



Note from Deb

By Deb Sanders, Founder

Eight years have passed since the Mommy Rocks dream came to fruition. Over five hundred moms and six hundred babies (we had several sets of twins and triplets) have been referred to us by agencies in our community that believe a rocking chair will benefit the moms they serve through parenting classes, pre-natal care and nutrition classes.

At times our selection of rocking chairs has been meager, but thanks to many of you, we have never had to turn away a mom. Towards the end of

2009 our “headquarters” at St. Paul’s was looking pretty empty. With your generous support we were able to re-stock our supply with a variety of rockers that will allow us to serve more moms. It is important that we have different styles, shapes and sizes of chairs that allow a mom to choose a chair that fits her and her baby comfortably.

As I thank you for your support in this issue, I would like to share with you some of the many “Thank You” notes we received this year. They are meant not only for me

and our volunteers, they are for you as well! I hope you appreciate the sentiment of each note as I did when I read them.

In this issue I would like to point out that we are planning several fun events this year and hope you will join us. There should be something for everyone this year. Book Fairs (shop on line this year!), a Tea to celebrate our Moms, a garage sale and a wine tasting...so be sure and jot down the dates of these events.

Please see “Invitation” on page four

Thank You Notes

This past year as every year we see moms and dads alone or parents and grandparents and agency mentors who accompany new moms to pick out their rocking chair and every one of them has a story to tell. Like your family and my family no two are alike. Some are unemployed, divorced, single, have more than one child, serve in the military, work two or three jobs, or don’t have transportation. Some are from out of state with no support other than the agency that referred them to Mommy Rocks! The one thing they have in common is Mommy Rocks. As small as that is their appreciation of the support is evident when

they leave us, and we are very thankful for that!

Here are a few thank you notes we have received. Remember, “you” means everyone who supports us.

“I want to thank you about everything you made for us, and I hope God gives you that great big heart for a long time to continue helping families so much. God bless you.” **Sandra and Luis**

“I wrote this message to you and keep trying to get it just right, and discovered that the words ‘Thank You’ just aren’t enough to express the love that I feel pouring out of you for other people. We, Tageu and I, will remember your

kindness and will treasure our chair during our life and journey. P.S. You’re one in a million” **Carole & Tageu**

“Thank you for the rocking chair and baby gear! God bless you!” **Anna M.**

“As my grand daughter turns three in January we have so much to be thankful and grateful for. My daughter is a single mom who just gave birth to her second daughter last week. Besides that, when she was pregnant with her first (Vanessa) she and the baby were so blessed by the rocker and goods received through your organization. We felt when receiving your (continued on page 3)

Mommy Rocks “Rocks” Across State Lines!

Our chairs have traveled across state lines with their owners and have been delivered to several parts of Colorado. The support from within the state is widespread, from Haxtun, Rifle, Salida and Fort Lupton to name a few. What comes in from outside our community is amazing! Special

thanks to those of you out of state who send monetary donations as well as hand made blankets, CD’s, bibs, diapers and other goodies that help support moms here and Mommy Rocks! I am sure I will miss someone so I will list the cities and states, you’ll know who you are!



Madeline and Mommy Rocks



Christ on the Mountain Catholic Church in Lakewood has long been a great supporter of Mommy Rocks. During the summer of 2009 the Vacation Bible School (VBS) learned about Mommy Rocks and what the program does for new moms. Mommy Rocks was the focus of the church service project

this particular summer.

Madeline’s story was reported by her mom, Sue McElroy. “One morning, the children learned about donating money and baby items. Madeline woke up for VBS the next day and came out of her room with her pink piggy bank. It contained all the money she had been saving. She asked if she could give it to the babies through Mommy Rocks! Needless to say, I was very proud of her. I asked her how much she wanted to give and she said, ‘All of it! There are a lot of babies who need it more than I do.’ She was very happy to give her hard-earned money to such an incredibly worthy cause.”

Advisory Board Update

We welcome newest Advisory Board Member, Janna Hewen. Janna is a Lakewood resident and a part time City of Lakewood employee. She will add not only her talents of organizing and event planning but also her upbeat and fun personality that everyone who meets her will enjoy!

Advisory board members Sheryl Clossen, Linda Henry, Pat Lonon and Gerri Schiel continue to give of their time and talent to support Mommy Rocks.

Agencies Give Back

So often those who Mommy Rocks serves want to “pay it forward” and help others in need. In 2009 both the Jefferson County Nurses and Tri-County WIC gave back to Mommy Rocks. They took time to say thanks by making sure we had a few more rocking chairs, diapers and blankets to distribute. Tri-County WIC held a Rocking

Chair Round-Up in October and several chairs were donated along with diapers. Before we left the site we even surprised a mom with a rocking chair. It was fun for the staff to see the reaction on her face as she chose from the chairs that they helped collect. The Jefferson County Nurses made blankets and decorated rocking chairs and

presented them to us in December at our Silent Auction.

It is great to know that Mommy Rocks makes a difference to those who spend so much of their time and energy working directly with so many moms and babies as they guide them toward becoming more responsible parents.



Be Green

Did you know that a typical Mommy Rocks newsletter costs around \$700 to create and distribute? That is equal to what we would spend on around **6** rocking chairs, **23** cases of newborn diapers, **350** packages of baby wipes, or **140** children's books!

Help Mommy Rocks be greener and save money by joining our e-newsletter. Just send your name and e-mail address to information@mommyrocks.org. That's it! We promise to never sell your information to other groups or flood your email box with junk mail. You can even go back to the paper version at any time if you change your mind. So what are you waiting for? Please help us reduce our carbon footprint and serve more moms!

