

The Volunteer Spotlight

for volunteers, supporters and friends of Family Tree

Fall 2007

*A note
from
the
director:*

Wow! It's hard to believe that it's been six months since I first came on board with Family Tree and began working with all of our amazing volunteers. I remember thinking, when I was younger, that only "old" people said things like, "Time goes by so fast," or, "It seems as though every year passes faster and faster." I can't tell you how many times I've caught myself saying those phrases lately. And since I absolutely can't be getting "old," I've convinced myself that time is going by faster each year because I keep finding ways of staying busier than I ever was, and I simply don't have as much free time, or "me time" as I used to.

And I know I'm not alone, by any stretch of the imagination. I hear it from people around me all the time ... my friends and family, my co-workers, our incredible volunteers ... we all seem to find important things with which to fill our time and our lives. And what a wonderful feeling it is to have something important and worthwhile to keep us going, and to motivate us to make a difference in the lives of others.

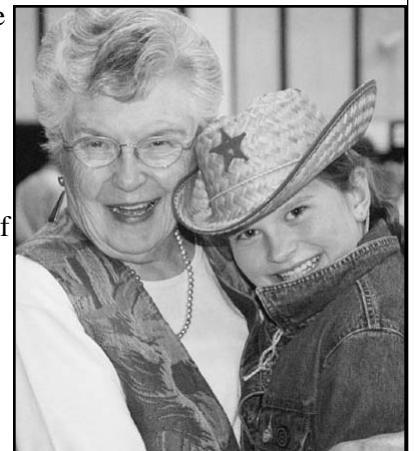
But it's also very important for each of us to remember to slow down every once in awhile ... to take time to enjoy the feel of the warm sun on our skin, the smell of freshly mown grass and blossoming flowers, and the sounds of laughter and joy around us. It's important that we take care of ourselves, to make sure we have a little "me time" every week ... every day.

Summer is a great time to do just that. And I'm happy to see that many of our volunteers have taken some time for vacations, to spend quality time with friends and family, to reconnect with hobbies and passions, and to just relax a little. I encourage all of you to make yourselves a priority and be good to yourselves while the warmth and freshness of summer are still with us.

Fall is right around the corner, and we all know how hectic that time of year can be. Many of us are thrust into the middle of that black hole known as Back-To-School. Family Tree's largest annual fundraising event, Feast For Families, will take place on Thursday, October 4. Thanksgiving and Christmas will be here before we know it. Wow, I'm getting dizzy just thinking about it.

We're doing very important work here at Family Tree, and it takes a lot of hard work and energy to fulfill our mission of helping people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness to become safe, strong and self-reliant. We need to take care of ourselves so we can continue to make such a powerful difference in the lives of others. But we also need to take care of ourselves so that we can meet our own full potential, and be all that we are meant to be.

Thank you for all of your hard work, endless energy and selfless compassion in working with our clients. You are a very special group of volunteers and you're making a huge difference in our community and in our world. Please take good care of yourself, just as you do for others.



**2006 Family Tree
Feast For Families**

Corporate Connections

With funding from federal, state and local governments becoming more competitive and in some cases, more scarce each year, Family Tree is looking toward individuals and corporations to help fill in the gaps. Many of our incredible volunteers also donate monetarily to Family Tree, and for that we're very thankful!

In an effort to bring increased awareness of Family Tree and our programs to more corporations, we have designed a Corporate Connections brochure. Many businesses give money and in-kind services to support non-profits in their areas. Our new brochure is designed to inform companies and businesses of our mission, and of the many ways in which they can support Family Tree throughout the year.

Our two fundraising dinner events, Celebration of Achievement and Feast For Families, are just a couple of ways in which corporations can sponsor Family Tree. Holding specialized fundraising events to support Holidays of Hope is another way companies can get involved. And then we have National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, National Homelessness Awareness Week in November, and

Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. Companies can hold fundraising events or drives, make cash donations, or provide volunteers for Family Tree during those months. There are also many opportunities for companies to provide grants fundraising to Family Tree.

