope House over a year ago. I was both hopeful and skeptical that this was real, that Hope House would love and support the teen moms without judging them and teach them self-sufficiency, all in a positive environment. The longer I have volunteered here, the more I believe in the organization. Hope House isn't only a safe place where I have seen young moms grow and thrive, it's also a place where I have found a community of residents, volunteers, employees – who are like friends, sisters, family. The impact of Hope House is far-reaching. And yes, it is real.”

- Holly, Hope House of Colorado Volunteer

What happened this year:

- Trained volunteers increased by 45
- Volunteers served more than 4,300 hours
- The GED Tutors volunteered 850 hours in the Lab
- 90 volunteers participated in the Under \$20 club
- Under \$20 Club volunteers provided Hope House \$5,200 in household supplies

*“I commend your facility
and the many brave women who
walk through its doors. Thank you
for being accommodating to me.
This place touched my heart
and was an experience
I will never forget!”*

- Susan, Hope House of Colorado Intern

Won't you come and serve with us?

- Join a Committee
- Help with Fundraising
- Tutor teens in the GED Lab
- Help a teen with meal planning
- Provide transportation
- Babysit

Top: A group of volunteers working on a mailing for Hope House.

Left: A volunteer, Mary, taking some time to hold our little Alleara.



Below: Marv, a volunteer, works on assembling a new bed while letting a teen mom's kiddo help.





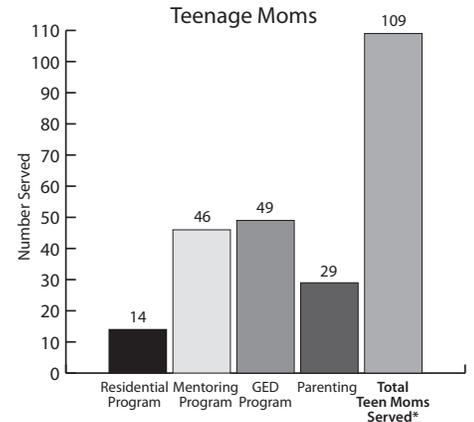
Tena Thwaites

Tena Thwaites

Director of Finance & Operations

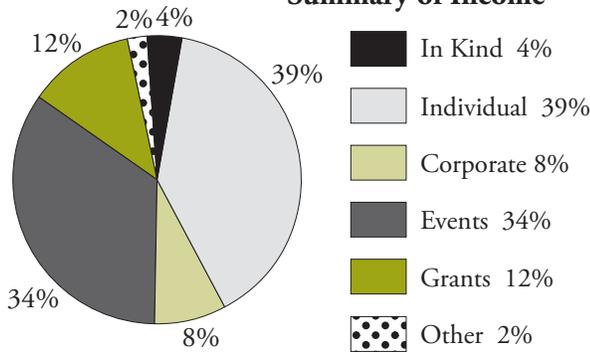
In 2011:

- Approximately 1,000 champions invested in Hope House.
- Donations made by individuals increased by approximately 50%.
- Fund-raising events continued to deliver consistent results when compared with 2010, despite a reduction in the number of events held.
- Program costs increased due to additional investments made in positions that directly and indirectly benefit our programs.



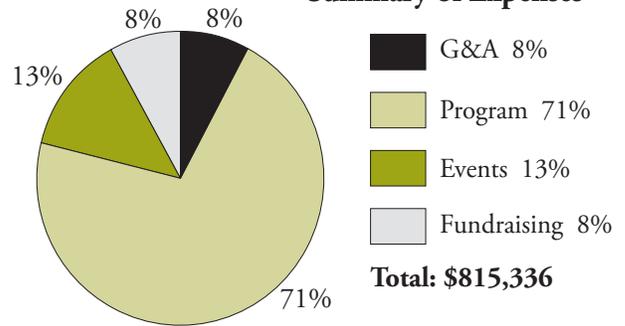
*Total excludes parenting figure; teen moms served in Parenting are already enrolled in Hope House Programs

Summary of Income*



Total: \$952,219

Summary of Expenses*



Total: \$815,336

*Unaudited, Cash Basis Results

2011

**Major Champions
(\$5,000 and above)**

- A., Rick & Kristi
- Bloss, Dr. Michael & Kimberly
- Broomfield United Methodist Church
- Comfort Dental
- Cook, Aaron & Holly
- Davison, Dana
- Denver Wire Rope & Supply
- Gardner, Wes & Allyson
- Graeber, Jack & Mary
- Hougland, Sam & Stacy
- Ideker Family
- Leprino, Terry

- Renaissance Administration LLC
- Lundquist Associates
- CSI Capital Management
- Manweiler Telecom Consulting Inc
- Maul, Jill & Bill
- Community Uplift Ministries
- Mower, Chip
- Olsen Family
- Ross, Bill & Pam
- Silverstein, Mark & Sarah
- Szapor, Steve & Nancy
- Wehner, Bill & Donna
- Wilkin, Jeff & Sherry

Foundations & Grants

- Anshutz Foundation
- Bachus & Schankers Cares Foundation
- Best Buy Children's Foundation
- BNSF Foundation
- Brown Family Foundation
- City of Arvada
- Community First Foundation
- Encana Cares Foundation
- F & J Allegretti Foundation
- First Denver Friends
- Junior League of Denver
- Kohl's Foundation
- Louis & Harold Price Foundation
- Mission Increase Foundation
- The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
- Mt. Pleasant Fund
- Pete Morgan Foundation
- Qwest Foundation
- Rolling Hills Country Club Foundation
- Spirit of Christ Catholic Community
- Stonehocker Family Foundation
- Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
- XCEL Energy Corporate Citizenship Foundation

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Hope House
OF COLORADO



“In Colorado, a single mom must work nearly 80 hours per week at minimum wage to earn enough annual income to meet the lowest level of basic needs without public assistance.

-Colorado Center on Law and Policy's
Self-Sufficiency Standard for Colorado 2011

“I'm sure that there is a relationship between these young mothers' ability to establish healthy priorities and the excellent rapport they have with this wonderful organization. Elizabeth and the other staff members at Hope House take a personal interest in their clients' success. They help these small families turn a rough start in life into a solid foundation for future success.”

*- Jane Hollestelle, Chief GED Examiner
Front Range Community College*

Our Mission...

Hope House of Colorado empowers parenting teenage moms to strive for personal and economic self-sufficiency and to understand their significance in God's sight, resulting in a healthy future for them and their children.

www.hopehouseofcolorado.org