



Community of Caring

Respect, Responsibility, Trust, Caring and Family

Fall/Winter 2026

Volume IV-Issue I

A PLACE FOR KIDS

Childcare Center and Exploatorium for Cripple Creek



GROUNDBREAKING!



From the Executive Director: Ted Borden

Hope does not disappoint! The groundbreaking for "A Place for Kids" happened September 9th. It was a glorious day in the neighborhood! The picture on the front page is worth a thousand words.

The graphic above shows me flying. This is an appropriate picture describing the pace here, "flying!" On November 13th, we received the great news from Rep Brittney Pettersen's office regarding the Community Projects Funding allocation of \$1,015,000 to "A Place for Kids". We have now raised \$3.5 million for the project. On October 29th, we opened 5 contractor bids. Going forward, we have decided to rebid the project in the spring to avoid the pitfalls of winter, increase our fundraising efforts, and add a value-engineering component to the existing plans. During this time we will continue to explore and advance a partnership with an experienced childcare provider.

The City of Cripple Creek have been stellar in their effort to lead this project forward. Their governance and experiential knowledge have helped us face many challenges. Their on-going support for the childcare has been steadfast and faithful. Thank you!

And...thank you to all our donors. If it was a dollar or a million and everything in between, your gifts are the Hope for our future – "A Place for Kids." God Bless All of You! I will continue to apprise you of our altitude, vertical-height status. Watch for me in the sky! And pray brethren.

Ted Borden

HELP US!

NO FACILITY = NO CHILDCARE



FUNDS STILL NEEDED!!!

CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION TAX CREDIT

Community of Caring is now designated to receive qualifying monetary contributions from businesses, employers, and individuals to help establish A Place For Kids.

Gain your maximum tax advantage through the Child Care Contribution Tax Credit (CCCTC):

a 50% State Tax Credit of the total contribution

Scan the QR Code, or Text "PLACE4KIDS" to 44-321

**Questions? Contact
Community of Caring
Fundraising & Development
Office at 719.912.5013**



VOLUNTEERS

EXCEPTIONAL

TONY TUVERA



Who is this Tony Tuvera? Tony is a twenty-year member of our Aspen Mine Center family. He is our Welcome-Wagon, our goodwill ambassador, jokester, teller of tall tales, and faithful dishwasher for our Wednesday meals.

Recently, we celebrated Tony's 56th Birthday. It was a big bash, a parade down main street led by the EMT's and Fire Department, sirens, shouting, cheering. Then a meal followed, attended by his family, friends and community members. All enjoyed a huge cake, Tony opening his presents, and a surprise visit from the San Francisco 49ers spokesman. In all, everyone was there to share their love and care for Tony.

In April, Tony was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. We were all there to bring him strength, but he gave us strength! He has grown in increasing faith and intuitively knows the comfort of a personal Savior. "God walks with me and I know it!" We love our Tony. THANK YOU TONY!!!

PAYING IT FORWARD

It was "slim pickins!" Was the June box of Commodities worth the gas money to pick it up? NO! In fact, this scenario had become problematic. Over the last few years, the amount of food we were getting each month from Care and Share was dwindling. So we have supplemented the box, buying food from the store, begging for donations, borrowing from the pantry. We started the Commodities program in 2002 to supplement the nutritional needs of Teller County low income families and individuals. Today, through this program we serve 120 households monthly, with additional boxes for Seniors.

Back to the month of June- the scarcity of food was even greater. Then, out of the blue, an anonymous donor, without knowing our circumstances, wanted to bolster the offering of the commodities box. His instructions were clear. Put a \$50 bill in each commodities box in an unmarked envelope, saying "God Bless You." He mentioned the times when he was down on his luck and how food pantries had sustained him. He had been fortunate to come into money, and this was his way of "Paying it Forward." In terms of being anonymous, he quoted Matthew 6:3, "Do not let your right hand know what your left hand is doing."



**BEST OF
TELLER**

**AMC Thrift and Gift Shop
Congratulations!**



PROGRAM NEWS



Meet Ann Wallace

Ann joins Annie Durham under the direction of Shanon Conley at the Adult Career Connection Center (ACCC). Ann comes to us with extensive experience as an educator and business administrator. Welcome aboard Ann! Over the past two decades, Community of Caring has had a dynamic and positive partnership with the Pikes Peak Workforce Center (PPWFC). Our employment specialists help clients navigate the unemployment system, provide resume writing/ interview skills, submission of polished applications for employment. The targetted focus are jobs with livable wages through new skill, upskill, or reskill.

