

Spring 2010

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**Family Tree, Inc.**  
3805 Marshall St., #100  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033  
Phone: (303) 422-2133  
www.thefamilytree.org

**Children's Services**

Adams County Projects  
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Early Intervention &  
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Team

Arapahoe County Kinship  
Family Stability Program

Military Family Assistance  
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Gemini

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Women In Crisis

Legal Advocacy Program

Counseling & Education  
Program

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House of Hope

Housing & Family Services

**Gifts & Community Support**

Volunteer Services

Treasure Trunk Thrift Store

## A TEEN'S SELF-REFERRAL LEADS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The day-to-day struggles faced by most teens today are difficult enough. Imagine being 17-years-old, three-months pregnant, caring for your one-year-old daughter with no place to live.

This is the true story of Candyce, a girl who only 18 months ago was losing all hope for her future. Due to family conflict with her mother, Candyce developed a behavior of constantly running away, which eventually resulted in her being bounced from family member to family member.

Finally, in August of 2008, Candyce and her mother began seeking conflict intervention, counseling and a more stable environment for Candyce and her daughter. After contacting a multitude of community shelters, Candyce referred herself to Family Tree Gemini.

Family Tree Gemini is a 20-bed therapeutic residential facility providing medical and dental referrals, meals, hygiene products, transportation and a structured, supervised environment for adolescents.

After entering Family Tree Gemini, Candyce began to open up about her current fears of experimenting with drugs while pregnant with her second child, her affiliation with local gang members and, most importantly, visitation with her daughter.

Her case manager helped Candyce identify specific goals which included participating in an Independent Living Program, obtaining a job, applying for permanent housing, working towards her GED and regaining weekly visitation with her daughter. As Candyce was truly homeless and had no where else to go, her stay at Family Tree Gemini was much longer than most self-referrals. Fortunately, the time was well spent and Candyce successfully completed all of her goals before exiting the program.

Candyce is now 19-years-old and living at Bridgeway, a home providing education and support for pregnant and parenting teens. She is currently working full-time to care for her son and has regular visitation with her daughter. "Now that I'm self-sufficient, things are great," said Candyce. "My kids mean the world to me and I would not trade them for anything."



*Candyce referred herself to Family Tree Gemini at age 17, while three-months pregnant and caring for her one-year-old daughter.*

*Pseudonyms have been used and photos substituted to protect the identity of this client. Story provided by Dana Juniel, Family Tree Manager of Marketing & Special Events.*



## From The CEO



**Scott Shields**  
Family Tree CEO

This winter has provided its share of cold, wet and snowy weather, and as I reflect on Candyce and her story, I wonder how many times she was outside in unforgiving, inhospitable conditions. Where did she stay? Was she pregnant? How did she survive?

Like all Family Tree clients, Candyce's story is unique. But in this case, her story is one of many that is part of an alarming development: **more and more youth self-referring themselves to Family Tree Gemini through our Runaway and Homeless Youth program.** These young people are choosing to stay at Gemini so they can get off the streets, cease couch-surfing and escape conflict-ridden and unsafe homes.

Last year Family Tree experienced a distressing 45% increase in the numbers of runaway and homeless youth self-referring to Gemini. But what may be even more disturbing is that this trend continues: so far this year youth voluntarily coming to Family Tree Gemini are up more than 30% again. This trajectory is concerning, because in two years the numbers of youth seeking a safe place with people who listen and offer help, will double. Here are some additional important facts: annually Family Tree staff make more than 3,300 contacts with runaway and homeless youth through street outreach in Jefferson, Boulder and Adams counties; since October of last year we have maintained a wait list for voluntary youth placement because we

are unable to meet the needs; existing funding sources cover only 60% of the necessary costs to operate the program at the current level - a level not capable of meeting the necessary demand for services.

For the majority of these youth, however, reunification with their families is not only the goal, but also achievable with help from Family Tree staff. And once home, we continue to provide case management and assistance to help ensure these families have the resources and skills to remain together. And when family reunification is not a choice, as in Candyce's situation, Family Tree is there to help these youth identify other options so they can become safe, strong and self-reliant.

We're actively seeking solutions to assist us in delivering quality outcomes that address the increasing needs of runaway and homeless youth. Please continue to join with us as we press forward in efforts to end child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness.

