

30 Years of Restoring Hope, Changing Lives



Emily Corey, Jim Benson, Sandy Madigan, Dorinne Reid, and Toni Dunrud were honored for 30 Years of Volunteering.



Newest Staff Members at the Food Bank Office (l-r) Nancy Judge; Food Bank Manager, Maggie Jones; Front Desk Receptionist, Rachel Saylor and Chris Elmgreen; Client Service Advocates. Not Pictured: Janet Shown; Assistant Director and Karen Triberti; Front Desk Receptionist.



The Staff of EChO would like to thank you for 30 Years!
We couldn't do it without our volunteers, donors and business support.
Thanks for helping us Help our Neighbors in Need.

2017 Spring Newsletter www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org



The mission of EChO is to provide assistance to residents of the Evergreen mountain communities who are unemployed, under-employed, dealing with a long term illness, or experiencing other forms of personal crisis.

### **Board of Directors**

#### **Executive Board**

Mark Hines, President Joe Niemeyer, Vice President Jean Wells, Treasurer JoAnn Vogt, Secretary Ken Carlson Ray Dowdle Jim Dries John Ellis Susie Speer

#### **Advisory Committee**

Jim Benson Pat Korbel Liz Hawkins Bud Madigan

Each year, more than 450 volunteers and hundreds of sponsors and donors make it possible for EChO to provide services that relieve suffering, restore hope and change lives. Quite literally, we couldn't do it without you.

You donate. You volunteer. You participate in our fundraisers. You help in our community garden. You purchase ads and sponsor our special events. You encourage your family, clubs and faith communities to provide grants and other contributions. You host fundraisers through your workplace and civic groups. You provide Matching Gift programs through your businesses. You forward our social media posts. We are grateful.

This year, EChO will be launching a Legacy Gift program to allow caring supporters to donate assets such as stocks, real estate, art pieces, or business interests, or other major gifts as part of a planned giving effort. We invite you to contact us for more information at 303-670-1796 or info@evergreenchristianoutreach.org.

EChO is deeply appreciative for the grant support of the following organizations that help support our client and community programs:

- Conifer Newcomers & Neighbors
- The Nathan B. and Florence R. Burt Foundation
  - The Anschutz Family Foundation
    - Energy Outreach Colorado
  - Theda and Tamblin Clark Smith Foundation
    - Sweeney Share the Love Foundation
    - Paul and Anna White Charitable Trust
      - Sampson Family Foundation
      - JR & MJ Wilson Foundation
      - Salvation Army Evergreen Unit

# Help us Celebrate 30 Years

# • "Take it to the Limit" Concert

Long Run Band (Eagle's Tribute Band) at the Lewis Barn in Marshdale August 10th

# **₩IN BIG with EChO**

Join us at Casino Night at the Elks Club **September 22nd** 

# Stomp out Hunger

at the Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning - an Evergreen Family Favorite event.

November 23rd

# 30 Years of Changing Lives.

EChO Offers HOPE—Help, Opportunities, Programs and Education—to those in need. Your support is needed to help us continue our good works.

#### Will You Make A Difference TODAY?

Your donation is appreciated.

Please make checks payable to: EChO
You can also donate now online at

THROUGH coloradogives.org

#### www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org

**EChO** can stretch your dollars. Your monthly donation of \$10—\$100 can provide:

- Summer Lunch Program
- Weekly milk & eggs for a family
- Much needed meat and vegetables
- Educational classes for seniors
- Job seeker sponsorship

# Message from the Executive Director Sharon Smith



## **EChO** is 30!

Thirty years ago several members of our faith community identified and responded to a need in our mountain community. They recognized that there were residents who were struggling to meet their most basic needs. Food, clothing, and shelter related expenses were not being met and they wanted to help. By working together they were able to combine resources and began helping families in the Evergreen area. Staffed by volunteers, this small group of determined individuals formed a non-profit and Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO) had its humble beginnings.

