



efaanews

CHANGE LIVES WITH YOUR GIFT

What if you could give a holiday gift that fundamentally changed someone's life for the better? What if your contribution this season was not a thing but an investment in the community in which you live and love? That's a donation to EFAA. Your gift of any amount helps families in need with basic necessities, like food, housing, minor medical expenses and transportation to work. Consider how little it takes to change someone's life – and open them up to the possibilities of a brighter future.

\$25 buys enough peanut butter to make 200 sandwiches

\$50 buys 300 diapers to keep a baby dry for 6 weeks

\$500 provides rent assistance for one month to keep a family in their home

\$4,500 houses a family of three for 3 months in short-term housing, including all expenses like rent, food, transportation and minor medical.



CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Four Star Charity

EFAA EARNED CHARITY NAVIGATOR'S 4-STAR RATING SIX YEARS IN A ROW. ONLY 3% OF CHARITIES NATIONALLY RECEIVE SUCH AN HONOR.

FROM JUST SURVIVING TO THRIVING



“Years ago I moved to Boulder to get treatment for a series of complicated medical issues and better educational opportunities for my two sons. But when we got here, I was not able to work consistently because of my health problems. I would wake up not knowing if my body would fail me that day, or if I would have any energy for my kids. I was always wiped out and we were barely surviving. But EFAA changed our lives.

Groceries and utility bill help from EFAA meant that I was able to spend money on things that would propel us forward -- to get us somewhere else besides barely surviving. Just knowing I could consistently count on things like having enough food for my growing sons and I meant I could take a class to improve my job prospects, or buy flashlight batteries to walk home safely in the dark, or save to buy an old car to get to work. EFAA made it so we could live without worrying that we would be on the cliff's edge with nowhere to go. It's hard to explain to people who have fallback positions. They think there are fail-safes available to help people, but that's not always the case. Without EFAA, we would have had nothing. But because of EFAA, we are thriving.

All three of us are doing well and we are continually improving our situation. My oldest son is now a junior in college and was just accepted into a writing program. My younger son is living on his own. I am in the best health I've been in for at least a decade and I'm in the process of signing up to go to school. EFAA helped us get back on our feet so we could be in this good place. They even connected me with the resources I needed for my health. Now, I have energy to work consistently, go to school and help my sons more.

I want to share my story so that I can tell everyone who works with EFAA, or supports EFAA that they are helping change the story of generations, not just my family of three. It's not just about us, or about right now. It's about the future and opening possibilities for people to succeed and give back. EFAA has restored my faith in the goodness of people. Thank you.”

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



EFAA'S MISSION

EFAA helps those in our community whose immediate needs for food, shelter and other basic necessities cannot adequately be met by other means, and supports their efforts toward financial stability or self-sufficiency.

Emergency Family Assistance Association

Meeting our community's basic needs since 1918.

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REMEMBER EFAA

Please let us know if you've included EFAA in your will and estate plans. We would like to add you to our legacy society, EFAA Next. To learn more about EFAA Next, contact suzy@efaa.org or 303.951.7676.

Like many non-profits, EFAA's end-of-year season is critical to funding our services. For almost a century, EFAA has been a way for people to give back to their local community and invest in its healthy future. Donations from individuals, local businesses, faith and civic groups account for 60 percent of our cash revenue, most of which come in the last three months of the year.

Your support is central to EFAA's success. This year, more than ever, we are asking you to continue your generous tradition of giving to EFAA, and even increasing your contribution if it's within your ability. Or, if you are not yet a donor, please join Team EFAA. Why? We have just launched our new Strategic Plan, which takes to the next level EFAA's long tradition of providing our neighbors in need immediate access to food, housing, direct financial assistance, and case management to avert imminent crisis and ensure a rapid return to stability. Moving forward, we will focus on increasing the impact of our assistance to achieve longer-term client outcomes. This includes better meeting the nutritional needs of our food-insecure population; diverting more families from homelessness; investing in breaking the cycle of poverty by expanding our programming to the children EFAA serves; and increasing access to employment training, education, and other empowering services for parents.

Your support matters. I have the opportunity to see this on a daily basis in the people we serve and the letters of thanks we receive from people that have come through our doors. Picture the relief on the face of the newly widowed mother of four when I met her during the intake process at one of our short-term housing sites. Following the long illness of her spouse, she was faced with eviction after an unexpected 20-percent rent hike hit her already depleted resources. Her family's only options had been to live in their car or on the street. But then she found EFAA and a place to live while she got back on her feet. Just last week, we received a letter from an appreciative former client who now wanted to give back to EFAA and help others. This person had received a small inheritance and sent us \$750 dollars, which they estimated was the value of rent and medical assistance provided to them in vouchers over their years of contact with EFAA.

We take your investments in our community very seriously. EFAA recently received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, its highest rating, for the sixth year in a row -- a distinction that only 3 percent of non-profits nationwide receive. Charity Navigator is the country's largest and most comprehensive charity evaluator, applying ratings on financial health, efficiency, accountability and transparency.

I ask you to consider digging deeply to help us build a better community for everyone. Every dollar makes a difference. Thank you for your continued support.