For safe children and families,

Scott Shields  
Chief Executive Officer

# E V E N T S

### 17th Annual Celebration of Achievement Fundraising Dinner May 6, 2010 Arvada Center

Experience the challenges and obstacles faced by families and individuals dealing with crisis. Join us in celebrating their journey to self-sufficiency.

Visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org) to purchase tickets!

### At-Risk Youth Training March 9th & 16th

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Explore the dynamics of child abuse and neglect, and runaway and throwaway youth.

### Homelessness 101 Training April 15th

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Gain a better understanding of the realities of homelessness and how you can help.

### Kaiser Colfax Marathon May 16th

Register now to support Family Tree! For more information regarding the marathon please visit [www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org](http://www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org).

### Volunteer Orientation Last Saturday of every month

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Gain a better understanding of our three primary service areas and how volunteers make it all possible.

For more details on event times and locations, visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org)

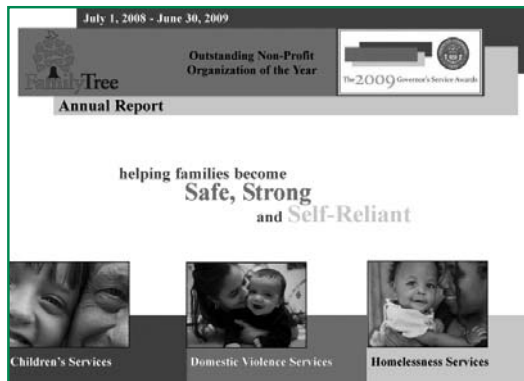
# 2009 Family Tree Annual Report

Now Available!  
Contact Family Tree to receive  
your copy or visit us online at  
[www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org)

## Financials

## Donor Listings

## Programs & Services



## Funder Spotlight Wells Fargo Foundation

**WELLS  
FARGO**

Family Tree, Inc. would like to recognize the Wells Fargo Foundation for its continued generous financial support of our three primary service areas: child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness. With the economic downturn, we have seen an increase in the number of families and individuals seeking our services. Without the support of contributors like Wells Fargo we can not do this important work. Thank you Wells Fargo Foundation!

## May is Supervised Visitation Awareness Month



## Orange Ribbon Campaign

Family Tree Karlis Family Center provides a child-friendly, neutral site where children caught in the middle of domestic violence and high conflict divorce can safely visit with their non-residential parents.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact Jody Bittrich at (303) 462-1060 or visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org).



Join Family Tree on May 16th in partnering with the Kaiser Permanente Colfax Marathon. We are running fast towards a \$10,000 dollar finish line! Please run along with us in recruiting runners and sponsors for runners.

It is as easy as 1, 2, 3!!!

- 1. Register** - visit [www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org](http://www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org) to register for the full marathon, half marathon or form a relay team of 5. Make sure you select Family Tree as your Charity Partner.
- 2. Sponsorships** - Reach out to friends, family, co-workers and businesses to sponsor you as you run and raise money for Family Tree.
- 3. Payments** - Sponsors can mail checks to Family Tree at 3805 Marshall St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 or visit our website at [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org) to make a secure online donation.

For more information, please contact Angie Overlie at (303) 598-1551.

## How do I include Family Tree in my will?



You can plan to leave a legacy gift to Family Tree at the time you create your will. Here is sample language:

*"I give to Family Tree, Inc., located at 3805 Marshall Street, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033, a Colorado non-profit corporation (Federal Identification #84-0730973), the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate; or the property described herein, for its general purposes."*

To discuss naming Family Tree in your will and to learn about The Evergreen Circle for planned gifts, please contact Judy Hall, Family Tree Managing Director of Gifts & Community Support, at (303) 403-5883 or visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org) for more details.

## Family Tree 2010 Celebration of Achievement Fundraising Dinner

### *The Journey Starts Here. . .*

**May 6, 2010**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Arvada Center**  
**6901 Wadsworth Blvd.**

#### A Walk In My Shoes

Experience the challenges and obstacles faced by families and individuals dealing with crisis.

Join us in celebrating their journey to self-sufficiency.