If you work for a company that might be interested in sponsoring a Family Tree event or contributing financially to our success, please contact Angie Overlie at (303) 422-2133 or aoverlie@thefamilytree.org. With your key management contact information, our staff can make a professional presentation to your company.

**Family Tree
Corporate
Connection
Brochure**



Welcome to Our New
Volunteers, Interns and
Board Committee Members

New Volunteers

<i>Rita Gordon</i>	<i>Housing and Family Services</i>
<i>Blythe Pollard</i>	<i>House of Hope</i>
<i>Kathy Svoboda</i>	<i>Women In Crisis</i>
<i>April Donahue</i>	<i>Karlis Family Center/House of Hope</i>
<i>Kassi Burton</i>	<i>Karlis Family Center</i>
<i>Janelle Young</i>	<i>Women In Crisis</i>
<i>Cheree Carrigan</i>	<i>Women In Crisis</i>
<i>Diane Heriford</i>	<i>Women In Crisis</i>
<i>Derek Hammond</i>	<i>Women In Crisis</i>
<i>Rebecca Monroy</i>	<i>Karlis Family Center</i>
<i>Blair Taylor</i>	<i>Admin</i>
<i>Allie Grunder</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Rachel Weicht</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Danielle Simpson</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Teresa Blandford</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Nichole Clayton</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Dawn Marshall</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Bonnie Vann</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Sophia Burns</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Becky Langrehr</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Renee Clark</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Kimberly Rosen</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Tammy Bernard</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Shauna Scott</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Karen Stallman</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Board Members/Board Committee Members

<i>Siddhartha Rathod</i>	<i>Board/Services Committee</i>
<i>Carrie Thornburgh</i>	<i>Board/Development Committee</i>
<i>Agnes Callwood</i>	<i>Board/Services Committee</i>

Congratulations to interns and volunteers recently hired as staff

<i>Nanilii Gallegos</i>	<i>Treasure Trunk</i>
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Feast For Families Volunteer Opportunities

Feast For Families, Family Tree's largest annual fundraising event, is right around the corner!! On Thursday, October 4, approximately 600 Family Tree supporters will gather at Jefferson County Fairgrounds for an evening of Fun, Festivities and Friends!! Feast For Families is a western-themed dinner, with a short program, live and silent auctions, and live entertainment.

We need 75 - 80 volunteers to help make this year's Feast For Families the most successful yet. There are many fun and exciting volunteer opportunities available.

What: Family Tree Feast For Families
When: Thursday, Oct. 4, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
 (some setup on Wed., Oct. 3)
Where: Jefferson County Fairgrounds -
 15200 W. 6th Ave. Golden
Attire: Festive Western
Dinner: Included with volunteer duties

To sign up for a volunteer shift, or for more info, please contact **Sean Wolfe**, Director of Volunteer Services, at (303) 422-2133 or at swolfe@thefamilytree.org.

A special thanks to Sundyne Corporation for printing this newsletter. We really appreciate it.





Volunteer Spotlight

April Donahue

Volunteer Extraordinaire at Karlis Family Center and House of Hope

In this world of high technology ... and in this business of non-profit, providing services to underserved populations ... volunteer managers never know what they are going to encounter on the other end of a cold call from the community. But every once in awhile, we are very happily surprised, and such is the instance when April called Family Tree a couple months ago.



Family Tree House of Hope Volunteer, April Donahue.

"I'm in Nursing School at Northeastern University in Boston, and decided to do an experiential internship through Family Tree after I found them via Google!" April says enthusiastically. "I contacted Sean, and the rest is history."

April is an Aries, and lives up to their headstrong, stubborn and determined reputation. While attending the Volunteer Orientation and Domestic Violence training sessions, she had some very good insight and input ... and her fierce determination to make a difference in the way the healthcare industry identifies and treats victims of domestic violence was inspiring.

An adventurer by nature, April had a blast when she visited Jamaica last summer. And her traveling days are far from being behind her. "I've always wanted to travel to Africa for a

healthcare mission," she says. "If I ever get there, I'll send you all a postcard!"

