



The Pumpkin Press

Volume 1 Issue 5

November 2005

"I Have a Dream"[®]
Foundation of
Boulder County

The Holiday Spirit...Look for it soon

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As the season grows colder you can warm the hearts of our Dreamers and their families by participating in the 8th Annual *Adopt-a-Family* program here at IHAD. Each year, IHAD helps more than 200 families receive gifts during the holiday season. Last year, more than 850 people benefited from the kind-hearted contributions of 141 community members and corporations. With each person receiving a gift valued from \$5 to \$30, more than \$25,000 worth of presents were donated to the families, creating a joyous holiday season for all.

We would love to have this year's *Adopt-a-Family* pro-

gram be the biggest year ever. As a sponsor, you will be matched with a family and a gift list from your family will be e-mailed to you. Family sizes range from three to eight people. If you think you will be unable to commit to an entire family, you can also inquire about our *Adopt-a-Center* program in which you can see a wish list from each of our six sites and buy a gift for the site as a whole.

If this event sounds like something you and your family would like to participate in this year, please contact **Wendy Gordon** by **November 10**. The wrapped gifts will need to be dropped off by **December 8**. The generosity of

our volunteers and Boulder County community members make each holiday season a very special one for our Dreamers and their families. Please contact Wendy Gordon for more information. 303.444.3636 x 10 or- Wendy.gordon@ihadboulder.org



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Site Closures

- Broadway:** November 25- 28
- Sanchez:** November 10, 21-25
- Pioneer:** November 10, 11, 22-25
- Casa:** November 10,11,21-25
- Trailridge:** November 10,11, 21-25
- Kalmia/YSI:** November 11, 23-25

Yikes!! That's Gross!

You bet it is! In two weeks, our Sanchez Dreamers will head down to the *Museum of Science and Nature* in Denver to experience the new "Grossology" exhibit. The gross installation is touted as being, "the impolite science of the human body."

Students will learn all about the human body and how great it is at creating "gross" things. The interactive exhibit is based on the best selling book by Silvia Branzei and has been traveling around the United States for a couple of years. If you are

interested in **chaperoning this trip on Friday, November 11**, please contact Sanchez AmeriCorps member, Mara Friedman for more details. Mara can be reached at mara.friedman@ihadboulder.org or 303.666.8458.

Columbine Class, exploring new terrain

A new Hallmark Holiday has been added to the calendar and the Columbine Class kicked it off full force. In early October, Columbine went mountain biking at the Boulder Reservoir with Denver's *Trips for Kids*, *International Mountain Bike Association* (IMBA), and *Clif Bar*. It was a glorious day for exploring the Colorado terrain and now the Dreamers are willing to consider mountain biking as a possible sport. Although they were nervous and unsure at the beginning, the Dreamers became confident riders by the end, comparing times to see who was the fastest. It was also a

great opportunity to witness the kids in a new and challenging situation. *IMBA*, *TFK*, and *Clif Bar* were amazing community volunteers and Columbine was very excited to have their support. The kids had an amazing



day!

The Columbine Class is adjusting well to the new school and has just survived their first batch of parent-teacher conferences with positive feedback. The Trail Ridge Middle School has been a fabulous host, providing Columbine with their own classroom and endless support from administrators, teachers, and counselors.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who are making the long trek to the new school! We couldn't do it without you!

Stars on Broadway

The Broadway site is definitely not short of any superstars this fall. "The Dreamers are doing amazing things", said AmeriCorps member Kathryn Biggam. "They are all doing so well!" Oscar Ponce, a 12th grader, was accepted for an internship with Free Wave Technologies in Boulder. This should be a great opportunity for Oscar! In high

school sporting news, Mario and Gabriel Granillo are both second year letter winners of the varsity football squad and have both received all-state academic honorable mentions. All three of these dreamers have also been active in attending their senior meetings and applying to colleges for next year.

Jennifer Carranza, a 10th grader at Boulder High School, has been playing goalkeeper for the *Tar Heels*, this season. On the 16th of October Jennifer led her team to an 11-0 shutout victory over the Pride Wildcats. Broadway Dreamers, keep up all the great work!

Swimming like Dolphins with CASA

Over at Casa De La Esperanza, the Dreamers have been busy with many different activities in addition to their flurry of schoolwork. In the Elementary Program, there are a few students taking a swimming class, where they would put a pod of dolphins to shame! We have never seen such great swimmers before! This is one class the Dreamers don't want to miss, even if they have to dress for the occasion!

The middle school students have been working hard as well, with one obtaining an A average and another prepar-



ing for a professional football career. Over at the high school, there have been some positive changes in the works with one student recommitting to the program and another preparing to move into International Baccalaureate classes, a form of advanced placement classes. Everything seems to be coming together at Casa these days. These Dreamers are really setting the standards high.

Pioneer Dreamers Vote

During the month of October, the Pioneer Dreamers decided to hold elections for an All-Dreamer Leadership Group, consisting of a *President, Treasurer, Secretary, Security* position, and two *Representatives*. The Dreamers nominated their peers for positions and then the candidates were allowed to hang posters in the classroom. Some crafty slogans such as: "Don't be a fool, vote for Saul," and "Let your voice be heard, vote for Paulina," demonstrated the Dreamers' readiness to take on some responsibility and ownership in

their classroom and programming.

