



**Catholic
Charities**
of Central Colorado

*"Providing Help...
Creating Hope"*

228 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Telephone: 719-636-2345
Fax: 719-636-1216

www.ccharitiescc.org

**Family Immigration
Services**

- *English Language Education
- *Naturalization & Immigration Services

Life Connections

- *Adoptions (Domestic & International)
- *Counseling Services
- *Pregnancy Support Services
- *Prenatal Education
- *Project Rachel

Marian House

- *Soup Kitchen
- *Client Services
- *Community Outreach Services
- *Life Support Services

Parish Social Ministries

- *Catholic Social Teaching Education & Advocacy
- *Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- *Catholic Relief Services



November 16, 2011

Rev. Ken Przybyla
St Francis of Assisi C/S
2650 Parish Vw
Colorado Spgs, CO 80919-3831

Dear Fr. Ken,

We are very grateful for your donation dated Monday, October 31, 2011 for \$1,000.00 to Catholic Charities of Central Colorado. You are valued as a partner with us in helping the less fortunate in our community – for this we cannot thank you enough.

At a time when we are serving an ever-increasing number of people coming to us seeking help, your support is more important than ever. Because of your help, and together with the kindness of others, Catholic Charities is able to carry out our mission to provide services to people in need.

Again, thank you for partnering with us in these efforts. If I can be of assistance, please contact me at 719-866-6440.

Sincerely,

Janet Hutchinson
Director of Development

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

We have changed our name to Catholic Charities of Central Colorado to reflect the geographical area we serve.

Catholic Charities does not share our mailing list with other organizations. Your privacy is assured.

This letter serves as your receipt for tax purposes. An end of the year statement will not be sent unless requested. No goods or services were provided in consideration for this gift unless specified.



Women Partnering

October 2011



Fr. Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
Social Ministries Committee
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

*Winner- 2006 El Pomar
Awards for Excellence
H. Chase Stone Award
for Excellence in Community*

*Finalist- 2005 El Pomar
Awards for Excellence
RJ Montgomery Award
for Excellence in
Human Services/Self-Sufficiency*

Dear Fr. Ken,

Thank you so much for your donation and your generous support of Women Partnering.

All of us at Women Partnering, our Board, the women and their families that we partner with and our sponsors, the Sisters of St. Francis, continue to hold you and your family in our prayers and in our hearts. Thanks to you many women and children will be able to meet their most basic needs and advance critical support systems in the community.

Fr. Ken

Thank you + the Social Outreach Committee for your responsiveness to the current needs in our community. We are very grateful for this stewardship! of course grateful that Women Partnering was a \$500 beneficiary. We continue to keep all the Parish family + Women Partnering our prayers + all leadership - including you.

By:

S. Jeannette Kneifel

Sister Jeannette Kneifel OSF, Ph D
President/CEO

Website:
stfrancis.org
(click on Women
Partnering link)

Tel: 719.577.9404
Fax: 719.577.9407

womenpar@comcast.net

10 South Institute
Colorado Springs Colorado
80903

St. Francis of Assisi

2650 Parish View • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80919 • Telephone 719-599-5031 • Fax 719-599-3360

December 9, 2011

Homeward Pikes Peak
518 North Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear Homeward Pikes Peak:

On behalf of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, the Social Ministries Committee has chosen to allocate \$500.00 to you to help in your efforts to eliminate homelessness in our community and provide services and resources to those in need.

Thank you for all the great work you do.

Sincerely,



Fr. Ken Przybyla

Wow!
All of my Hail
Marys in love poured off!
The Blessed Motherhood
I thank you so
much!

Bob Holms
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Pikes Peak Citizens for Life

707 R North Nevada/Colorado Springs, CO/80903

Making the Connection

Dear Fr. Przybyla and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church,

On behalf of the PPCFL Board, thank you for the very generous gift of \$500.00 from your Outreach Ministry, a tremendous help for us to make a difference for Life in the Pikes Peak area.

Below is a letter which went out to our recent donors with information on our activities and how we are making that difference.

May God bless you all and "measure unto" you as you have so generously "measured unto" us.

Mario Branciforte

How do we connect people with the need to protect life from beginning to end – including the elderly, the chronically and terminally ill, people with disabilities, **AND** pre-born babies?