April splits her internship between Family Tree House of Hope and Karlis Family Center. At House of Hope, she helps out in the health clinic and also assists in administrative duties and spending time 1:1 with clients. "I love trying out new recipes using the donated food at House of Hope. I get to make yummy treats and have great conversations with our residents." Her work at Karlis Family Center includes administrative duties, helping out with group therapy, and working with children witnesses of domestic violence in our Time Out For Kids program.

Everyone who works with April has a kind word and smiles when speaking about her. She lives up to her favorite mantra to live by: "Solamente vive una vez ... Abra sus ojos y su corazon." That's Spanish for, "You only live once ... Open your eyes and your heart."

"I'd like to thank everyone at Family Tree for being so welcoming and helping me to have such an amazing internship this summer," she says. Typical April ... it is we at Family Tree who are very thankful for all of the love, heart and soul that you have brought to your volunteer work this summer.

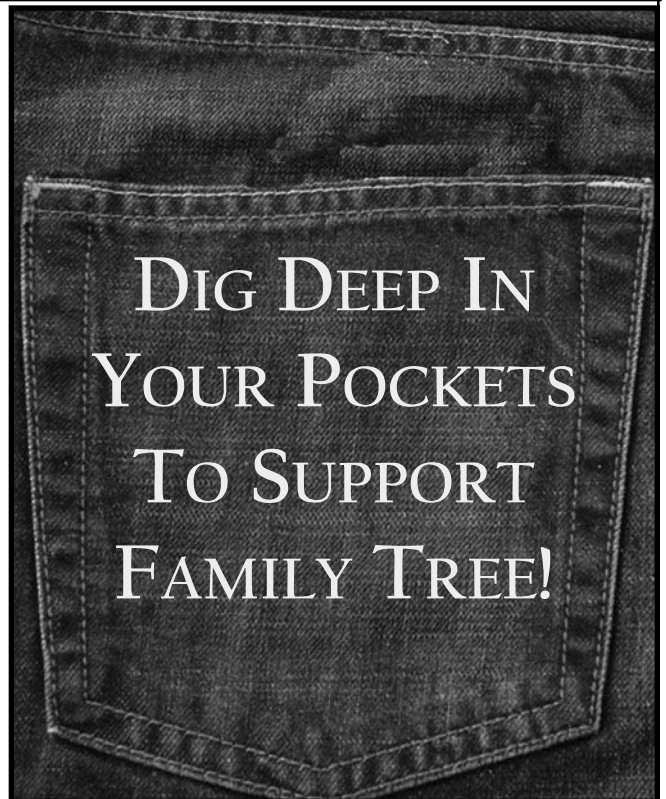
Have a wonderful year at school ... and come back and visit as often as you can. We'll always have something for you to do!!



OCTOBER 4, 2007

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS
MAIN AUDITORIUM
15200 W. 6TH AVE.
GOLDEN, CO**

For more information or if you are interested in hosting a table, call Kathy Wells at (303) 422-2133, ext. 744, or visit www.thefamilytree.org.



Domestic Violence Volunteer Workshops



Every quarter Family Tree offers a 5-class Domestic Violence Training for volunteers. This symposium is extremely educational, interactive and enlightening on myriad issues pertaining to our clients experiencing a domestic violence situation. The next series will be held during the month of September, and the schedule is below.

Effects of Domestic Violence on Women

September 8, 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Special Populations

September 12, 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

De-escalation Skills/Trauma

September 15, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Effects of Domestic Violence on Children

September 19, 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Criminal Justice System's Response to DV

September 26, 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

If you have not attended any or all of these classes, and would like to register for the September series, please contact **Sean Wolfe**, Director of Volunteer Services, at **(303) 422-2133** or at **swolfe@thefamilytree.org**.



Volunteer
Opportunities

Stories

Visit

www.thefamilytree.org

safe, strong, self-reliant

Jobs

Photos



Visit us at www.thefamilytree.org



The mission of Family Tree is to help people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness to become safe, strong and self-reliant.

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