



455 Gold Pass Heights  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

MON.-FRI., 8:30 AM-4:30 PM  
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PARTNERSINHOUSING.ORG

SUMMER 2020



# STILL MOVING FORWARD AT PARTNERS IN HOUSING!

## PARTNERS IN HOUSING AND OUR PARTNER FAMILIES ARE STILL HERE AND STILL WORKING HARD!

### ENTERPRISE ZONE

- **WHAT IS IT?** Partners in Housing is eligible for the El Paso County Enterprise Zone, a 25% state tax credit.
- **HOW DO I QUALIFY?** Donations for this tax credit must be made in the form of a check. Please donate a minimum of \$250 made payable to "El Paso County Enterprise Zone" with Partners in Housing and the last four digits of your social security number in the memo line. Send your check in the enclosed, addressed envelope to Partners in Housing.
- **WHAT IS THE IMPACT?** Individual or corporate contributions help 120 families in need move forward out of homelessness AND has the additional benefit of reducing your state tax liability.

### TWO TAX CREDIT BENEFITS CHILDCARE CONTRIBUTION TAX CREDIT

- **WHAT IS IT?** A gift to Partners in Housing's Child Enrichment Center offers the greatest return! Your gift of \$500 or more is eligible for a Childcare Contribution Credit on your Colorado state taxes of up to 50% of your gift.
- **HOW DO I QUALIFY?** Please donate a minimum of \$500, payable to "Partners in Housing" using the enclosed envelope. Write "Child Enrichment Center" on the memo line.
- **WHAT IS THE IMPACT?** Your individual or corporate contribution to the Child Enrichment Center has a direct impact on the lives of over 250 children each year AND it has the additional benefit of reducing your state tax liability.
- **WHY GIVE?** With our current resources, we can only serve 120 families per year, but we receive almost 1000 applications every year. The need is great, but TOGETHER we can make a difference.
- **TO GIVE?** Visit [partnersinhousing.org/give-help](http://partnersinhousing.org/give-help) today.



For the duration of the stay-at-home orders, staff worked closely with our clients through phone, email and other online meeting sources. *It was immediately apparent that the families in our Self-Sufficiency Program were going to be highly impacted.* When job losses started and childcare and school ended, we saw more financial and physical and mental health issues added to the circumstances they had been working so hard to overcome.

Our Partner families pay rent based on 30% of their monthly income, which we then use for property upkeep. Because of special funding we received from the Pikes Peak Community Foundation/Pikes Peak United Way COVID Relief Fund and the State COVID Relief Fund *we are able to provide rent waivers to families who have lost income. Partners in Housing also uses these funds, along with donations, to provide food, hygiene products, baby products and gift cards for other items.*

Through this time of many changes we have learned that some things will return to pre-COVID normal and some things will be a New normal. In this new way of working and learning, many of the Partner families lack the technology services, training, and equipment necessary to achieve their goals. *Partners in Housing is working diligently with plans to assist in overcoming these obstacles so work from home employment opportunities, adult education and children's schooling can be accomplished.* Please contact us if wish to learn how you can help!

**We are steadfast in our mission to guide families in housing crisis from insecurity to stability, self-reliance and prosperity. With the strong determination of the families in our program, we know these goals are still attainable.**

**Partners in Housing is still here, and our efforts, with your support, still make the difference!**

**TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A FAMILY EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, VISIT PARTNERSINHOUSING.ORG.**



**OUR MISSION.** Partners in Housing guides families in housing crisis from insecurity to stability, self-reliance and prosperity.

**PARTNERSINHOUSING.ORG**



## WITH GREAT GRATITUDE! Partners in Housing families receive cars

Two Partner families received much needed cars during April and May, through donations to Partners in Housing. One of the families used their car to drive to job interviews and to an appointment with the VA. She said, "it used to take

me and hour and a half on the bus with my baby, but today it took 15 minutes!". The other family had at times lived in a car prior to their time joining our program and now have the independence to look for better employment opportunities and to take her children to needed appointments. Transportation issues continue to be a barrier for many families in reaching their goals to achieve self-reliance, and we are so grateful to these donors for these incredible gifts!

