



families first Helping families improve children's lives



In this issue:

- Happy Mother's Day
- Racca's Happy Hour Event
- Colfax Marathon
- Martha Donovan
- National Foster Care Month - Kayla's Story
- Interested in being part of our team - Follow us!



Happy Mother's Day!

Being a good mother might not always be easy but the payoff is definitely worth the hard work.

Families First recognizes and appreciates all that you do and the ways you contribute to your children's lives.

We hope you had a wonderful Mother's Day!

If you are ever in need of extra support, don't hesitate to reach out to the Families First Support Line (877-695-7996).



[Check out Our Family of Services HERE](#)

Happy Hour at Racca's

Thank you to everyone who made it to happy hour at Racca's for drinks and pizza. There is nothing better than an evening of good food and good people, especially when 20 percent of all proceeds go to Families First to help families improve children's lives! Even with the snowy weather, we had a nice turnout and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.



 KAISER PERMANENTE®

COLEFAX MARATHON®



Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Colfax Marathon May 20-21.

The 12th annual Colfax Marathon had over 19,000 participants! As runners crossed the finish line in City Park, they were greeted by a huge post-race party. Families First had two teams participate, one Saturday for the 5k and one Sunday for the half marathon. Runners and walkers could relax among friends and family while recharging with food, drinks, and beautiful Colorado weather. A big thank you to everyone who was able to make it to the race and for supporting Families First. Your donations help prevent the abuse and neglect of children by providing education, family support and treatment.

It is not too late to support a runner. Fundraise for Families First by [CLICKING HERE](#) and hitting donate. When entering your information, please add the name of the Registered Racer in the comments section.



Long time Supporter, Martha Donovan

age 70, passed away April 27, 2017. She was an active member of FRIENDS for Families First for many years.

About this time of year, you could find Martha "playing in the dirt", planting flowers and caring for the grounds at the Children's Treatment Center. Her dedication, support and love of the children was evident to all. She, and her Husband Larry, received the "Friend of the Children" award in 2011, for the outstanding contributions they've made. Her generosity and humor will truly be missed. Families First is planting a memorial garden in Martha's honor. We wish the Donovan

family all the best.

National Foster Care Month

The Children's Treatment Center at Families First has seen firsthand the impact foster care can have on a child. According to the National Foster Care Coalition:

- There are over 400,000 children in foster care on any given day.
- Over the course of a year, approximately 700,000 children will spend some time in foster care.
- Within a year, about 254,000 children will leave foster care.
 - About 128,000 will be reunified with their families.
 - Another 52,000 will be adopted by new loving families.
 - Approximately 36,000 will stay with a guardian or family member through kinship care.

Every child should have access to a safe home environment. If you would like to get involved to help change a young person's life for the better, consider a donation in support of our Children's Treatment Center or contact us about volunteering.

Kayla's Story.....

Kayla came to the Children's Treatment Center when she was almost 12, after living in 5 foster homes and 2 failed adoptive placements. She was confused, anxious, angry and hopeless. She settled in to our routine, and the staff were equipped to handle her emotional needs in a therapeutic and nurturing way. During her time here, she learned to feel good about herself, expressing this in laughter, beautiful art, and a flair for fashion!



Finding an adoptive home for a 12 year old is difficult in the best of circumstances, and in spite of ongoing efforts, none was located for Kayla. She was ready to leave with no place to go. A part-time staff person who knew Kayla had already been approved as a foster parent. When she and her husband had room in their home, she came forward with the offer to take this lovely young pre-teen into her home and family. Kayla is now 15, will have this foster home as long as she needs, and feels loved and valued by a family. She continues with her art and her fashion!



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