The ACCC is taking career development one step further. It is a collaboration between the Aspen Mine Center, PPWFC and the RE-1 School District. It is designed to meet the unique needs of the community by offering targeted career development, workforce training, and small business assistance.

The ACCC plays a critical role in promoting economic mobility for individuals facing employment barriers. Through structured case management, foundational education and literacy, employer partnerships, and wraparound services, the program supports jobseekers, entrepreneurs, and emerging workers as they navigate and sustain meaningful employment.


Since joining the project, Ann has made significant progress. By the first week of October, Ann had 74 participants at the Center as well as 58 participants enrolled in partner classes. Good Job Ann, Annie and Shanon!

MONEY SMART
Free Laptop with Successful Completion

FINANCIAL STRENGTH CLASS
Adults and Teens Welcome

No Charge


FOR INFORMATION ON NEXT CLASS SCHEDULE
Call Shanon Conley at 719.689.3584 ext. 120
FDIC Curriculum



Buying a Home
Using Credit Cards

Building Your Financial Future
Credit Reports and Scores

Managing Debt
Borrowing Basics

Your Spending and Saving Plan
Sponsorship By: 

IT'S LEAP SEASON!

Make an appointment with us to help get you get signed up for LEAP and other energy assistance programs!

**SENIOR FUN AT AMC!
BINGO! TUESDAY 10:30AM
MEXICAN TRAIN! THURSDAY 11:00AM**

Please help us support those in need in our community by signing up to Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army this holiday season
<https://www.salvationarmy.org/signup.com/group/24572227809>



DOING THE MOST GOOD

Teller County Salvation Army

COMMON GROUNDS COFFEE SHOP ROASTS

The Common Grounds Coffee Shop at the Aspen Mine Center is dedicated to Service Learning. Volunteers and Interns learn about service to their community, learn to run a coffee shop, become a barista, roast coffee, and gain food service industry certifications. Come in and grab a pound or a cup of fresh roasted coffee, or a quick bite to eat!

We proudly roast the best coffee beans from Sumatra, Guatemala, Rwanda, and Peru!

Common Grounds is open Thursday-Saturday 8am-3pm

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS IN THE GOLD CAMPS EVENT SCHEDULE



November 28th: Headframe Lighting Begins

November 29th: Tree Lighting in Pocket Park

December 11th: 4:30 Winter Wonderland Community Party

December 12th: 11:30 Soup For The Soul & GGC Cookie Contest

6:00 Victor Parade of Lights & Holiday Party at the Victor Elks

December 13th: 9:00 Holiday Craft Fair CC Parks and Rec Center

12:00 Cripple Creek Christmas Parade & Santa

3:30 Colorado Springs Chorale Fundraiser for AMC

December 17th: 12:30 Time For Teens

December 18th: 4:30 Toys for Tots



Please see website cocamc.org

Community of Caring Celebrates 25 Years!

Mark your calendars for June 2nd, 2026 for our Annual Fundraising Gala and help us celebrate the silver anniversary of

Community of Caring Foundation and the building of "A Place for Kids" Childcare Center!

Call Lisa Noble at 719-912-5013 for more information and reservations



Community Christmas Dinner

December 17th, 2025 11:30-2:00

Graciously hosted by



CRIPPLE CREEK
& VICTOR

We are Thankful to
all our sponsors!



P.O. Box 1587
Cripple Creek, CO 80813

CONTACT US!

Mary Bielz, CoC Board Chairperson
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Shanon Conley, Client Services Director
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ASPEN MINE CENTER IN-HOUSE SERVICES

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY MEALS
FOOD PANTRY / COMMODITIES
SENIOR CASE MANAGEMENT
COUNSELING / ADVOCACY
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
COMMUNITY SERVICE
FINANCIAL HEALTH
CLOTHES CLOSET
THRIFT STORE

For Information regarding COC & AMC services, programs and events, SCAN the above code, VISIT our website, CALL 719-689-3584. OPEN 9AM - 4PM, M-F excepting holidays. The Thrift Store is open Tues. through Sat. 10 AM - 4PM.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Building a healthy community and individual self-sufficiency by promoting the values of respect, responsibility, trust, caring and family.

VISION: Actively employ resources, programs and collaborative partnerships to build a vibrant, healthy community, and strategically promote, implement, and sustain systems change.

VALUES: Respect, Responsibility, Trust, Caring, Family.

STAY CONNECTED WITH AMC @ cocamc.org / Tele. 719.689.3584