On Election Day, each candidate stood in front of the class and gave a quick speech about why they qualified for, and why they were interested in their specific position. There was a "mad dash" for the voting booths at the conclusion of the candidates speeches, as all the Dreamers were anxious to elect their favorite candidate.

Although the results of the Pioneer Dreamer election remain anonymous, the elected Leadership Group will hold bi-weekly meetings to voice the opinions

of other Dreamers on important topics such as field trips, Dreamer Dollar Store, etc. The most recent topic up for discussion was whether or not to change the *Pioneer Peeps*, to the *Pioneer Phantoms!* Sounds spooky if you ask us! Stay tuned for future updates on new policies and procedures...

Here are the results:

Saul Tapia- President; Paulina Limon- Secretary; Stephani Oscarson- Treasurer; Jeannette Mata- Representative; Victor Lopez- Security; Juan Jacques- Representative

Where the Kids and the Llamas play...

Although no faces had been carved into the pumpkins yet, smiles abounded in late October at *The Anderson's Farm and corn maze*. As dusk was settled in, students in the Youth Services Initiative (YSI) program rode the bus to Erie in order to gallivant among the pumpkins, corn, hay, and various animals. YSI is a partnership initiated by the City of Boulder in which IHAD is a partner.

At *Anderson's Farm*, the kids were allowed to jump on hay bales, go through the corn maze, ride on a bucket car train, go on a hayride, admire many different animals including llamas and baby goats, and pick out pumpkins to bring home. Cries of dismay were heard as the kids headed back for the buses, but they spoke excitedly about their favorite part of the farm. One child said, "I

want to move there!" The Anderson Farm has been a huge hit with the Dreamers this fall. Almost every site has taken a spectacular fieldtrip to it's scary corn maze.



CU Students Assist in IHAD Recruitment Efforts

Two groups of University of Colorado students have elected to work with the "I Have a Dream"® Foundation's Volunteer Department in an effort to boost our numbers of volunteer tutors and mentors. Andrea, Erin, Josh, and Patrick are all seniors in Gerard Hauser's CU Communications class, *Rhetoric and Civic Community*, and have chosen to work with IHAD for their class final project. The 4 CU seniors have decided to embark upon a corporate recruitment campaign, focusing on local businesses and corporations from which to recruit volunteer mentors, as well as IHAD event sponsors, tutors, and

possible job shadowing and internships for Dreamers. CU Freshmen Kaela, David, Christina, and Jessica are on their way to becoming community leaders! All four students are interns with CU's *Volunteer Clearing House*, helping to promote volunteerism among students in the residence halls this year. Fortunately for IHAD, the four freshmen all live in the largest group of on-campus dorm buildings at CU, Williamsville, and are excited to start recruiting their peers for service! The group will be working with IHAD's Volunteer Department throughout the fall and spring semesters, not only tutor-

ing at our centers, but holding information sessions and presentations at Williamsville, in an effort to spread the word and recruit more students to tutor.

We are so thankful for both groups' dedication to IHAD and are excited to witness the impact they can have on our Volunteer Department, and ultimately, our Dreamers!

**"I Have a Dream"[®]
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**Helping Dreamers Become Achievers
- One Child at a Time**

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We'd like to welcome our newest batch of volunteers who joined the IHAD team this semester:

Patti Guilford, Nicki Finburg, Mary Mckeever

Mark Sparn, Jessie Malcolm, Lindsey Stolberg

Anne Wait, Christoforos Stratos, Melissa Abels

Rose Robinson, Aaron Glassenapp, Logan Dick

Jackie Tall, Kristie Jorfald, Kristina Topp

Steve Morgan, Xiao Ouyang, Carol Anderson

Elizabeth Kenny, Amber Meske, Andy Gall

Andrea Murphy, Rina Rojo, Shelley Burke

Trisha Welsby, Melanie Prada, Molly Bash,

Abbe Stutsman, Stephanie Blumenthal, Jenna Conlin

Kelly Crane, Anne Higgins, Nick Knight, Melissa Leach

Bob Niebauer, Teresa Niebauer, Curtis Wait, Angie Lopez

Becca McMillian, Sarah Noe, Jennifer Rosenthal,

Andrew Schroeder, Dee Wu, Carolyn Young.

Crayons to Calculators raises \$72,000 in school supplies!

Not long ago the IHAD conference room was packed to the gills with 1030 notebooks, 2500 pencils, 500 folders, and 300 boxes of crayons to highlight a few items (no pun intended). The first collaborative effort, *Crayons to Calculators*, was a huge success, **bringing in \$72,000 worth of school supplies to 2400 students in the Boulder and St. Vrain Valley School Districts!** This huge amount would not have been possible without all the amazing community support that we received throughout the months of July and August. For the first time ever, every single Dreamer was

able to start school in September with all the necessary school supplies. IHAD would like to thank all the financial institutions who partnered with the drive: U of C Federal Credit Union, First National Bank of Colo-

CRAYONS
to
calculators

School supplies for kids in need

rado, Vectra Bank, Chase, and US Bank. In addition to the financial institutions we would like to thank a few very generous

local businesses for their generosity, Corporate Express, for their \$15,000 donation, Leopard Communications, for all the marketing, branding, and designing of the poster, and Estey Printing company for donating all 750 posters, printing, and paper costs! Thank you all so much!!!

Believe it or not next years school supply drive is already being planned. We are very excited about making it even bigger than it was this year. Thanks for all your donations and keep an eye out for us next spring and summer. You can never start collecting too early!