



HomeAid
Colorado

HomeAid Colorado Partners with Safe Shelter to House Abused Women and Children

Denver, February 28, 2007- For women suffering from domestic violence, the immediate priority is to seek alternative housing in a safe and discreet place. HomeAid Colorado, a non-profit that builds dignified housing for the temporarily homeless, is partnering with Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley to provide sanctuary for abused women and their children.

HomeAid plans to build a home in Longmont for Safe Shelter clients, with 5 Star Construction leading the effort as the builder captain. Olson Architecture of Niwot, an all-female firm, is donating the plans for the home. Construction is set to begin in May on the 7,000 square foot home which will house up to 25 women and children.

"We are very pleased to coordinate this partnership between 5 Star Construction, Olson Architects and Safe Shelter," said Laura Brayman, executive director of HomeAid Colorado. "Every party involved is committed to putting a roof over the heads of women and children seeking to escape abusive environments."

Safe Shelter was founded in 1978 in Longmont by a group of women concerned about the welfare of women and children in abusive situations. Today it provides a comprehensive system of programs and services to address the needs of domestic violence victims, such as a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter and legal advocacy.

"Part of our daily mission is to educate the public about how important it is to speak up and speak out against domestic violence - to show that domestic violence is an important issue," said Liz Smokowski, executive director of Safe Shelter. "The

collaboration that is taking place between these four groups speaks volumes toward that effort."

About HomeAid

HomeAid Colorado identifies reputable non-profit care providers for the homeless and matches them with a participating local "builder captain." The captain brings the in-kind resources of subcontractors, suppliers and consultants, and delivers quality housing for the temporarily homeless, who comprise approximately 90 percent of the homeless population. Since its inception in 2000, HomeAid Colorado has built 20 transitional homes and emergency shelters for homeless men, women and children across the state. Nationally, HomeAid is the leading non-profit provider of housing for the homeless.

For more information about HomeAid Colorado visit hacolo.org or call 303-691-0104.

For more information about Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley visit www.safeshelterorstvrain.org.