**From donor:** "Partners in Housing is one of the most amazing program for families that are homeless in Colorado Springs. I have not worked with a more caring and devoted team! My husband and I are proud to have donated a vehicle to a Partner who is very deserving. Linda and Ken"



## Diapers, Diapers and More Diapers!

Partners in Housing was a recipient of diaper donations receiving over 200 cases of diapers from the HomeAid Colorado Builders for Babies Program.

Diapers are a huge expense for households, and it was even more difficult for many of our families in recent months with many losing wages due to the virus. Having diapers available to our families allows them stretch their budgets further. Even before the pandemic, diaper costs take up a significant portion of many of our Partner Families' budgets, so providing them for free allows families to pay off debts, and save more for their futures.



## 2020 Moving Families Forward Annual Fundraising Event

Watch for upcoming information about the Partners in Housing annual fundraising event! We will again be working with Galiant Homes to provide VIP access in September to a beautiful custom home. Plans are in progress for a hybrid of virtual and in person tours and other special programs. We are accepting sponsorships with marketing available in the Galiant Parade of Homes property during both the Parade and our event.

**Please contact Mary Stegner at [mstegner@partnersinhousing.org](mailto:mstegner@partnersinhousing.org) for more information. Online tickets will be sold as we develop the final plans.**

## VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Homebridge Financial Services

On March 6th, Partners in Housing supporters from Homebridge Financial Services volunteered for several hours to work on landscape and cleanup at our Myron Stratton location. The Homebridge Financial team are long-time volunteers and truly support our community.

As members of our annual event committee and our first sponsor for the 2020 Moving Families Forward event scheduled for September, Homebridge is there for families in need!



Partners in Housing is so proud of the hard work of the Partners families who achieved the great successes shown in the following chart.



## Board of Directors

Bill Barnett	Krystina Freeman
Barbara Harris, President	Sharon Tunson
Keri Ellen White, Vice President	Mike Waters
Judith Barthel, Secretary	Bob White
Brenda Lammers, Treasurer	Mark White
Andy Barton	Brendan Zahl
Pam Bruni, Pam	Maggie Zamboroski

We are especially proud to have 3 former Partners on our Board of Directors, giving a client-centered perspective on agency decision making. All Board members made financial contributions to PIH in FY19-20.

## Staff that have been with PIH longer than a year

Hannah Blessing, Individual Services Manager  
Megan Brown, Intake Assessor & CEC Coordinator/Support Specialist  
Rebecca Cordova, Certified Credit Counselor  
Eric Evans, Family Services Director  
Dovey French, Program Manager  
Leonor Gonzales, Intake and Referral Administrator  
Courtney Hoff, Grants Manager/RRH-HP Program Manager  
Carolena Jackson, On-Call Support Specialist  
Cheryl Nygaard, Data and Software Analyst  
Ron Smith, Housing Maintenance Coordinator  
Mary Stegner, Executive Director  
Abel Tovar, Housing Operations Director

## And some names you may not recognize: New staff in the past year

Nina Grant, Family Caseworker  
Kayley Weber, Americorps VISTA  
Andrew Claxton, Family Caseworker  
Michelle Jackson, On-Call Support Specialist  
Kent Buchanan, Housing Maintenance Coordinator  
Karen Powner, Housing and Leasing Coordinator  
Yvonne M. Kelton, Accounting Clerk  
Linda Phillips, Intake and Referral Administrator  
Katie Hauri, Intake and Referral Services Manager  
Jillian Birchmeier, Volunteer Manager and HR Specialist  
Leslie Salinas, Family Caseworker  
Kimberley Jones, On-Call Support Specialist