Fast forward thirty years and EChO is still proudly serving Evergreen and the surrounding mountain communities. While a lot has changed in thirty years, some things have not. Unfortunately, the need still remains and we have individuals and families struggling to make ends meet. Who would have thought that in 2017 we would have people in our community who go to bed hungry? Or that the high cost of living and increased land and home values would force many on fixed incomes from their family homes or make it almost impossible for many to afford to live here? Medical expenses have sky rocketed and people have found themselves dealing with circumstances and situations they never imagined.

But it's not all "doom and gloom". The past thirty years has been a learning experience and a time of growth for EChO. We have transformed from a small, volunteer outreach to a major nonprofit, area employer and a respected community leader. Paid staff now supplement and work beside the 400+ volunteers that are needed to keep our operation running efficiently. Programs have been developed and implemented to best meet the needs of our community and the residents we serve. Collaborative efforts with other agencies and organizations, as well as referrals to outside resources, have strengthened our ability to provide assistance to over 200 unique households monthly. We have learned that it is important to offer h.o.p.e – help, opportunities, programs and education to assist individuals move forward from a crisis situation towards one of sustainability.

As we celebrate 30 years of helping our wonderful community, we need to celebrate each and every one of you! Without the tremendous support of our entire community we would not be here today to celebrate our many accomplishments. We have been blessed with dedicated staff members and volunteers who are passionate about EChO and with a Board of Directors who recognize and value the service EChO provides. Local businesses, service organizations, our faith community, and individual community members have all contributed to our 30 years of success. For this we are extremely appreciative and grateful.

So, what will the future bring? No one knows, but I would have to say that the need in our community will not disappear. As our population ages we anticipate the need for services to increase. Please help us continue our good works with your continued support. We all have unique talents and gifts and we are called to use these to help others. Volunteer, donate gently used items to our Resale Shop, sponsor or participate in a food drive for EChO, purchase weekly summer lunches for an area child in need (\$10/wk x 10 weeks) or make a financial contribution – either online or by check. All contributions are greatly appreciated and needed. Or, consider joining our Board of Directors – we are currently recruiting a few new members and would love to speak with interested individuals.

Thank you for helping us reach and celebrate 30 years of service! On behalf of all the individuals who have received assistance over the past 30 years – thank you! We have made a difference in the lives of many and we will continue to do so. Here's to the next 30 years!

With gratitude and appreciation,

Sharan

# Proud Members of:







#### **EChO STAFF**

Sharon Smith Executive Director

Janet Shown
Assistant Director

Chris Elmgreen
Client Advocate

Rachel Saylor Client Advocate

Cindy Costello Bookkeeper

Nancy Judge Food Bank Manager

Lynn Kutalek Food Bank Assistant Manager

Mary Petrich Volunteer Services Director

Karen Triberti Maggie Jones Front Desk Receptionists

Beckie Mosch Jobs Program Director

Lori Frease Development Director

Kaethe Zellner Emergency Shelter Program Director

Sally Lapham
Sandra Moog
Linda Parkins
Susan Scheuermann
Enrichment Center Program
SER Trainees

#### **EChO RESALE Staff**

Kim Gaudet Manager

Roxann Berland Assistant Manager

Lisa Stewart

Backroom Supervisor

Walter Dominguez
Rick Lynch
Joe Edwards
Warehouse Donation Clerks

Scott Robinson Furniture Finisher

Samantha Austin Mary Sousa Donation Clerks

Christine Lapointe Floor Merchandiser

Les Moore Sue Foster Cashiers

Margie Molina Gary Clemons Tony Winters Resale SER Trainees

# Jobs Center Beckie Mosch, Director

The Jobs Program has a fairly short history in comparison to the 30 years that EChO has been around; however, in those few years, we have assisted many in our community to move forward. In 2012, the EChO Jobs Program launched its beginning services. By 2014, the program had grown and became housed in the Evergreen North Shopping Center by the EChO Resale Shop, where we currently reside. Last year, 696 services were provided to educate and employ many in our community. We are growing exponentially this year by hosting the Mountain Area Job Fair and offering more community trainings. Fitting with our mission statement, we supported the needs of job seekers, employers and our mountain community.