Thank You Notes (continued from page 1)

letter for support that we happily wanted to "pay it forward." I hope this will help another young mother and her baby. Thanks for all you do." **Kathy P.**

"Thank you so much for all the wonderful gifts, especially the rocking chair. It's absolutely perfect. You have a huge heart and are an amazing woman for doing what you do with these mothers. The world needs more people like you. Thank You." **Keirsten C.**

"I just want to thank you for everything that you have done for me. I appreciate you so much for all the baby items you gave me. They will be of great use." **Audrey and baby to be...**

"Please accept my donation for the wonderful service you provide to young mothers, you have given them hope, and they are not alone. The kindness and generosity from you has made their journey in life a tad easier to deal with. A very special thank you and sincere appreciation for the beautiful rocker and goody bag from Shannon & Matt.

....finding out about your non-profit organization had made this one of the happiest, most memorable days I have had. How kind and thoughtful for providing me transportation with the rocker and goody bag. My wish for you is 'May your kindnesses return to you, in the same beautiful way it was given.' God Bless." **Pam B. (Grandmother of Shannon)**

What's Happening

Please mark your calendar for this year's Mommy Rocks events. You can find out more at www.mommyrocks.org and on our Facebook page.

- Saturday, June 26: Afternoon Tea (more on page 4 of this newsletter)
- Friday-Sunday, July 22-24: Garage Sale, 100% to Mommy Rocks
- Saturday, September 25: Wine Tasting and Great Italian Food
- Saturday, October 30: Barnes and Noble Book Fair



2009 Donors

Great Oak Level (over \$1000)

Walnut Level (donors \$500-\$999)

- Dee Hayes
- St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Children's Charity
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Maple Level (donors \$100-\$499)

- Sal & Pam Costa
- Craig Sanders
- Les Martin
- Jim & Lou Ann Dale
- Debbie Newton
- Gwen Piehn
- Charlotte Shepic
- Deb Sanders
- Sheryl Clossen & family
- Alison Buckley
- Tri-County Sunshine Committee
- Rich & Peggy Corbetta

Cedar Level (donors \$50-\$99)

- Kathryn Robinson & family
- Kate Lamere
- Sue O'Dell
- Veronica Hoegler
- Joan Dawson
- Bill & Geri Harris
- Pam Bliss
- Linda Fuller
- Julie Vanek
- Stephanie Phippen
- Ann Mezo
- Mil & Bernita Lundquist
- Isabel Sanders

Golden Aspen (Corp. Supporters)

- Barnes & Noble Denver West
- Mad Greens, Lakewood
- Village Roaster, Lakewood
- Dickies Barbeque, Lakewood
- Centerplate Catering, Boulder

Olive Tree (Faith Communities)

- Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood
- Saint Thomas More Parish Children's Charity, Centennial
- Christ on the Mountain Catholic Church, Lakewood

Little Bear Chair Level (Kids who support Mommy Rocks)

Madeline McElroy and all the VBS kids from Christ on the Mountain Catholic Church in Lakewood (see the story about Madeline in this issue)

Mommy Rocks

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**Mommy Rocks is a project
of the Colorado Nonprofit
Development Center.**



Mommy Rocks

Make donations payable to:
CNDC FBO Mommy Rocks.

Mission Statement

To provide first time mothers
and their infants a “place” of
their own as small as it might
be to continue the life long
bonding and loving process.

Advisory Board

Deb Sanders
Sheryl Clossen
Linda Henry
Gerri Schiel
Pat Lonon
Janna Hewen



Invitation

Join us for Afternoon Tea at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

9200 W 10th Ave, Lakewood -Saturday, June 26th - 1:30-4 PM

A tea to celebrate mothers & their babies served by Mommy Rocks

Suggested per person contribution to attend event \$20.00

Please bring your favorite tea cup and saucer and enjoy an afternoon
of good food and friends. Meet our 500th mom along with Cari Wallenberg, who will
be joining us from Oklahoma to sing her original song, “Mama’s Rocking Chair.”

Mommy Rocks is a project of the Colorado Nonprofit Development Center a 501 ^(c)(3) organization



Reservation Required

Please make your donation payable to CNDC FBO Mommy Rocks and return to

Mommy Rocks PO BOX 261033 Lakewood CO 80226 by June 18th

Please reserve ___ tickets. Our contribution to Mommy Rocks for the Tea is
\$ _____.

(We can accommodate 5-6 people in a group sitting at the same table if desired.) Check one:

My guests can be seated at two tables ___ Please set all my guests at the same table ___

I cannot attend but will enjoy a cup of tea and remember Mommy Rocks with my gift of
\$ _____. Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Please include list of additional attendees

A Mother’s Day Tribute

Mommy Rocks gave away our very first
rocking chair on Mother’s Day 2002. So
for all the moms out there as well as the
moms we have served and hope to serve
in the future, we share this special day
with you. Happy Mother’s Day to you!



Baby Reading to Her Mother

She is tired of her dolly,
And tired of her play,
And she thinks she will read
To her mother today.

So, seated on the carpet,
This little Kitty Brown
Reads story after story
Though the book is upside down.
By M.D.B.



Mother and Child

A mother’s love begins
Before the child is born
And lasts through time
And difficulties
And differences
And many wounds
And days of joy
And days of sorrow
Winding, wearing
Weeping, sharing
Changing
Until, at the end
What remains
Is that solid core
That began as love
Before the child was born.
Anonymous