



# efaanews

## SAVE THE DATES

2016

**MARCH 3**

3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
CORPORATE  
PARTNERS  
BREAKFAST

**OCTOBER 15**

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
CELEBRATION  
GALA

## FROM LONG-TIME DONOR TO CLIENT

“I grew up thinking that if I worked hard and had good health, I’d be okay. So that’s what I focused on. I’ve worked hard all my life.

When I was laid off after a merger caused a workforce consolidation, I found it very hard to land another job because of my age. Jobs were going to younger applicants. For a while, I made ends meet with contract work, but that wasn’t enough to keep me going long term. I was just getting by when my daughter was faced with serious health issues that caused her to lose her job. I chose to sell my house so that I could help her keep hers – the place her kids knew as home.

When my savings had been depleted, someone encouraged me to go to EFAA. I had not thought about going to EFAA for help, even though I had been a donor to EFAA when I worked. I hadn’t wanted to go, but I knew I needed help, and the case manager I met with made me feel like things were going to be okay. EFAA helped me with a rental deposit and I was able to begin visiting the food bank, which cut my grocery bills significantly.

My daughter has a new job now and I am able to take care of the kids to keep her childcare costs down. We are working together to make it work. In my spare time, I am taking classes to learn new software so I can go back to work.

It’s an interesting turn of events: To go from being a long-time donor to EFAA, to finding myself in a position of needing help myself. But just knowing that EFAA is there gives me a great sense of relief. Without EFAA, my daughter and grandkids and I would have had no safety net. And I am not alone. I meet people all the time whose lives have been saved by EFAA, just like me and my family’s.”

**THANK YOU  
TO EVERYONE WHO  
HELPED EFAA DURING  
THE HOLIDAY  
GIVING SEASON**



# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We at EFAA want to send a very special thank you to all who dug deep and opened your hearts to share with and invest in the most vulnerable in our community. Thanks to your efforts, we start the New Year on solid ground and with great enthusiasm for continuing to help families, seniors and people with disabilities stabilize and move towards self-sufficiency. This year, the growing enthusiasm for Colorado Gives Day on December 8th really amplified the end-of-year momentum. We had our most successful Colorado Gives Day ever, thanks to you.

Looking forward into 2016, we will be expanding our programs as well as our facilities. With building permit in hand, construction soon begins on the new 16th Street Transitional Housing units up here near our main offices in North Boulder. These 5 apartments will provide housing and case management for families with children who are working towards self-sufficiency goals. Weather permitting, we hope to have families living in the units before the next school year. Housing like this is a key component to addressing family homelessness in our community and creating stability and opportunity for kids to thrive.

This year will also see an intensified program focus on children. EFAA has a tremendous opportunity to help a significant number of at-risk children in our community – children who will make up the next generation of adults in our community. We will use our core safety-net and housing services as a platform to improve outcomes of these children into the future. These services will have an enhanced focus on early childhood development, parenting resources, after school and summer programming, and tighter linkages with other programs that can benefit EFAA kids.

This year, EFAA is also launching strategic education activities aimed at raising awareness of the issues facing the people we serve and sharing with the broader community our views on the policies and programs most likely to bring about positive change in their lives, and our community.

As the New Year dawns, we are filled with the promises of a brighter tomorrow and we are proud to have you as our partners and supporters.

Sincerely,

Julie Van Domelen  
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 [legacy@efaa.org](mailto:legacy@efaa.org).

## THIRD GRADER MAKES A BIG IMPACT

Nine-year old Zach saved his allowance and worked hard around the house to earn extra money. It wasn't a game or a toy he was after. He wanted to make a donation to EFAA – one that would have a real impact on families in need. The \$25 he saved was matched by his mother's employer's matching gift program. What difference did his \$50 donation make? It could have bought a family food for one week, or helped someone buy eye glasses, or bought enough diapers to keep a baby dry for 6 weeks. That's big a impact from someone in the third grade.

In between his busy after-school activities of dance, outdoor adventures and playing with Legos, we caught up with Zach to learn more about his inspiration to make a difference.

*EFAA: What inspired you to donate to EFAA?*

**ZACH:** I feel like most kids would give to things that help animals, but I wanted to be unique and help people.

*EFAA: You saved up allowance and worked extra around the house. What kinds of things did you do for work?*

**ZACH:** I scrubbed the dividers in our kitchen drawers and scrubbed the silverware.

*EFAA: You could choose to spend your money on a Lego or you could give it away. What made you choose to give this money to EFAA?*

**ZACH:** My mom, just three days before that, told me that her work doubles gifts and then I thought that I could use that. I feel like every day I have a chance to buy a Lego or something like that, but I don't always have a chance to give to EFAA.

