



The Matthews House

Growing Stronger Together

2016

Impact Report

Our mission is to **empower** youth and families by **building trusting relationships** and **providing resources** to disrupt the cycles of poverty and abuse.



Dear Friends and Supporters of The Matthews House,

The Matthews House was founded to help youth who have no support system find a way out of the 'raging river.' As we grew, we focused on moving upstream by working with families. That wasn't enough; we wanted to prevent people from 'falling into the river' in the first place. The Matthews House meets people where they are and uses a holistic approach to address their needs. We help youth and families acknowledge the possibilities in front of them. This is why we have placed such importance on our Building Community program. The Building Community program is our prevention arm, and is voluntary and open for people who are seeking support.

This past year was another season of growth for The Matthews House. We launched our Caregiver Support Program, providing support to foster parents caring for children who experienced trauma. In our Parent Cafe program, we are pleased to see an increase in the number of parents attending. This program helped 62 parents build support systems and improve their parenting skills. Homework Helpers and Kids Cafe expanded to include more kids than ever before. Each program at The Matthews House is thriving. We now have 47 full-time employees, which is a testament to the impact we continue to have in Northern Colorado. The more hands, the further our reach.

We don't plan on slowing down! Looking forward, we have identified significant needs in our community. We will continue to make innovative decisions to better the lives of the youth and families we serve. One example of this is our new Restaurant Ready program. We are one of five organizations in the nation selected by the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation to pilot this program. Starting in summer of 2017, Restaurant Ready will equip youth with the technical and soft skills needed to thrive in the restaurant industry. We hope this program will be a stepping stone towards offering other industry-specific training in the future.

Thank you for partnering with us as we combat poverty and abuse in Northern Colorado. We truly are Growing Stronger Together!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerri Schmitz".

Jerri Schmitz

Executive Director





What's next in 2017?

We are planning on building the Youth Advisory Board (YAB). The YAB motivates youth to take action to change their environment and lives through servicing their community. In 2017 we want to increase the number of community service projects and give opportunities to develop public speaking skills.

The Matthews House Empowering Youth Program serves youth aged 14-21 who lack a significant support network. Often they have not had a stable, caring adult in their lives, and many have been in foster care or the juvenile justice system. As these youth transition to adulthood, The Matthews House works to give them the tools, skills and support they need to live independently.

In addition to one-on-one case management, The Matthews House offers Experiential Education opportunities for youth. Experiential Education helps youth connect with others, discover passions and grow their self-confidence through activities like backpacking trips, dance classes, music lessons and much more.

2016 Empowering Youth Clients:



93%
avoided gang involvement



73%
of clients enrolled in public school have attendance rates equal or greater than the district average



83%
remain in safe living situations



The Matthews House is focused on Strengthening Families, making it so children can remain safely in their homes.

Family Coaching

We help at-risk families achieve stability by addressing issues in parenting, money management, job readiness and healthy relationships. We develop one-on-one relationships with families and teach the value of a reliable support system.

Family Advocate Program

We work with families involved with the Department of Human Services, empowering them to actively engage in their cases.

Caregiver Support Program

This program provides foster parents and caregivers the support they need to keep children in their homes. We help create a positive, healthy home so children who have experienced trauma can heal from past experiences.



2016 Strengthening Families Clients:



90%

maintained a healthy support system



91%

remained free of illegal substances/drugs



96%

had no case re-involvement



*“Without The Matthews House I would probably be living in a car, addicted to drugs, without my children or a future to look forward to. Instead we live as a family in a loving home and have an amazing future ahead of us.”
I am a survivor.*

-Parent participant



What's next in 2017?

The National Restaurant Association Education Foundation selected The Matthews House to be 1 of 5 organizations in the nation to pilot Restaurant Ready. Restaurant Ready is a program designed to prepare youth to succeed in a restaurant environment. The program equips the students with technical and soft skills to ensure dependability and quality in the workplace. This program will be a win-win for our participants and local restaurants. We launch our pilot in July, 2017.