THROUGH YOUTH EDUCATION



We have a powerful presentation on the Sanctity of Life. The purpose is to help students make the connection between a pregnancy and a live human being. Each student is given a soft touch model of a 12 week pre-born baby - huge impact!

Our message is specifically designed to counter pro-abortion views characterizing the pre-born as less than human.

One student's response - "I wish everyone at my school could go through that presentation. I'm sure LOTS of minds would be changed."

WITH ADULT EDUCATION - THE TRUTH PROJECT PLUS

Do you really believe that
what you believe is really real?"

THE TRUTH PROJECT
The Truth Project

The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum designed to help people develop a comprehensive Christian worldview. The connection - personal transformation.

We are leading Truth Project studies, hoping for change within the Church and as a result in our society.

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December 21, 2011

Ms. Brenda Donaghue

St Francis Of Assisi

2650 Parish View

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dr. Randall Bjork

Lee Jolinet

Mary Ellen McNally

Tyler Stevens

Rolland Stoneman

Jocelyn Wall

Dear Ms. Donaghue,

Thank you very much for your recent donation of \$500.00 to Silver Key Senior Services. Your generosity will help us to continue providing valuable services to seniors in Colorado Springs.

Your donation serves seniors in many ways. Consider this—your gift can help us deliver some of the hundreds of hot meals we serve each week in our Meals on Wheels program. It might provide a ride to the doctor or shopping through our transportation program. It could help fund guardianship care, which oversees all the needs of a senior who no longer has the mental capacity to care for themselves. We will use your donation where it is needed most, making a difference in the lives of so many seniors in our community.

Your support allows us to provide the services seniors need to live the lives they want, living safely, with dignity and independence. We appreciate your gift and hope that you will continue to support us in the future.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Ellis
President and CEO

In order to comply with IRS Code Section 170(f)(8), we are affirming to you for your records as a donor, that Silver Key Senior Services provided no goods or services in consideration, in whole or in part, for the property contributed by you. Please keep this letter with your tax records for it will be difficult to provide copies at a later date.

40
**Cheyenne
Village**

40 years...Serving Adults
with Developmental Disabilities

December 13, 2011

Fr. Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Fr. Przybyla,

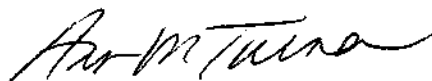
Thank you so much to you and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church for your gift of \$500 to Cheyenne Village on 12/12/2011.

For 40 years, Cheyenne Village has served adults with developmental disabilities such as mental retardation, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and autism in our community. Your gift helps make it possible for us to provide exemplary service to adults with developmental disabilities.

- *Over 70% of the individuals we serve fall below the Federal Poverty Guidelines which means their incomes are \$10,890 or less.*
- *Fifty-seven percent of those receiving comprehensive residential services are 50 years old or older.*
- *Most have aging parents who are concerned about the future of their child when they can no longer provide for them or when they pass away. 36% have been involved with Cheyenne Village for 20 years or more.*
- *Roughly one-third have little or no family involvement.*

Your generosity ensures that our commitment to provide quality service to individuals and their families continues, and we thank you.

Warmest Regards,



Ann M. Turner
Executive Director

In accordance with IRS Code Section 170(f)(8), Cheyenne Village, Inc.
provided no goods or services in exchange for your donation.

Please keep this with your tax records.

6275 Lehman Drive • Colorado Springs, CO 80918-1433 • (719) 592-0200 • Fax (719) 548-9947
TTY (719) 592-0224 • www.cheyennevillage.org

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Honorary Member

Mary Ellen McNally,
Honorary Member



December 16, 2011

Father Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Father Przybyla;

On behalf of my family and all of our incredible volunteers who make Designated Driver of Colorado Springs an organization that literally saves lives in the Colorado Springs we would like to thank you for your very kind and generous donation of \$500.00 to our organization.

Your generosity comes at time when our organization has had some difficulties and serious set backs. As Gina may have told you, we temporarily closed our doors on November 4th of this year. Because of your kindness we will be able to keep our call center open during this difficult time. Without the call center bringing our organization back would be much more challenging.

