

If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#).

Share This: 



Issue #18 Dec 2010 Editor: Alice Edwards

Give the **GIFT of HOPE**
to the children at our Children's Treatment Center
or to a family in need this holiday season.
To learn how [click here](#).



Help us bring joy to the eyes of both a happy child and a grateful parent!
Flip through our Gift Catalog and find out what a \$25 gift can do!

Donations must be received **by December 10**.
Items can be mailed or dropped off at our Family Center, Mon-Fri, 9am to 4pm.
Families First, 2163 S. Yosemite St, Denver, CO 80231
Email Rachel@FamiliesFirstColorado.org for more information!

Thank you for opening your heart and supporting children and families!



ONE CHILD'S STORY

Jeremy came to Families First when he was 7 years old. He had already lived in multiple homes and had had three failed adoptions. He was sad and angry with people and with life. Jeremy had a fascination with nature and animals, and let us know that he would rather be with animals than people. He wouldn't allow himself to get close to anyone. He felt worthless, so he pretended that he was a gecko or lizard and didn't have the ordinary needs of a child. Sometimes he would talk about living outside. He would go into screaming or crying fits over the slightest thing and wasn't easy to console.

Jeremy had a lot of anger and confusion to work through, but with the help of a great therapist and wonderful Child Treatment Counselors, he got better. He learned that relationships with people could be safe, that he would not be abandoned and that he didn't need to live in the wild. He learned that his needs would be met and that he deserved to have

them met.

After two years, Jeremy was available for adoption. We wanted to be very selective and careful to find just the right family. We didn't want another failed placement. Many families were interested, but one stood out. A former Children's Treatment Center staff person who knew Jeremy well came forward as a prospective parent! All went well and Jeremy was placed with this wonderful family.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list

When Jeremy arrived at his new home, he told his new Mom that he didn't even need a bed...just a couch or a small space would be fine. He didn't want to be a problem. He just really wanted a family.

Jeremy now has two parents and two younger brothers. He has settled in nicely, sharing a room... with his own bed. His mother reports that he still has a fascination with animals and is doing very well in his new school! "He really is a great kid and we are lucky to have him in our home." Jeremy's placement is working. What a joy...for all of us!

The GIFT that GIVES BACK!

Thank you for keeping Families First in mind with your end-of-year giving.

This may be the last year that the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit is available. It's the Gift that GIVES BACK! When you contribute funds to Families First, you can get a 50% Colorado Tax Credit *in addition* to your regular state and federal contribution deductions. And...you don't even have to have children to take advantage of it! [Click here to learn more.](#)



SWINGLE Decorates The Family Center Lights Brighten up the Holidays!

A special thank you to our neighbor, **Swingle Lawn, Tree & Landscape Care**, for decorating the outside of the Family Center for the holidays again this year! After many hours of labor stringing lights on the roof and around trees and windows, our Family Center is ready for the holiday season. In mid-December volunteers from Beacon Communications will decorate the outside of the Children's Treatment Center and members of FRIENDS will decorate the inside. Why not drive by and let our holiday lights brighten your mood while we envision a world where all children feel safe and warm. *Let Swingle brighten up your home or business for the holidays. Learn more at www.myswingle.com*

THANKS to everyone for your donations this holiday season. After the new year, we will be mailing a printed newsletter to you recognizing our generous community.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

We'd like to acknowledge the generosity of individuals and companies that have provided us with in-kind donations in October and November 2010.

Laurie Diamond, Jane Diamond, Dick & Michelle Pond, Meredith Synnott, Cathy Hollis, Margo Jamieson, Karen Robison, Raeann Belknap, Dr. Connie Carson, Karen White, Jim & Po Higgins, Molly Lemmers, Bill & Sandi Kuhn, Joni Kappos, Martha Donovan, Betty Bergeron, Kim Hernandez, Daphne Reiff, Melissa Jacobs, Kristin Stonebarger, Carri Pippin, Toni Tucker.

Tower Community Fellowship/Women's Ministry, Aurora Lowe's on Havana

The Crazy Merchant Inc., Swingle Lawn, Tree and Landscape Care, Dex One, Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage, On Target Mailing, Data USA, Environmental Pest Control, Comfort Suites Denver

[Subscribe](#) to our email list

South, Monkey Bizness, Colorado Kids 1st, Caprock Business Forms & Envelopes

SPECIAL GIVING RECOGNITION

IN HONOR OF:

Tanga Alexander by Debbie Groerich
Shirley Bowman by Karen Schmidt
Kathy Luth by Janet Cielens
Kathy Luth by Patricia Hutchens
Kathy Luth by Isa Andrist

IN MEMORY OF:

Bart Richardson by Karen Koop
Ken Miller by Southwest Sertoma

**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>*

Families First, Inc. | 2163 South Yosemite St. | Denver, CO 80231
303.745.0327 (phone) | 303.309.3931 (fax) | www.FamiliesFirstColorado.org



[Subscribe](#) to our email list