#### Community Award Nominees:

Associates/Climbing For A Cause  
Donelson Ciancio & Goodwin P.C.  
The Painted Platter  
Shining Mountain Waldorf School  
Sundyne Corporation  
TeleTech Holdings, Inc.



For tickets or sponsorship opportunities please call (303) 422-2133 or visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org).

## CONNECT TO FAMILY TREE ELECTRONICALLY

Are you interested in the most up-to-date Family Tree news?  
Sign up today to receive the latest information about Family Tree via email.

It's easy to do . . . simply visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org) and click "SIGN UP." Complete the newsletter sign-up form and begin connecting to Family Tree through our Electronic Branching Out Newsletter, E-Bulletins and E-Alerts!

This will ensure you're certain to receive the latest news about Family Tree's efforts to help people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness to become safe, strong and self-reliant.

For additional information or to sign-up over the phone, contact Dana Juniel at (303) 422-2133.

# 10th Annual Volunteer Recognition Brunch

Helping people become safe, strong and self-reliant is extremely challenging and often emotionally draining work. Family Tree would not be able to meet the needs of our thousands of clients without the compassion and dedication of our volunteers.

On February 20th, Family Tree recognized seven individuals and one community group for their continued commitment to Family Tree and helping to end child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness.

Over 100 people attended the brunch at Mount Vernon Event Center, including volunteers, staff and family and friends of the award recipients.



## Congratulations to the 2010 Family Tree Volunteer Recognition Award Recipients:

- Ann Baron** - Outstanding Homelessness Advocate Award
- Jatinder Bhambra** - Bette Tunnell Domestic Violence Advocate Award
- Holly Schutz** - Outstanding At-Risk Youth Advocate Award
- Ann Richmond** - Outstanding Homelessness Advocate Award
- Helen Linn** - Senior Service Award
- Belva Fremi** - Long-Term Service Award
- Jacqueline Knez** - Best New Volunteer Award
- The Golden Lions Club** - Group Service Award



*"Ann is so committed to our residents. She truly wants them to lead happy, healthy lives and is helping them to do so through yoga."*

*~ Jennifer Schiel  
Volunteer Liaison, House of Hope*

*"Jat excels when working with difficult families. He brings a lot of energy, patience and diligence into the sessions and never shies away from a challenge."*

*~ Jody Bittrich  
Volunteer Liaison,  
Karlis Family Center*



## Volunteer Opportunity



### Volunteer To Help Homeless Youth

#### Boulder Outreach Volunteer

Assist case managers with street outreach for runaway and homeless youth. Work on the Pearl Street Mall and at Family Tree Gemini Resource Center helping youth with GED preparation, job search and personal goals. Also, help provide outreach once a month along with the Boulder County AIDS Project to offer free anonymous HIV testing.

If you'd like to volunteer to help make a difference in the lives of homeless youth or are interested in other Family Tree volunteer opportunities, please contact Family Tree Volunteer Services, at (303) 403-5892 or visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org).

## TOURS

If you would like to know more about Family Tree and our programs, we invite you to join us for one, or all, of the following tours:

March 23rd, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Homelessness Services -  
House of Hope**

April 20th, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Children's Services -  
Gemini**

May 18th, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Domestic Violence Services -  
Karlis Family Center**

To reserve your space and receive additional information about the tours, please call Stacey Moyer at (303) 403-5886.

# Donor Spotlight

## Barbara Morris, MD

Barbara Morris, MD, has lived in Colorado since 1996 when her family moved here from Cincinnati, Ohio. Early on she looked for ways to connect in the community and soon made her way to Family Tree. When Barbara told the nurse practitioner she worked with that she would be volunteering at Family Tree Women In Crisis Shelter, she chose to join her. Soon Barbara recruited physicians and nurses to assist in the clinic and motivated her employer at the time, Kaiser Permanente, to support Family Tree with groups of up to 25 volunteers coming to do projects at our programs.

Dr. Morris and her family chose to support Family Tree financially as well. Barbara joined Family Tree's Board of Directors in 2005 and soon after it became clear to her that contributing dollars in addition to her skills as a physician helped meet the organization's needs. She has been a tireless supporter of Family Tree's special events and notes that being a regular donor has exponentially deepened her relationship with the organization.