Our recent Mountain Area Job Fair hosted 50+ employers that ranged from a wide variety of industries and sizes ranging from large retail stores to small private employers. The businesses represented spanned the mountain side from as far away as Central City, up to Idaho Springs, down to Golden, across Evergreen, to Conifer and back up the other side of the mountain to Bailey. Many job seekers of all ages came to meet the employers, hand out resumes and become employed. Computers were available for job seekers to fill out applications on the spot. Employer spaces were provided to conduct interviews and some job seekers became employed on the spot.

Supporting our community is our focus this year. New classes have been brought in to fulfill the needs of all residents. In January, Jefferson County Business Resource Center taught 2 classes and provided small business counseling appointments in our training room. When February rolled in, we offered Tech Time at the Senior Resource Center. March was the month we focused on 3 computer trainings, one of them being volunteer led. The April schedule provided weekly support from Jefferson Center for Mental Health, with their wellness class, Taming the Anxious Mind. We welcomed all to our trainings and were excited to meet people in our community.

The success of the Jobs Program, this year, is attributed to increased volunteer support. Many more in our community can be encouraged to move forward with increased knowledge and skills through the services of these professionals. If you have a professional talent that you would be willing share with those that seek guidance at the Jobs Center, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Petrich. January through March we have already provided 218 services; continue to watch us grow in the community, in the upcoming months.

#### **ECHO IS ON FACEBOOK!**

Please check us out!
"Like Us" and "Friend Us"
to keep spreading the good news.

Evergreen Christian Outreach
and EChO Resale Shop



#### **Upcoming Events - MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

#### May

27 - Trunk Sale at EChO Resale - you can rent a spot to sell your items or you can come on this day to buy craft items (yarn, material, handmade crafts, beads, etc) Visit the website for more information.

#### June

- 5 Summer Lunches Start
- 10 9Cares Colorado Shares at Bergen King Soopers
- 15 100 Holes of Golf Fundraiser

#### July

8 & 9 - Triple Bypass - Volunteers needed on the 9th 17 - Andy Smith Golf Tournament at Hiwan

#### August

10 - Long Run Band (Eagle's Tribute Band) Concert @ Lewis Barn in Marshdale

#### September

22 - 30th Anniversary Party/Casino Night Fundraiser

#### November

- 18 9Cares Colorado Shares at Bergen King Soopers
- 17 Thanksgiving Concert
- 23 Turkey Trot

#### December

5 - Colorado Gives Day

19-21 Christmas/Holiday Meals and Children's Gifts

Please check the website for specific events as times and/or dates may change.

## www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org

#### **Contact Us:**

Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO)
P.O. Box 1515 Evergreen, CO 80437-1515

Physical Address: 27640 Hwy 74

Phone: 303-670-1796 Fax: 303-679-2721 Food Bank Hours Monday 10 am – 6 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 am – 4 pm

Jobs Center: 303-670-7123

Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10am-3pm

EChO Resale Shop: 303-679-8280 3763 North Evergreen Parkway

Located in the Evergreen North Shopping Center EChOresaleshop@evergreenchristianoutreach.org Store hours – Monday- Saturday 10 am – 5 pm Donations accepted Mon-Sat 10 am – 4 pm

info@evergreenchristianoutreach.org



# Food Bank

# Nancy Judge, Manager Lynn Kutalek, Assistant Manager

Shopping in the Food Bank has been brisk during late winter and early spring. EChO began distributing TEFAP, a federally-subsidized supplemental food program, last November. After tweaking the distribution a bit here and there, we have doubled the number of clients who partake in this monthly program from 60 families, now upwards of 120 families. The week before Easter, we distributed hams,

potatoes, pineapple, pies, dried mangos, and other holiday items to 141 families and made sure 79 kiddos had candy-filled baskets! The volunteers over the last few months have been amazing, bringing in donations and getting all the food prepared and broken down.

As we look ahead, there are some wonderful things to look forward to for our shoppers. The Community Garden will be cleaned-up and prepped for planting at the end of April. Volunteers have already started plants at their own homes and we will wait-out Mother Nature until after Memorial Day before they are moved to the Community Garden. All summer long, volunteers will tend and water the gardens and deliver the harvest to the Food Bank.