*EFAA: What would you say to another child to encourage them to donate to something important to them?*

**ZACH:** If they say they saved up a ton of money and have extra I would say they should give that extra to EFAA because it can go a long way and do a lot more than they think. It's unique for a kid to donate even \$1 of their own money.



## NETAPP'S PEER-TO-PEER GIVING CAMPAIGN



What do you get when you combine 160 NetApp employees, the SNAP Challenge and Shirley Temple? The answer: More than \$13,000 to help keep families in their homes! This past September, data storage and management company, NetApp organized an impressive peer-to-peer workplace giving campaign to benefit EFAA.

NetApp has a strong corporate social responsibility ethos. Regional offices, like the one in Boulder, are encouraged to engage their employees through charitable activities. This year NetApp employees organized a series of fundraising activities to benefit EFAA, including a bake sale and a 5K run. Employees also participated in a SNAP Challenge, which they renamed the "EFAA Challenge", seeking pledges from friends and family. Participants ate on \$4.15/day to gain insights about what it's like to be food insecure--a reality for many EFAA clients. The fundraising efforts culminated with a Lip Sync Contest during an all-staff celebration at the Dark Horse. Like the SNAP Challenge, contestants sought pledges to perform before their peers on stage. Good sport, John McCloskey, was the crowd favorite this year with his charming rendition of the Good Ship Lollipop.

NetApp's fundraising effort demonstrates the fun and camaraderie that can be had while giving back. Every dollar raised was donated by individuals and is a testament that together we can make an impact in the communities where we live, work, and do business.

To learn more about how you can organize a workplace giving campaign for EFAA contact Ashley Rumble at (303) 951-7696 or [ashleyr@efaa.org](mailto:ashleyr@efaa.org).



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAM EXPANDING

**SOMETIMES THE BEST WAY FORWARD IS A STEP BACK TO GAIN PERSPECTIVE.** For EFAA, this means identifying and addressing the root causes of poverty and family homelessness. Yes, today we help our clients move out of crisis with critical safety-net programs, but what more can we do to impact these families in the future? How can we help the children we serve prepare for greater success?

The answers to these questions led us to a focused expansion of our Children's Program as one way to create conditions for income mobility for the next generation. By concentrating resources on our communities most vulnerable children we take a long-term, whole-family approach to addresses the issues that contribute to intergenerational poverty.

**CHILDREN EXPOSED TO HOMELESSNESS AND EXTREME POVERTY EXPERIENCE TOXIC STRESS AND TRAUMA.** Research shows that these children are more likely to have a multitude of life-long negative

consequences unless given adequate support as early as possible. Families served by EFAA are in extreme poverty, many are homeless, and a high proportion of the children have experienced trauma. They are the most at-risk children in our community.

*The goal of EFAA's Children's Program is to minimize the harmful effects of homelessness on children, and help create a sense of childhood normalcy through programs and resources for children and their parents.*

Activities are focused on trauma management, socio-emotional support, school readiness, communication skills and life skills. As of January 1, 2016, EFAA's Children's Program will be expanding to provide greater evidence-based, child-focused support for both the parents and the children across our programs, focusing primarily on our housing clients.

## ENHANCED ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Children's-specific case manager to work with children and provide assistance and resources to parents to address behaviors, reduce chaos, address trauma and provide opportunity in the long term.
- Warm referrals to other community resources, such as the Child Care Assistance Program, to address key barriers to income mobility.
- Offering home visits for 0-5 year olds.
- Homework help, structured activities, experiential play, and outdoor activities.
- Providing car seats, coats, school supplies and other basic items many families cannot afford.

Through the expanded program, EFAA's goal is to prepare children for their futures and increase their chances for life-long academic, economic and social success.



## STRONG RALLY BEHIND EFAA'S CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Children's Program expansion is made possible by seed funding from the Hasbro Children's Fund, Comis Foundation, private donors and community partners. If you are interested in helping fund and sustain the expansion of EFAA's Children's Program, please contact [development@efaa.org](mailto:development@efaa.org) or Julie Van Domelen at [julie@efaa.org](mailto:julie@efaa.org).

