



CBR YOUTHCONNECT

Creating Connections that Inspire Change

Showing Up for Youth and Families

Preventing Trauma in the Era of COVID-19

With the shutdown of business and schools in early March, many families were stuck in their home in a variety of situations. Some found the time allowed their families to get closer and create strong connections, while others experienced an increase in trauma from abuse and neglect.

It was these kids and families that CBR YouthConnect (CBRYC) has and will continue to serve throughout this pandemic. We have been there since day one, providing eyes-on services in-person when possible and through video-chatting software when not. Because of this, we were able to be there when other people in their lives could not.

We have been able to serve over 800 youth and family members since March of 2020 because we never closed our doors and never pulled back our support. We will continue to be there to prevent trauma and provide support no matter what the rest of 2020 and the new year brings.

“CBR YouthConnect’s mission is to connect children, youth and families with the resources and inspiration to become hopeful and productive citizens.”

Fall 2020



What Does it Mean to Be an Essential Mental Health Care Worker?

[More Details](#)



Impacting 2,000 lives annually throughout 19 different counties, 7 judicial districts, and 4 partner agencies in Colorado.

[Read our Impact Statement](#)

Member of: Colorado Association of Family and Children's Agencies

www.CBRYouthConnect.org

12567 West Cedar Drive • Suite 101 • Lakewood, Colorado 80228 • 303.691.6095



Joy in Feeling Safe

CBRYC's Home-Based Program Makes a Teen Feel Safe

Duane, a young teenager, hadn't been attending school for several months. He was extremely anxious and depression kept him from getting out of bed most days. His father seemed to have very little concern for Duane's mental state and only cared that he had not been attending school. After Duane became involved with truancy court, CBR YouthConnect's home-based clinician stepped into the situation.

It was quickly discovered that Duane's mother and father did not have the skills to care for his emotional and physical needs. Trash was littered about the home, and the only place that he felt safe was in his room. After ten months of service, it was decided that Duane would be safer and better cared for if he moved in with his aunt and her family.

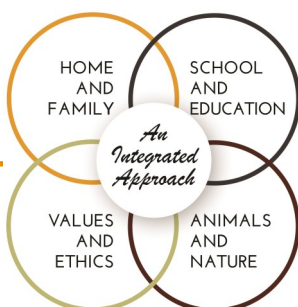
After the move, Duane flourished. His anxiety and depression decreased significantly and he had started going to school again. He learned basic skills that he had never been taught before, like ordering food at a restaurant, basic money management, and even prepping for a job interview. He gained confidence in himself and learned that it was okay to let others know what he needed from them and that he didn't have to handle everything on his own.



Now, Duane has set his sights on going to college and has an interest in attending a technical school where he can increase his skills before he graduates. He is happy and growing in ways he never knew he could. We are so proud of you Duane!

**Want to learn more about CBRYC's
Programs?**

Visit our website: www.CBRYouthConnect.org



*Names and details of stories about clients have been changed for confidentiality, but all stories are a truthful representation of CBRYC's programs and pertain to real cases.

Executive Update

Hello Everyone,

There is no gain without pain.

Those were just a few of the words from the Priest's Christmas Eve sermon at the end of what was a very difficult and challenging year for me. They are the only words I remember from that evening. A young Missionary from India preaching in broken English knew just what to say to comfort me in the days ahead. Not as elegant as Elisabeth Kubler Ross but so much more impactful for me. For months, I prayed that phrase every morning and it made me stronger and more determined. It helped me learn to be grateful for all that I had.

Sometimes the days can feel weary and life can be hard for all of us. Circumstances might be constantly changing around us. We may find ourselves facing huge battles. Perhaps we're walking through a difficult illness, or a dark season, and no matter how much we've prayed, the struggle seems to be lingering on far too long.

2020 – the year of the pandemic, racial unrest, election madness.

Yet even in the midst of it all, we still have so much to be grateful for in this life.

For the days where it may really be a sacrifice to offer praise and thanks...

For the days when we've seen His mighty hand powerfully at work in our circumstances...

And for all of those days in between, when we feel busy, or weary, distant, or troubled, I offer you this. A Thanksgiving prayer that crosses all belief structures.

We thank you for the gift of life:
for the breath that sustains life,
for the food of this earth that nurtures life,
for the life-giving love of family and friends.

We thank you for the mystery of creation:
for the beauty of the Earth that the eye can see,
for the unfolding universe that draws us beyond our imaginings.

We thank you for the communities to which we belong:
for families, for friends,
for neighbors and for companions at work.

We thank you for the strangers who welcome us into their lives and whom we invite to be part of ours.

We thank you for our brothers and sisters of all ages, all races, all nations and all faiths.

We thank you for the multitude of ways that you call us to steward the gifts of creation and to serve others in your name.

We thank you for this day, for the companionship we share and the bountiful goodness of the bread we break together.

We pray in thanks for your presence among us as we gather together, and your promise to be with us now and always

Godspeed,



Terese (Terry) Scofidio
President / CEO
CBRYC



CONTINUING OUR LEGACY
COLORADO BOYS RANCH FOUNDATION



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Events

The Annual Hats & Boots Extravaganza

In a year filled with uncertainty, many business and nonprofits alike are having to reconsider what normal means and how they can continue to offer the products and services needed by so many. CBRYC is no different.