Two large food drives will be happening over May and June. Flatirons Church will host a food drive on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 9Cares Colorado Shares food drive happens on June 10<sup>th</sup>. This will help sustain the Food Bank over the summer months, including the additional food we provide to families with school-aged children. This "summer lunch" program looks to alleviate the additional burden on families to feed their children when they are not in school.

We are blessed to have so many in the community who

volunteer at the Food Bank on a weekly or monthly basis in addition to those who willingly take on special projects. With the mild winter, our wood pantry is still quite full and we appreciate all those who have helped keep it that way this past winter.

# Hand to our Mountain Neighbors in Nee Evergreen Christian Outreach 30 Years of Restoring Hope, Changing Lives Join Our EChO Team A growing non-profit focused on assisting our community. **16-32 Hour Positions Open** PT Supervisor Warehouse Clerk **Donation Clerk** \*Temp & Summer Help Interested applicants please stop by the store For application/job description Send cover letter, resume & applications to: Kim@EvergreenChristianOutreach.org

# Resale Store

#### Kim Gaudet

Resale Shop Manager

The EChO Resale Shop was born in the year **2000**; 14 years into Evergreen Christian Outreach's 30 years of existence. Dorinne Reid and Liz Begalla believed the shop would benefit EChO in uncertain and unstable times. It opened on Meadow Drive and was approx. 600 sq. ft. Their vision was always to have it look upscale but also to be affordable to assist EChO's clients from the food bank.

The shop moved to the Evergreen North Shopping Center in **2001** and double in size to 1,200 sq. ft. In **2002**, the shop had an opportunity to expand into the Stefano's space; adding an additional 2,000 sq. ft., totaling approx. 3,400 sq. ft.

In **2004,** Kim Gaudet and Doni Nelson came from managing Whitney House to try their hand in managing the shop. After a bit Doni retired and Kim carried on the original dream for resale. In **2008,** D&J Office Supply left the shopping center and again EChO decided to expand 1,200 sq. ft., totaling approx. 4,800 sq. ft.

The store was doing well and the response from the community was strong with clothing and furniture donations. In **2012**, the addition of the 16' EChO Resale truck was a reality. In

**2013**, following that huge step, would be the expansion into the Chow Down & Old Shanghi space; adding an additional 5,000 sq. ft., totaling approx. 9,800 sq. ft. The space would hold more than three times the amount of furniture and enlarged the linen section.

Unexpectedly in **2015**, Kitchen and Bath closed their doors. EChO decided to move the furniture and linens back over to the original store. This move enabled the store to have showrooms to display the furniture. At this point the store is

approx. 10,000 sq. ft. in size. 2017, we are planning on finishing the furniture intake/processing warehouse, refinishing area, auction office and inventory warehouse.

Like all the amazing growth and change of Evergreen Christian Outreach in the last 30 years; EChO Resale and Home Furnishings Store has also grown into an amazing business over the years. Thank you to all who contributed throughout the years to this fantastic store and organization!

## FOOD BANK NEEDS

- Hearty soups (5 grams of protein min)
- Cold & Hot Cereal
- Canned Beans black, pinto, refried, kidney, white & chili
- Toilet Paper
- Peanut Butter
- Laundry Soap
- Dish Soap
- Coffee
- Toothpaste

- Razors & Bar Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Sugar
- Whole Grain anything
- Canned Fruit & Veggies
- Gift Cards \$5-\$25 Walmart, King Soopers,

BOLD indicates urgently needed

item

# **Client Services**

# Chris Elmgreen and Rachel Saylor

Client Advocates

### Striving to meet changing needs over 30 Years

Client services is proud to carry on our 30-year tradition of serving the Evergreen community. Rachel and Chris of Client

Services are working hard to discover new resources and to develop stronger relationships with our existing partners. In our quest to acquire new resources we could establish the need for additional programs. We are extremely excited about launching our veterans program.

We partnered with Clear Creek County's Veteran Services Officer

(VSD) to help veterans apply for compensation and pension. We have made ourselves available to assist with defendants and victims in veteran's court. In May, we will be taking a bus full of local veterans on our first of many trips to Volunteers of America. Our veterans will be able to seek a variety of services including mental health assistance, legal advice and finding housing. EChO has recently housed one Veteran! In addition to VOA, we have resources for our aging veterans who need help with in home care, trips to the VA for medical appointments and so much more.

