



URBAN PEAK
COLORADO SPRINGS

Peak of Winter!

IN THIS ISSUE...

Thank you, John

Urban Peak by the Numbers

State of Homelessness in the US

Indy GIVE! Campaign

Real life. Real change.

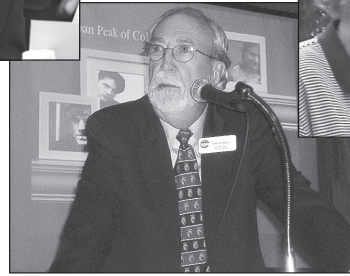
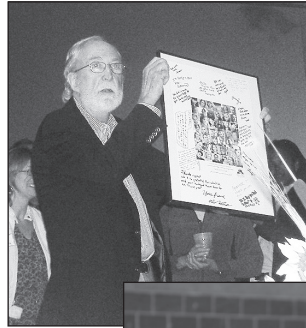
UP TO DATE

an urban peak colorado springs newsletter

Thank you, John!

For a lifetime of dedication and
commitment to helping youth!

*John McIlwee retires after 10 years as
Executive Director of Urban Peak Colorado Springs.*



Check out our
Wish List



urbanpeak.org!

One more way to help.

FEED THE MIRACLE METERS & SUPPORT HOMELESS YOUTH

80-plus decorated parking meters placed throughout the city at shops and businesses benefit the youth and programs at Urban Peak Colorado Springs. Please remember to give change and spread the word! If you are interested in having a meter at your location, please call 630-3223.



UPCS BY THE NUMBERS: IMPACT REPORT 2010

In total, **213 youth** were served across all program areas in Fiscal Year 2009. A number of youth access multiple program areas within the organization. Specific programs accomplished the following:

Shelter

213 youth accessed day services and shelter care through UPCS. 112 youth stayed at the shelter.

Street Outreach

2,053 duplicated street outreach contacts were made, and 460 unduplicated youth became aware of resources and options that are alternatives to the streets.

Employment

77 youth sought job placement and employment assistance, 45 youth obtained a job and 24 of those youth retained the job for a minimum of 3 months.

Education

73 youth attended GED class and 23 successfully completed some kind of certification, diploma or GED. 41 furthered their education either by remaining in high school or attending some sort of post secondary education including college.

Housing

9 youth were leased up in UPCS housing units.

Safe Exits

48 youth transitioned to safe and stable housing, a 43% success rate.

Other Accomplishments

- 207 youth received case management.
- 3,465 bed nights were provided.
- 6,054 meals were served.
- Volunteers provided 4,746 hours of service.

BE A TABLE CAPTAIN AT THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY BREAKFAST!
Invite your friends to experience UPCS. Call 630-3223 or go to urbanpeak.org!

“STATE OF HOMELESSNESS” REPORT ADMITS CHALLENGES IN COUNTING HOMELESS YOUTH

“It is widely agreed upon that there is a vast undercount of the number of young people experiencing homelessness. Underscoring this is the fact that 35 percent of all communities reported that there were no homeless youth in their communities in 2009.” This is one of the key findings in the “State of Homelessness in America” report released in mid-January by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (The Alliance), a leading voice

on this issue. The report features national and state level homeless counts and shows the changes in homelessness from 2008 to 2009.

According to the report, overall homelessness in America increased 3 percent from 2008 to 2009. By analyzing economic indicators, demographic drivers, and risk factors for becoming homeless, the report demonstrates the effect of the recession on homelessness and how it has contributed to the increase. The report also studies states that have multiple risk factors for increased homelessness.

As for the state of homelessness among youth, the report does have a section titled, “Young Adults Aged Out of Foster Care by the State.” The section examines “aging out” as a risk factor, however the data only includes the change in young adults aged out of foster care from 2008 to 2009, not the number of youth experiencing homelessness. A subsection notes that the estimates

of homeless youth vary widely, and that, “Despite these disparities, what is consistently recognized is the dearth of information about this population and the likely undercount of homeless youth during point-in-time counts.”

Still, the The Alliance and organizations like Urban Peak are out there trying. On January 25, Urban Peak was part of a statewide Point-in-Time Study, when staff and volunteers take one full day to survey the homeless population of our community, including youth. The Alliance was actively involved with encouraging agencies to participate in these counts and even provided guides on counting homeless youth. Details of the Point-in-Time Study will be available later this year.



UPCS BENEFITS FROM THE COLORADO SPRINGS INDEPENDENT’S GIVE! CAMPAIGN

UPCS is proud to have participated in this year’s Give! The Colorado Springs Independent’s year-end marketing campaign designed to generate funds, volunteers and awareness for local non-profits. The campaign is in its second year and it is the first year that the Urban Peak was invited to participate. Through our participation Urban Peak was featured on Fox News First, 103.9 RXP, KIL0 94.3 and received a check for \$5,286.25.

Also as part of our involvement with the Give! Campaign UPCS was awarded the opportunity to take part in several fun competitions which included a collaborative competition in which we were tasked to collaborate with three other non-profits to create a unique event. Hence, Light Up A Lifetime: Building Bonds & Breaking Barriers was born. Urban Peak, Silver Key, Futureself and Dreampower coordinated efforts to host an art workshop in which clients from each organization participated and created an amazing collaborative art piece which will be displayed at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. The group joined forces once again to march in the Colorado Springs Festival of Lights Parade; gathering at the Plaza of the Rockies lobby in celebration of Give and the unveiling of the art.



Board members from Urban Peak Colorado Springs except a check from The Independent’s GIVE! campaign. (l to r) Pete Frech, John McIlwee, GIVE! Community Champion Bart Givens, Pam Osterhouse - Chair, Todd Karl, and Joe Moore - Chair Elect.

Get more info & donate online at urbanpeak.org (go to UP Colorado Springs)!

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS, FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS THAT HAVE GENEROUSLY GIVEN TO HELP HOMELESS YOUTH IN RECENT MONTHS:

Carl W. and Carrie Mae Joslyn Charitable Trust
Chapel of Our Savior Episcopal Church
Colorado Springs Utilities Community Roundtable
Debra Collins
Deluxe Corporation Foundation
El Pomar Foundation
Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado
The Gazette-El Pomar Foundation
Empty Stocking Fund
George and Karlyn Greenway

Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation
Laura Collier
LexisNexis Cares
LONG Building Technologies, Inc
Mabel Horrigan Foundation
The Myron Stratton Home
The Nutrition Camp School Foundation, Inc.
St. Mary’s High School
St. Michael’s Episcopal Church Women
Steven Yates

If you would like to receive acknowledgement letters as a year-end statement, please let us know. Thank you!

UPCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pam Osterhouse, *Chair*
Stella Chan, *Treasurer*
Patricia Nixon, *Secretary*
Joe Moore, *Chair Elect*
Lisa Tessarowicz, *Past Chair*
D.J. Blunt
Paul Byer, *Member at Large*
Suzy Dollins
Pete Frech
Todd Karl
Nathalia Magra
Jessica Kyle Muzzio
Toby Partridge
Pat Rigdon
Kay Ramachandran, *CEO Urban Peak*

Winter 2011