Julie Van Domelen
Executive Director

EFAA LAUNCHES NEW 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

EFAA's new Strategic Plan will expand safety-net services to further reduce poverty and family homelessness locally. To do this, we will focus on three key areas:

FIRST, *we will provide deeper levels of case management and supporting services to improve family outcomes.*

SECOND, *we will better leverage our partnerships with other agencies to increase client access to the entire network of services available to them.*

THIRD, *we will take a much more active role in educating the community about the local issues and external factors that impact poverty and family homelessness in order to raise awareness and understanding.*

To be effective, efforts will focus on a longer-term, whole-family approach and emphasize improving household outcomes across a range of key measures critical for poverty reduction. *Read more at efaa.org.*

APPLIEDTRUST

BY ASHLEY RUMBLE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Sitting outside Amante on Walnut drinking our 8 ounce black coffees Ned, Trent, and I talked about how much Boulder has changed in the fourteen years they've been in business. Ned and Trent are the affable engineers behind AppliedTrust, EFAA's 2015 Title Sponsor.

As co-founders and co-CEO's, Ned and Trent have cultivated a robust philanthropic culture at AppliedTrust since the very beginning. Over the years, Ned and Trent have personally served on a number of nonprofit boards and have volunteered their time with local tech groups. They have also supported local nonprofits by sponsoring charitable events. This year, AppliedTrust made a splash on the EFAA scene as the prestigious title sponsor of our 24th Annual Celebration Gala and joined the ranks of a generous business community, including Boulder Brands, DigitalGlobe, Fresh Produce, and WhiteWave.



As the morning warmed and our coffees cooled we talked about the influx of people and businesses in our community over the years and how it is putting a squeeze on the availability of affordable housing for the local, working poor. Ned and Trent have a strong appreciation and understanding for the work EFAA does to keep families in their homes and working toward a brighter future. Their generous sponsorship this year is a testament that together—businesses, people, and nonprofits—we can make Boulder County better for everyone.

AppliedTrust, now a ViaWest company, provides computer security, infrastructure, and compliance services to wide diversity of clients including Boulder Community Hospital, Rally Software, and the University of Colorado.



GIVE TODAY TO HELP FAMILIES THRIVE

An annual holiday donation to EFAA is one great way to support our local work to reduce poverty and family homelessness. Do you know all the other ways you can contribute? Many of our supporters also:

SET UP A RECURRING MONTHLY DONATION. A monthly commitment to EFAA provides a regular source of income that allows us to more effectively plan and budget our programs, while your automatic donations help reduce administrative costs. Set up your recurring credit card donation at efaa.org/donate, or ask your bank about their automatic bill pay service.

PARTICIPATE IN YOUR EMPLOYER'S MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM. You can double the impact of your contribution if your employer offers a matching gift program. Check with your HR or administrative offices.

ESTABLISH A PLANNED GIFT. Join the EFAA Next Legacy Society by making a planned, deferred gift as part of your estate plan. Planned gifts provide simple ways to manage your assets

Your generosity will help run our food bank to feed families, fund our basic needs program to keep families in their homes, and support our housing program to help homeless families get back on their feet.

while providing lasting financial support to ensure that local families in need will be served by EFAA well into the future. To learn more about EFAA Next, contact Suzy@efaa.org or 303.951.7676.

GIVE ASSETS. If you own appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares, you may avoid capital gains tax by making a tax-wise gift to EFAA. Consult your tax advisor.

DONATE A VEHICLE. EFAA partners with Cars for Charity Inc., which certifies your contribution as an IRS recognized, tax deductible donation. Visit carsforcharity.net

DONATE FOOD, OR EVEN HOLD A FOOD DRIVE. EFAA feeds about 1,700 families each year with about 650,000 pounds of food – 40% of which comes from the community.

DONATE FURNITURE. Help families create a home with basic necessities like beds, dressers and tables.

BUSINESS HOLIDAY GIVING. In lieu of gifts to clients, many corporations choose to give to charity in their name. Western Disposal has been dedicating holiday client honorarium gifts to EFAA for more than 10 years with very positive feedback from their clients.

CHOOSE EFAA ON COLORADO GIVES DAY. Visit www.coloradogives.org by Tuesday, December 8th and identify EFAA as your charity of choice.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME. Not only will you help your neighbors in need, you will also gain an experience of a lifetime. You can choose to come every week, help with special projects, or work a once-a-year event – whatever fits your schedule.

AMAZON SMILE TO BENEFIT EFAA

Set up your account so that Amazon donates .5% of your purchases to EFAA whenever you shop. Visit smile.amazon.com, select “Emergency Family Assistance Association” as your charity of choice, and shop to your heart’s content. It’s simple to set up and all you need to do is enter through the smile.amazon.com site each time you shop Amazon. Be sure to take advantage of holiday shopping, including great deals on Cyber Monday this November 30th.

EFAA HAS AN AMAZON WISHLIST

While you’re on the site, check out our wish list to see what our food bank needs the most, and have it delivered straight to our food bank.