



**Families
First**

Family Support Line
1-877-695-7996
Consejos para Familias
1-866-527-3264
www.FamiliesFirstColorado.org

Issue #10 January 2010 Editor: Alice Edwards
Become a Fan of Families First on Facebook!

SAVE the DATE
Steppin'Out....at the Kentucky Derby
Friday, April 30, 2010



FROM the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mary Hencmann

We were thrilled with the response and generosity of individuals, community groups and businesses during the holidays. We are mailing our special print Holiday Newsletter at the end of the month. It is filled with lots of pictures and acknowledgements of all of you who did so much to be sure our families had a happy holiday season. As we move forward into the New Year we are celebrating some new community partnerships! Upcoming eNewsletters will provide details and ways for you to get involved. We believe that by focusing on the prevention of abuse and neglect we can make a difference in the lives of families in Colorado. Thank You!



We're offering something new in 2010!
TOURS of Families First
First Wednesday every month 11:30am & 5:30pm
Please join us! Reservations Requested.
Contact Alice@FamiliesFirstColorado.org

WINTER FAMILY STORY TIME

Saturday 1-2pm ... February 6 and March 6
Stories will be told in Spanish and English.
Light snacks and high-interest activities will be provided.

FAMILIES FIRST invites you and your family to our

Location: Families First Family Center, 2163 S. Yosemite St, Denver, CO 80231
Reservations Requested. Contact Alice@FamiliesFirstColorado.org

Families First is in need of **15 Support Line Volunteers** to staff our Family Support Line. Volunteers provide a listening ear, educational information and community resources to parents and caregivers seeking support. Volunteers answer phone calls at the Family Center (located in SE Denver) during the week and from home, at night and on weekends. Volunteers are needed for one, 4-hour shift per week.

Next Support Line Training - Thursday, January 28th, 12:30-5 pm RSVP required.

For more information about volunteering with Families First contact Rachel at 303 745-0327 or Rachel@FamiliesFirstColorado.org.

COLORADO KIDS 1st License Plates

As a supporter of Families First, we know you care about helping Colorado kids. Now there's an easy way you can help fund Families First programming and show your support for Colorado kids every time you drive down the street.



Colorado has a specialty Colorado Kids 1st license plate. When you buy one, the money goes directly to non-profits that promote the health and safety of Colorado children. Families First became a Colorado Kids 1st partner in 2010. **By naming Families First as the referring agency when you order your plates** for either your car or motorcycle, **100% of the \$30 fee goes directly to Families First!**

You don't even have to wait until your license plate tags expire to get the Kids 1st plate. The county clerk will apply the fees you have already paid to your new license plate tags. When you put the Colorado Kids 1st plate on your car, friends, family and strangers see the plate and they'll want one of their own!

Get behind this great fundraiser. Order your plate today!
To learn how, click here www.ColoradoKids1st.org

Meet Olga Salazar Spanish Family Support Services Coordinator

Who are you? I was born in Guatemala and immigrated to the US when I was seven years old. I was raised in New York and Colorado. I have been around many cultures,



specifically, Latinos all of my life. I love learning about people and their cultural heritages. I understand many of the needs and challenges of immigrant parents and children. Highlights of my background with Latino families include: performing volunteer work in Latin America, GED instruction for adults and working toward family reunification with immigration law.

What excites you about your new job at Families First? Helping Hispanic immigrant families and first generation Latino children understand the importance of education and to acquire skills necessary to thrive in the U.S. I enjoy

helping others and in this position, I have the opportunity to support parents in the important role of raising children. I hope to make a difference and increase parent's knowledge of child development and offer them a listening ear and emotional support, with the goal of creating healthier family environments.

What are your long term plans? I will focus on continuing to reach out to education centers such as preschools, early childhood learning centers, and schools through parenting seminars and support groups. I will help parents and family members obtain adequate community help through our Spanish Family Support line, Consejos para Familias, and increase community awareness of Families First's Spanish Family Support Services.

Pictured: Olga Salazar (center) with Jennifer Richardson (left) and the Spanish Advisory Council -Pat Trujillo, Judy Jaramillo, Joe E. Archuleta

Announcing a new Families First Community Partner



Each year the **Comfort Suites Denver South** staff as a team votes to support a local charity through the sale of water bottles in guest rooms. We are excited to announce that this year Comfort Suites Denver South chose us! We first got to know Mina Patel, partner of the Comfort Suites Denver South, at the 2009 RMBTA Golf Tournament. Mina invited us to do a brief presentation for their staff in January and asked if we would do part of the presentation in Spanish to highlight our Spanish Support Services. We had a wonderful hour together and the team chose to support the mission of Families First in 2010. Hangtags placed on each water bottle include our website and note that half of the cost will be donated to Families First. We appreciate the generosity of the Comfort Suites Denver South staff and this unique opportunity to raise awareness about our services to Colorado families.

*"The #1 Comfort Suites in Colorado" 303.770.5400 www.comfortsuites.com/hotel/co019
7060 E. County Line Rd, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126*

Who supports Families First? OUR COMMUNITY! TOGETHER we make a difference!

Individuals, Businesses, Schools, Community Groups

Community Partners Swingle, Dex Media, On Target Mailing, Data USA, ESCO Mechanical Services, Environmental Pest Control, Comfort Suites Denver South, Monkey Bizness, Colorado Kids 1st

SPECIAL GIVING RECOGNITION

IN MEMORY OF:

Marilyn Aycrigg by Victoria Aycrigg
Jon Burns by Penelope Banks
by Peter and Susan Goodwin
Peggy Watson by Skip and Jane Netzorg
Aarone Thompson by Vanessa Coats
Devon Willingham by Frank and Debby Konieczny
Larry Pippin by Ty and Inger Pippin
Dorothy Smith by Timothy and Noelle Chole
Andres Mondragon by Shirley Mondragon

IN HONOR OF:

Sherry Kenney by Gerald and Barbara Moore
Suzanne Handler and Jerry Newman by Brad and Emeri Handler
Besty Cole, Linda Toland, Sharon Stewart by Norman and Mary Lester
Dorothy Cramer, Judy Lee Paez, Terry Mallinson by Toni Tucker
Barb Mullenix, Nancy Paul, Shirley Bernard by Toni Tucker
Toni Tucker by Dr. William and Nancy McDermott
Lily Grace Taylor by Lynn and Steve Hinkel
Jo Blum by Anne and Bob Bailio
Dianne Bowman by Judi Perrill
Aunt Bubs and Andy Pfeiffenberger by Judi Perrill
Gene and Jodie Hohensee by Elaine Tinter
Bill and Deb MacMillan by Susie Hotz
Marty Hartley by Catherine O'Brien

**When you give a gift to Families First Special Giving, you honor special people in your life by passing on their spirit of giving. Your gift helps us strengthen families by empowering parents and nurturing children. Your gift is a charitable tax donation. To learn more about Families First or to make a donation, visit our website <http://www.familiesfirstcolorado.org>*

2163 South Yosemite St. * Denver, CO 80231