By working collaboratively with local, state and county resources, Client Services has been successful in obtaining additional help and services for residents of our mountain community. These partnerships provide a variety of services to assist specific client groups and needs. Our partnerships include; Senior Resource Center, Jefferson Center for Mental Health, Mt Evans Hospice, The Arc, Jefferson County Adult Protective Services, Jefferson County Long Term Care coordinator and the Jefferson County Sheriff's office. In addition to other local County Human Service Agencies in Clear Creek, Gilpin and Park county.

Our community's increasing rental rates and lack of housing has resulted in EChO seeing an influx of working people, elderly and the disabled in dire situations. We have paired with many institutions like the Colorado Department of housing, the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and nonprofits. By exploring out of the box solutions for those in need, like the Sunshine Home

Share Program that pairs caring adults with elderly residents who need companionship, Client Services is working to keep community members safely housed.

A special thanks to a notable, among many, local businesses who have stepped up to provide services to those in need through client services in our community: Animal-Assisted Therapy of the Mountain Communities and Lam Tree Services.

Client Services is striving to serve the ever-changing complex needs of our community in a compassionate and equitable way to allow individuals to be successful through collaborative efforts, relationships, services and empowerment.

## Kaethe Zellner

Our veterans will be able to

seek a variety of services

including mental health

assistance, legal advice and

aid finding housing.

**Emergency Shelter Program Director** 

#### First Year for the Emergency Shelter Program

We have had a successful year of sheltering individuals on the coldest of winter nights while providing a supportive and

nurturing environment. ESP closed for the season on April 30th, 2017.

ESP was conceived by At Home in Evergreen, a group of concerned citizens who realized that there is a very real need in the Evergreen area for affordable housing. Additionally the need for immediate shelter was recognized and the idea for ESP was hatched. AT Home teamed up with EChO, the Seniors' Resource Center and religious congregations and the ESP Leadership Group was formed. The ESP Leadership Group participating

organizations include: Congregation Beth Evergreen, Evergreen Lutheran Church, Bergen Park Church, Church of the Transfiguration, The Sanctuary, Church of the Hills, Christ the King Catholic Church, Evergreen Christian Church, United Methodist Church, the Seniors' Resource Center, The Evergreen Rotary, At Home in Evergreen and EChO.

One of the most common questions asked when talking about ESP is - Is homelessness really a problem in Evergreen? The simple answer is yes, but in Evergreen, many of the people who have needed shelter do not fit the stereotype most often associated with homelessness. Most are living in cars or vans, tents or on the couches of friends and are therefore hidden from public awareness.

EChO also feels strongly that the need for shelter is real. Between August 2016 and April of 2017, EChO registered 28 individuals to use the shelter. At least another 20 individuals and/or families (ESP did not shelter families this year) were provided information about ESP, but did not choose to register. ESP was open 47 nights and provided 110 person/nights of shelter to 8 individuals between December 2016 and April 2017. The support guests received at the shelter and through EChO's Client Services team enabled a number of the regular guests to move on to improved situations. Two guests obtained permanent housing and one guest moved to a substance abuse transitional housing program.

One of the most common questions asked when talking about ESP is - *Is homelessness really a problem in Evergreen?* 

None of this could not have been achieved without the support of the amazing ESP volunteers and additional supporting organizations. Since February of 2016, ESP conducted 5 volunteer trainings, trained 161 individuals,

with 112 individuals contributing over 1,664 volunteer hours!

A big thank you to all the host sites, all the volunteers who worked on the planning and implementation of the program, cooked or served meals, provided transportation, created a caring and supportive environment, and a **HUGE** thank you to the team of volunteers that volunteered 10-11 sleepless hours to monitor the shelter overnight.

