



HomeAid
Colorado



Third Way Center

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Teen treatment campus expands at Lowry

HomeAid Colorado and Third Way Center collaborate to house Denver's troubled youth

DENVER, June 10, 2008 – HomeAid Colorado and builder captain John Laing Homes break ground today on the final phase of Third Way Center's Lowry Treatment Campus for at-risk youth. The first of four homes was completed last summer and has already served 26 children with a wide array of mental conditions ranging from bipolar disorder to Asperger's Syndrome. Three additional buildings will complete the campus and continue to house teens ages 13 to 18 with severe mental health issues, providing them with intensive diagnostics, treatment and education.

"Our mission is to provide dignified housing for the transitionally homeless, and troubled teens comprise a major percentage of those in need of shelter," said HomeAid Colorado Executive Director Laura Brayman. "We are grateful that John Laing Homes stepped up to the plate to build the first house for this campus and are continuing with the remaining three buildings despite the building industry downturn. It truly demonstrates their commitment to this cause."

Third Way Center's Lowry campus is the only treatment facility of its kind in the state of Colorado and it serves as a model for youth treatment programs nationwide. Each of the four homes will have its own classroom, an on-staff neuro-psychologist who is available to residents at all times, and cutting-edge diagnostics. These treatment centers are the last chance for many mentally ill teens to receive intense treatment and learn how to effectively function in society before they become legal adults and "age out" of the child welfare system.

"We are seeing kids at Lowry that have never been in a home-like environment. They are very mentally ill and in many cases, the child welfare system has raised them," said Tami Lack, Third Way Center's director of

development. "Using intensive, quality assessment and diagnostics, we have seen extraordinary improvements in these kids. We are thankful that HomeAid has worked with us through the entirety of this Lowry project."

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held Tuesday, June 10, 10 a.m., at the Lowry campus site located at 9100 E. Lowry Blvd. Please contact Grace Markley at 917-549-3246 if you plan to send a reporter, photographer or camera crew. Due to the sensitive nature of this facility, photography of Third Way Center teens will not be permitted.

According to the Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative Point-In-Time survey, more than 3,300 children and youth were homeless in January 2007, making up more than one-third of Colorado's homeless population.

About HomeAid

HomeAid Colorado connects non-profit care providers with professional homebuilders to construct dignified housing for the transitionally homeless. HomeAid Colorado projects total 24 housing units for homeless families and troubled youth, adding 147 beds and donating more than \$2.3 million dollars in in-kind labor, materials and services from the homebuilding industry to help partner care providers serve the homeless. For more information about HomeAid Colorado visit hacolo.org or call 303-691-0104.

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