Our annual Hats & Boots Extravaganza event typically takes place in January each year in conjunction with the National Western Stock Show (NWSS). However, as the global pandemic of COVID-19 drags on, the NWSS has decided to delay their annual show until 2022. This, along with new and developing safety measures regarding the virus, have caused us to reassess our own event. Currently, we are examining the possibility of doing a virtual event in lieu of our in-person gathering, but we have not made a final decision.



However, just because many of the events we once enjoyed are no longer happening, it does not mean that the organizations they supported are in any less need. In fact, CBRYC has seen an increase in cases since March, and we still need your help in order to serve the many youth and families throughout the state of Colorado who are struggling due to a variety of circumstances, including the pandemic.

You can help to support these youth and families by donating at www.CBRYouthConnect.org/get-involved/donate/.

We greatly appreciate your support in such a turbulent year.

Email info@youthconnect.org to request to be placed on the email list for updates on the Hats & Boots Extravaganza.



Events



**Have an idea for a way
your organization or club
could support CBRYC?**

**Email
info@youthconnect.org
with your ideas!**

**Want to be a part of the fun events CBRYC
puts on every year?**

Become a sponsor, donate, or volunteer!

**Email info@youthconnect.org for more
information on how you can be involved
in our annual events!**



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Recognizing Our *Essential* Staff

What Does it Mean to Be an Essential Mental Health Care Worker?

We are so incredibly proud and appreciative of our staff. Their lives have not only changed personally, as COVID-19 impacted their families, but it also required them to adapt on the fly to continue to meet their client's needs. They have showed up, they have listened, and they have supported the mental, emotional, and physical health of the youth and families they serve.

We have responded by increasing our efforts to support them. Not only have we invested in trainings for our staff, but we have also conducted research on other similar organizations to see how we compared. CBRYC is happy to report that we are at or above the standard for supervision, training, and education for our staff. We are dedicated to continuing this investment in our staff because we know that they are *always* essential and we would not be able to create connections and inspire change without them.

Social Distancing Feelings Chart: A Therapist's Perspective



CBR YouthConnect is joining the state of Colorado and Governor Jared Polis in promoting the **#StepUpColorado** campaign.

CBRYC is stepping up for the youth and families we serve on a daily basis by wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and continuing to provide services.

Share what and how you are stepping up. Make sure to tag **@CBRYouthConnect** in your posts!



Our Chief Operating Officer, Amanda Bicker, pictured above showcasing the many feelings we have all experienced this year.

Recognized Donor and Outstanding Board Member

Thank you to Robert and Ann McKee!

Robert and Ann McKee have been long-time donors and friends of CBRYC. Robert and Ann became involved with the organization when we were still known as the Colorado Boys Ranch and have faithfully supporting our mission to serve the youth and families of Colorado since 2003. Their support and dedication to CBRYC has helped us to continue serving kids, even as we transitioned to the new in-home model that is our standard today.

We are so incredibly grateful to both of you, Robert and Ann, as well as to your family for your all the commitment, support, and heart you have given to this organization. You have made a difference. Keep standing tall!



THANK YOU FOR
Standing Tall
AND MAKING A
Difference

Thank you to Brian Zvicky!

Brian Zvicky had been a member of CBRYC's board for several years now. He has brought years of financial experience as well as a heart to help the youth and families of Colorado. Due to Brian's efforts, CBRYC was recently awarded a **\$2,000 grant from Morgan Stanley** to help with our general operating costs so we can continue and expand our services throughout the state.

Thank you so much Brian for your continued dedication to CBRYC and everything that you have done for the organization!



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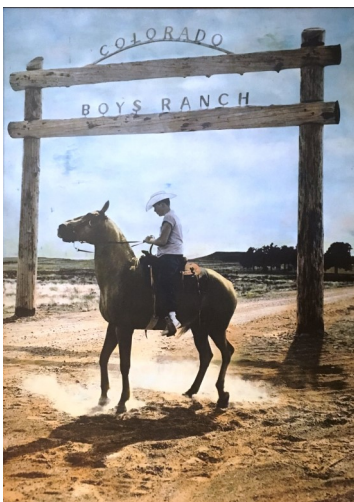
Upcoming for CBR YouthConnect

Colorado Gives Day

Colorado Gives Day is coming up again this December! Community First Foundation and FirstBank present Colorado Gives Day, an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy through online giving. The event is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round, online giving platform. Donors can easily search for our profile on the site and make safe and secure donations. Mark your calendar for December 8th, 2020 and go to [ColoradoGivesDay.org](https://coloradogivesday.org) to learn more. Scheduled donations have already started, so make sure to log on and donate today!



[Schedule a Donation](#)



Coming Home 2021 Reunion Event

The first boy arrived at CBR in 1961. CBRYC is working on putting together a reunion event in honor of this for the boys, staff, and donors who spent time at the Colorado Boys Ranch in La Junta.

More details to come!

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Follow CBR YouthConnect on social media to keep up with our events and how we are impacting lives throughout Colorado.

@cbryouthconnect

