



Why is an  
Arapahoe House  
board member  
wearing a tutu?  
  
Open to  
find out!



## Arapahoe House

8801 Lipan Street  
Thornton, CO 80260

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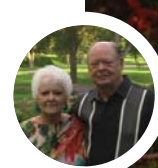
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## Arapahoe House

FALL 2010 | VOLUME 11 | ISSUE 3

# News of Substance

*A Newsletter Connecting the Community With Our Nonprofit*

Visit us on the web at [www.ArapahoeHouse.org](http://www.ArapahoeHouse.org)



### Come see Dr.Drew, host of **Celebrity Rehab, Sober House and Loveline**

**“From Hollywood Blvd to Speer Blvd the same Road to Recovery” is a brand new event**

**September 24, 2010**

Registration – 11:30 p.m

Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Seawell Grand Ballroom at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts  
Seating is limited, be sure to purchase your tickets before they sell out.

Buy online: [ArapahoeHouse.org/dr-drew](http://ArapahoeHouse.org/dr-drew) OR call 303.412.3643

**NEW!**  
Student Ticket Rates  
for Dr. Drew  
**\$50**  
Lunch Included



Concerts For Kids is a Denver-based nonprofit that produces adult-targeted events to raise funds for and awareness of local children's charities. Arapahoe House was one of 42 nonprofits that benefitted from the 5th Annual Community Day, a day of service that provides supplies and labor for facility maintenance projects. On May 22, more than 10 volunteers painted much-needed areas at our New Directions for Families facility.



### Did you hear about Colorado Giving Day?

**Save the date!** December 8, 2010 is Colorado Gives Day. Arapahoe House is participating in a new initiative that will help raise \$1 million in one day for charities. Help us bring in our share! We need your support on this special day. What's more, all donations given over a 24-hour period on December 8 are eligible for the Colorado Gives Day Incentive Fund, which will increase the value of your donation.

- 24 hours starting at 12 a.m. on December 8, 2010
- 100% goes to Arapahoe House
- Visit our profile at [givingfirst.org/AH](http://givingfirst.org/AH) and remember us on December 8! ●

### Arapahoe House Raises \$42,000 from 10th Anniversary Golf Tournament



#### Teeing off for Arapahoe House

Benefiting the Programs of Arapahoe House

and auction participation.

“In a struggling economy, many nonprofits have been forced to cut their charity golf tournaments this year,” said Aaron LaPedis, golf tournament chairman. “We feel fortunate. Arapahoe House was able to increase both the revenue from the tournament and the number of golfers by more than 50 percent this year. We also welcomed two brand new sponsors: Colorado Casualty and Lockton.”

Golfers enjoyed 18 challenging holes with prizes given to the top men's, mixed and women's foursomes. Tournament participants also enjoyed challenging contests, including a betting hole and dress up hole. At the dress up hole, participants paid \$5 each to don a tutu skirt and tee off at the women's tee box.

Arapahoe House would like to thank its sponsors: Budget Control Services, Colliers International, Colorado Auto & Parts, Fascination St. Gallery, Flood and Peterson, Lockton, Palace Construction, and Type Etc., with special thanks to Colorado Casualty for their generous support. ●

Arapahoe House is Colorado's nonprofit leader in providing affordable drug and alcohol treatment for more than 14,000 people every year.



## Arapahoe House

provides substance abuse treatment to vulnerable individuals and families in metro Denver. Since 1975, Arapahoe House has been empowering members of our community to find help, hope and healing from drugs and alcohol. Today, we help more than 14,000 members of our community every year. With 14 locations and more than 20 specialized services, Arapahoe House is Colorado's leading nonprofit provider of affordable drug and alcohol treatment. We provide substance abuse illness treatment for women and their children, teens, adults and families to help save and rebuild lives. The nationally recognized programs of Arapahoe House are designed to meet the unique treatment needs of our clients to help give them a greater chance of recovery.

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\* on both boards

## HELP

## What Philanthropy Means to Us



More than 80 community members honored Helen and Warren Hanks for their commitment to the mission of Arapahoe House on the evening of July 22. Helen and Warren are the 2010 recipients of the Ruston Award, an award created in memory of Harry and Florence Ruston's dedication and service.

We are honored to have been presented with an award named after such a dear friend and an incredible philanthropist as Florence Ruston. We were overwhelmed by the generosity and hospitality of Dick and Jeanne Saunders for hosting this event and pleased that so many joined us to celebrate this award from such an important organization.

