

GIRLS HOPE KIDS MOVE IN TO HOME AID SHELTER

Last December, HomeAid Colorado along with Boys Hope Girls Hope, builder Jan Knibbe of Camerata Homes, laborers, volunteers and donors gathered to dedicate and celebrate the completion of a Boys Hope Girls Hope girls' home. Today, the newly remodeled Foxfield house provides a home for three girls in need and two others will soon be moving in.

Boys Hope Girls Hope is a non-profit organization that helps academically capable and motivated children-in-need to meet their full potential by providing them value-centered, family-like homes, opportunities and education through college. The girls' home joins the boys' home that has housed boys in need since 1994.

[HomeAid Colorado](#), the builder of the project, identifies reputable 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

According to Mary Frances Tharp, Executive Director of Boys Hope Girls Hope, "the girls are doing well. Aaliyah, our freshman at Regis Jesuit High School, is trying out for the tennis team. She works very hard to get good grades, studying beyond her required study time. Stephanie and Franky just finished up basketball at St. Therese. Stephanie is hoping to someday become a singer."

The total value of the remodel project was \$112,000, of which \$80,000 was donated by trade partners of HomeAid, Girls Hope, and Camerata Homes. The home has all new flooring, including hard wood, carpet and ceramic tile, new bedrooms for girls and staff, new bathrooms, paint, electrical, plumbing, doors and trim, and landscaping. Volunteers worked on the project from early October through mid-December and only took off Thanksgiving Day.

The support the girls receive at Girls Hope is tremendous. Said Tharp: "We have volunteers helping with the finishing touches on the renovation, volunteers coming to tutor, or bring meals, talk about their careers. We are blessed to have so many people involved in the program."

Girls Hope currently has applications for two remaining scholarships to Regis and hope to have those girls placed by mid-April. Girls Hope hopes to further add to the facility with an expansion in mid-2011. They are working closely with HomeAid Colorado to arrange the building resources and manpower to meet this goal. Said Tharp, "with the help of HomeAid, we look forward to offering this opportunity to even more girls in the future."

Since its inception in 2000, [HomeAid Colorado](#) has built 31 homes or shelters in Colorado providing 222 beds for the homeless. Nationally, HomeAid is the leading non-profit provider of housing for the homeless. For more information about HomeAid Colorado, visit www.hacolo.org or call 303.691.0104.