Barbara's philosophy regarding philanthropy is simple - she and her family select a few organizations and develop a meaningful relationship with them. "It's like saving for college - it's not how much you give - it's that you make the decision and do it consistently."

We're so grateful for Barbara's dedication, generosity and countless hours of service. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do in the service of Family Tree's mission to keep families safe, strong and self-reliant.

*Story provided by Judy Hall, Family Tree Managing Director of Gifts & Community Support.*



*(l-r) CBS4 News Meteorologist Jennifer Zeppelin, Family Tree Managing Director Jane Pemberton, Dr. Barbara Morris, and Family Tree CEO Scott Shields at the 2008 Family Tree Celebration of Achievement fundraising dinner.*

**C**2010  
*Celebration*  
*of*  
**A**chievement

## Community Award Nominees

The 17th Annual Family Tree Celebration of Achievement is not only an opportunity to recognize our clients who have reached self-sufficiency, we also honor individuals and organizations in the community who are working to help children and families be safe, strong and self-reliant.

The Celebration of Achievement Community Award is given to an individual, business, church or civic group that is a special friend of Family Tree. Often, it is a company or organization made up of many dedicated individuals who have stepped forward to give of their time, resources and energy to enrich the lives of others.

Congratulations to this year's Community Award Finalists:

**Associates/Climbing For A Cause**  
**Donelson Ciancio & Goodwin, P.C.**  
**The Painted Platter**  
**Shining Mountain Waldorf School**  
**Sundyne Corporation**  
**TeleTech Holdings, Inc.**

Join Family Tree in recognizing these incredible nominees on Thursday, May 6 at the Arvada Center.  
For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org).

# Corporate Spotlight

## MillerCoors

MillerCoors celebrated their Family Volunteer Day with a bang this past Thanksgiving season. They produced over 175 Thanksgiving food boxes for our clients and distributed them on Saturday, November 21st, almost doubling the number of boxes from years past! This enabled us to reach out to even more individuals and families throughout our programs.

MillerCoors began the food drive in early November by encouraging their staff to start bringing in food items. Many employees took boxes home for their families to decorate and fill with non-perishable food items appropriate for a Thanksgiving dinner.

In addition to employees filling individual food baskets, on Friday, November 20th they organized group volunteer times to decorate boxes, sort food and load for delivery. Early Saturday morning, the MillerCoors truck arrived at Family Tree to distribute the much needed food baskets to our clients.

Family Tree is extremely grateful for MillerCoors' continued dedication and passion for helping people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness. The Family Volunteer Day was a huge success because of the generosity of the MillerCoors employees and their families!

*Story provided by Angie Overlie, Family Tree Director of Corporate Relations.*



With over 175 Thanksgiving food boxes for Family Tree clients, MillerCoors came out in full force for Family Volunteer Day on November 20th.

## Family Tree Welcomes New Managing Director

Family Tree is pleased to announce a new addition to our management team. Bringing fresh energy and enthusiasm to the agency in 2010 is Judy Hall, Family Tree's new Managing Director of Gifts and Community Support.

Judy comes to Family Tree with over 25-years of non-profit experience in a variety of functions including major gifts solicitation, special event management, corporate/foundation relations, grants management and volunteer management just to name a few.

With a Masters and Doctorate degree in Social Work, Judy wholeheartedly believes in the mission of Family Tree. "Helping families and individuals stay strong and become independent, healthy and successful is something that I fully support," states Judy.

As Managing Director, Judy is responsible for leading the Gifts and Community Support team which includes grants administration; donor relations management; major and planned giving; public relations; marketing; volunteer services; donor database administration; special events and the Treasure Trunk thrift store.



"My main goals are working with our incredible team to strengthen and grow our programs, meet current and new donors and help to make Family Tree the charity of choice in metro Denver and beyond."

Welcome Judy!



# April is . . .

## Child Abuse Prevention Month



Wear Your Blue Ribbon!

Join Family Tree and your community in preventing child abuse by participating in Awareness Month activities throughout April!

For more information, visit [www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org)

Visit our new website at  
[www.thefamilytree.org](http://www.thefamilytree.org)

Get Connected Today!

 [Donate](#) [Volunteer](#) [Get Involved](#) [Resources](#)

Mile High  
United Way  
Helps Here



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