# Volunteers

Mary Petrich, Volunteer Services Director

# Five Star Volunteers Total 150 Years of Service

Thirty years ago three churches recognized a need in the community and decided to collaborate on an endeavor that became the foundation of Evergreen Christian Outreach. That first year this all volunteer effort provided food for five or six families. Anyone who would walk in to the current food bank would be surprised to learn that it had such humble beginnings. Even more surprising is that some of the founding members are still actively engaged as volunteers to this day.

Sandy Madigan, Jim Benson, Emily Corey, Toni Dunrud and Dorinne Reid were volunteers thirty years ago who lent their time and talents to bring the fledgling organization to fruition.

When asked how they came together to pioneer this undertaking, the answers are varied but with common themes. They expressed a profession of faith and a desire to work in their own community to help those less fortunate. In the beginning they all assumed roles as necessity demanded. Whether it was stocking shelves, checking in clients, sorting clothing or cleaning floors, they all pitched in on the task at hand. Sandy Madigan expanded her role by serving a term as President of the Board of Directors and then followed with eight years as Executive Director. Jim Benson, along with Evergreen Fellowship, were instrumental in expanding the food bank and moving it from the closet to the cabin above the church. Dorinne Reid dove into the operations side of the organization. She worked as food bank manager and donated her time as Volunteer Coordinator before going on to work with Liz Begalla to develop and manage the EChO Resale Shop. Emily served as President of the Board for two terms in addition to working the reception desk for many years. Toni's, Sandy's and Dorinne's husbands also were active in EChO administration as they all served terms as President on the Board of Directors. Their hearts were in the mission and their devotion shows to this day.

Sandy can be found at the EChO Resale Shop backroom pricing the donated items for sale. Toni Dunrud and Dorinne both work on the floor and register at the store. Until recently sidelined by health issues, Emily was a Resale Shop volunteer whose welcoming smile was appreciated by all. Jim Benson continues to provide valued input by serving on the Advisory Board for the EChO Board of Directors.

Thirty years is quite a history on which to reflect. We hope they can view the current EChO organization with pride and know that they all had an integral part in making it the highly regarded entity that it is today. Their vision, hard work, faith and caring ways set the standard for all who follow in their footsteps.

# How can you help?



Help fund the summer lunch program through Evergreen Christian Outreach. Our summer lunch program has grown each year and we anticipate the need to be even greater this year!

We need your help to continue this program and to purchase healthy and nutritious choices for families.

Our buying power enables us to purchase more food for less money.

□\$10 purchases lunches for **one student for one week**□\$30 purchases lunches for **one student for one month**□\$100 purchase lunches for **one student for entire summer.**□Any amount appreciated.

Please send checks to P.O. Box 1515, Evergreen, CO 80437 or go to www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org and click on the Donate Now button to donate safely and securely.

Thank you in advance for your support!

# **Cars for Charity**

Is your car aging? Time to do something with it? Even if it isn't running, or simply not worth trading in, consider donating it to Cars for Charity on the EChO website. It is so easy.

Once you open the Evergreen Christian Outreach website click on ABOUT EChO. Go to Donate. Click on Donate then go to Cars Help Charities. Click on that box. They pick up your automobile for free. You receive a tax deductible receipt and EChO receives a check.

So easy! Keep it in mind.

And thank you to all that have used this program to help support EChO. We appreciate your donations.



# TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE



The Evergreen Can! Evergreen Dam sculpture event sent 1.5 tons of food items to our food bank making it the most creative and one of the most successful food drives. Yay!!!! Thank you to Cactus Jacks, Go Paint!, Aspen's Consignment, Twig's Consignment Boutique, Baskin Robbins, Mayas Cantina, Beau Jos, Seasonally Yours, Evergreen Crafters, Where The Books Go. Vivian's Gourmet, Wilmot Elementary, Parmalee Elementary and RMAE.



# DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 8 Coloradoans struggle with hunger (not always having enough money to buy food)
- 1 in 5 Colorado children may not know when or where they'll get their next meal
- More than 1 in 7 Colorado seniors struggle with having enough food (needing to choose between groceries or medication).
- Nearly 1 in 6 Colorado households with children report food hardship, an inability to afford adequate food.

# Save the Date - August 10th

# Colorado's Tribute To The Eagles

