



**HomeAid**  
Colorado



*Third Way Center*

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**HomeAid Colorado and Third Way Center launch Lowry Treatment Campus**

*Collaboration provides dignified housing for troubled teens*

DENVER, June 28, 2006 – HomeAid Colorado announced today that it will build a residential treatment facility for its partner Third Way Center on the grounds of the Lowry Redevelopment Project in east Denver. HomeAid Colorado connects non-profit care providers with professional homebuilders to construct dignified housing for the transitionally homeless. Third Way Center's Lowry Treatment Campus will cover 1.8 acres and consist of four ranch-style homes that offer a secure and structured environment for homeless teens with mental health disorders and behavioral issues.

This treatment center is the first facility to be built at Lowry that helps homeless teens. John Laing Homes will build the first of the four planned homes, leading a team of contractors and suppliers. This marks the 18<sup>th</sup> housing project for the transitionally homeless that HomeAid has built in Colorado. Since its formation, HomeAid Colorado has completed or is in the process of developing more than \$3 million of transitional housing for Colorado's homeless.

HomeAid chose to work with Third Way Center because of its 35-year track record of helping high-risk, homeless, mentally ill and disadvantaged youth. "By providing this very progressive, intensive treatment program in a home-like setting, we hope to keep youth who have significant mental health issues off the streets and out of institutions. We want to offer them a 'third way,'" said Tami Lack, Director of Development & Administration at Third Way Center

"HomeAid is delighted to bring together the care provider and builder for this important project. With the excellent treatment programs provided by Third Way, Denver's troubled youth will have a chance to build better lives and learn effective life skills. We're grateful to John Laing Homes for spearheading this development," said Laura Brayman, executive director of HomeAid Colorado.

According to the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative, nearly 3,300 children and youth were homeless in January 2006, making up more than one-third of Denver's homeless population. Focusing on children with emotional problems and victims of homelessness and sexual abuse, the Lowry Treatment Campus will provide specialized care to a small but important subpopulation.

**About HomeAid**

HomeAid Colorado is a nonprofit organization sponsored by the Colorado Association of Home Builders whose mission is to build dignified housing where homeless families and individuals can rebuild their lives. HomeAid Colorado was established by a group of concerned builders to tackle one of the Colorado's most critical unmet needs – transitional housing for temporarily homeless men, women and children.

HomeAid enlists builders, developers and their trade partners to donate some or all of the talent, resources and materials necessary to build shelters for the homeless in their community, enabling the organization to provide high-quality housing at low cost. Colorado joined the HomeAid effort in late 1999 and is on the fast track to making a notable impact on the growing issue of homelessness in Colorado. Nationally, HomeAid is the largest builder of transitional housing in the United States.

**About Third Way Center**

Third Way Center began in 1970 as a shelter for runaway youth. Since then it has grown into one of Denver's most progressive treatment oriented programs for severely abused, neglected and homeless youth. Currently, Third Way supports four residential treatment centers, an alternative high school, a community after care program and a therapeutically based education program for committed youth in the juvenile justice system. Among the residential treatment centers, Third Way operates Denver's only licensed treatment program for teen mothers and a national HUD model treatment program for emancipating teens. Third Way specializes in youth who have been rejected by numerous placements and have significant mental health issues. Over 80 youth are served at any given time (including up to 12 teen mothers with babies or small children) in "regular homes" throughout the community. Over 3,000 youth have been served in the organization's 36 year history.

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