Denver probably has more charitable causes than any other city in the U.S. We've been so fortunate to be connected with many wonderful nonprofit organizations. We wanted to share a few of our favorite experiences with you because they have meant so much; this is what philanthropy means to us.

My husband Warren and I:

- Promoted the causes of heart disease and raised funds for the American Heart Association. Women especially need to know they are at risk as much as men for heart attacks.
- Tutored elementary students in an inner city school for wonderful Colorado UpLift.
- Worked with the Children's Diabetes Foundation and enjoyed treating hundreds of diabetic kids and their families many times to a hot dog lunch and a Rockies game. Trick or treating with these same types of families at the Colorado School of Mines Halloween parties is always fun. Also, raising funds and awarding scholarships to graduating students with diabetes who are furthering their educations is exhilarating, indeed.
- Knowing that our efforts in some small way have "helped break the cycle of child abuse" for the marvelous Kempe Center is a comfort.

Last but not least, we've really enjoyed helping Arapahoe House in any way we can as they provide substance abuse treatment and mental health services to vulnerable individuals and families in metro Denver. Whether it is chairing Pillars of the Community Galas, serving on the Foundation Board or being presidents of Friends of Arapahoe House, we've been richly rewarded with the vision of this fine organization and its powerful healing services. New Directions, a program for women and their children, is a favorite of ours and we can't thank the entire staff of Arapahoe House enough for all you do for so many.

We joke that when friends see us they don't say "Hi" but "How much?" Hopefully we will be able to continue furthering the cause of Arapahoe House for years to come.

~Warren and Helen Hanks ●

## HOPE

## School Supply Drive Brings Hope to Arapahoe House Kids

All 175 children in our housing, residential, outpatient and school based programs will start the first day of school with new backpacks teeming with school supplies.

The staff at Arapahoe House would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who made our 7th annual School Supply Drive a huge success.



"Many children involved with our programs have either felt what it was like to be without supplies before or were fearful of not having them this year due to changes in their family situation," said Angela Bornemann, residential program manager at Arapahoe House. "Having school supplies is something that can boost the self esteem for a child on that already scary first day of school. The families we serve are trying to take positive steps to better their lives and they truly appreciate the kindness offered through your donation to the Arapahoe House School Supply Drive. You have made a difference to a family in recovery." ●

## HEALING

## Mother and Daughter, Healing Together



I'm a mother of an addict, words I never thought I'd say. I don't think any parent thinks they will endure what our family has gone through.

Vanessa was a tough teenager. We had typical mother daughter issues, but she started running away quite a bit. We decided that she could live with her dad in hopes that new surroundings and some space

from each other would improve things.

When her dad and I were together, we were very young and it was not for a long period of time. He welcomed the chance to have Vanessa live with him. If only I could take back that decision.

She lived with him for over a year, on and off. She'd come home for holidays, but we'd argue and she'd storm out and call her dad to come and get her.

One night, she called me crying. She finally wanted to come home. When my fiancée and I picked her up, she was wearing a ragged pair of slippers, dirty sweatpants and a tank top. She looked emaciated. She looked homeless.

She broke down and told me everything, about the drugs and other horrible things she endured. She said she and her dad were living in his car. He had taken her out of school. I was beyond shocked. After we had her safely home, I cried for what seemed like forever. The guilt I felt as a mother for not protecting my daughter was beyond excruciating.

The next day, we went to social services for help and they checked her into detox. She was having severe withdrawal symptoms from the drugs. After that, it was really hard to find inpatient treatment for her.

I was falling apart at the seams. We didn't have the money to send her anywhere either. We couldn't afford it, but absolutely couldn't afford not to send her to treatment. This is when Arapahoe House came into our lives.

From the first phone call for help to the day we checked her in and out of Arapahoe House's residential program for teens, Arapahoe House has been amazing. The counselors at the StepWise program helped her work through all the horrible things that happened to her.

During the recovery process, she revealed to me that the arguments we had (and all the storming out, calling her father to come pick her up) was because of the withdrawal she was experiencing from the drugs. Her behavior started making sense. My family and I will always be forever thankful to Arapahoe House for helping Vanessa turn 180 degrees in her life and bringing us back together.

She is a completely different teenager now. I don't think the counselors there would recognize her. Her GPA is 3.6; she'll graduate from high school in 2013. I'm so proud of her; she's a survivor. ●