The Matthews House Community Life Centers (CLCs) are consolidated service centers that are open to the community at-large. They are preventative and are designed to support families and individuals before they fall into crisis.

Education & Employment Services

We offer high school equivalency courses, English as a second language, and many other employment preparation courses.

Family Services

We help families needing support in housing, education, basic needs, and general support.

Recreation & Community Events

We provide activities including: basketball, zumba, cross-fit, speed kickball, and community meals.

2016 Building Community Participants:



1,463

average number
of monthly visits
in education and
recreation services



434

Families Served



409

meals served
at Thanksgiving
community dinner



The playground installed at our CLC at Genesis Project was open for play in October of 2016! Thanks to Nordson Corporation Foundation for this incredible contribution.

2016 Volunteer Engagement

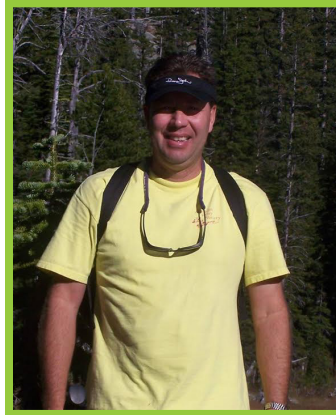
100+ hrs.

Sianna Gomez
Renee Miller
Clark Miller
Eric Wilder
Sylvia Ashley

131
Volunteers

4,168
Hours

Volunteer of the Year- Eric Wilder



Eric Wilder is a successful businessman and licensed pastor who dedicated a lot of his time to The Matthews House. He has faithfully participated in multiple Experiential Education groups and the mentoring program, even going so far as to design curriculum for activities. Eric led groups on independent living skills, and has always cared for the youth he served, being a consistent role-model in their lives.

HOST Home Program

Our HOST Home Program provides temporary housing to people 18+ years in a time of transition. Volunteers open their hearts and homes to individuals in need for 2-6 months as they work on finding permanent housing, completing school, finding a job, and much more. HOST Homes are a vital resource supporting individuals on their way to self-sufficiency.

HOST Home of the Year- Dan Boland



Dan has taken multiple young men into his home. He has provided a safe place for them during their life transition. He has been a wonderful role model and continued support even after youth completed the HOST Home Program.

“If it were not for [my HOST family], my life would still be full of problems. [They] show me how to dream big without an excuse, to have more than one option, and to be prepared for anything that comes.”

-HOST Home Participant

Donors & Finances

Contributors (\$1000+)

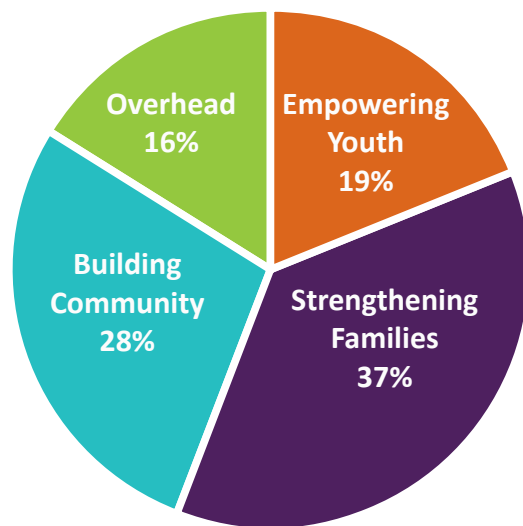
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Grants and Foundations (\$5000+)

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 The TJX Foundation
 United Way
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Major Community Partners

Food Bank for Larimer County
 Early Childhood Council of Larimer County
 Front Range Community College
 Homeless Gear
 Larimer County Dept. of Human Services
 Larimer County Workforce Center
 National Furniture Rents and Sells
 Poudre River Public Library District
 Poudre School District
 State of CO Juvenile Justice, Probation, SB94
 The Genesis Project



Total Revenue: \$2,662,293

Total Expenses: \$2,656,741

M&A and Fundraising Expense as a percent of total expenses: 16%

Contact Us

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