As the founder of Designated Driver of Colorado Springs I know that this organization and our mission is my life's work. I have spent a great deal of time over the last few weeks praying for an organization that I have seen make an incredible difference in our community for almost three years. I prayed for a "Christmas Miracle" and know in my heart that the generosity of people like you made that prayer a reality.

Sincerely,

Nonie Rispin
Executive Director

Designated Driver of Colorado Springs



Ecumenical Social Ministries
201 North Weber Street Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(719) 228-6782 Executive Director
(719) 228-6795 Development Director

December 13, 2011

Fr. Ken Przybyla
St Francis of Assisi Church
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Fr. Przybyla:

"I see miracles happen here every day. The days that I am a part of making that miracle happen are the best." Charlie S., five year volunteer at ESM.

You are part of the miracle at ESM! Since 1982 our mission has been to promote self-sufficiency and restore dignity by providing food, medicine, housing, job placement, educational programs, and spiritual encouragement to all those who come through our doors. Your gift of \$500.00 will help us to continue to fulfill this mission!

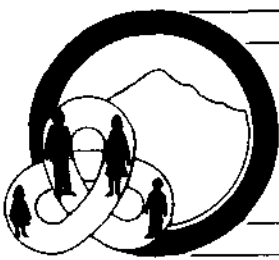
Date	Received	Check Date	Check Number
12/13/2011	\$500.00	12/6/2011	21842

No gifts or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Again, we thank you for your support and helping us succeed in our mission as well as being a part of the miracle that happens here every day!

Blessings,


Carolyn McDole
Executive Director



FRANCISCAN
COMMUNITY
COUNSELING, INC.

Mount Saint Francis
7665 Assisi Heights
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
(719) 955-7008
Fax (719) 598-0346
www.franciscancommunitycounseling.org

December 12, 2011

Fr. Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi Parish
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Father Ken and the Social Ministries Committee,

Thank you very much for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church's donation of \$500.00 to Franciscan Community Counseling, Inc. Your recognition and support of our mission is sincerely appreciated by all of us – clients, Board, and staff. It is wonderful people like you that enable us to continue providing our much-needed counseling services to persons unable to afford mental health care elsewhere. Be assured we will use your money to provide these services.

Again, we sincerely thank you and may God bless you!

Sincerely,

Sharon K. Compono, LSW
Executive Director

Pursuant to section 170(f)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code, Franciscan Community Counseling did not provide any goods or services in whole or partial consideration for the above donation.





Benet Hill Monastery

3190 Benet Lane ∞ Colorado Springs, CO 80921-1509

November 2011

Rev Kenneth Prybyla
St Francis of Assisi Parish
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919-3830

Dear Rev Kenneth Prybyla,

Autumn... The Sacrament of Letting Go

Slowly

She celebrated the sacrament of letting go.

*First she surrendered her green,
then the orange, yellow and red,
finally she let go of her brown,
shedding her last leaf.*

She stood empty and silent, stripped bare.

*Leaning against the winter sky,
She began her vigil of trust.*

Joyce Rupp

With a brilliant, glistening, white blanket covering our forest floor, we know that winter is around the corner. Amid the brisk beauty that this season brings, it also brings certain sadness as we transition from late summer days and warmer weather into the shorter days of fall. As the blustery winds chill our bones, we are called to burrow more deeply into our search for life's meaning.

To enhance your journey, we invite you to attend our **Advent Day of Prayer** on December 9. This program is an excellent opportunity to come away for a while and nurture your soul in our sacred forest. Please visit www.benethillmonastery.org for more information about our educational and spiritual offerings.

God bless you for sharing a part of your harvest with us. Your gift of \$500.00 (check #21748) is deeply appreciated. Like the autumn trees, your generosity is a treasured expression of God's graciousness and goodness.

Wishing you all the blessings of this Thanksgiving season.

Sister Clare Carr, Prioress

*To Ken - Thank - you for
your support of us. May these
Holy - Days ahead be filled w/ grace
& energy*

P.S. Please keep this letter for your tax purposes. There were no goods or services exchanged for your gift to Benet Hill Monastery.

Telephone (719) 633-0655 ∞ Fax (719) 471-0403

www.benethillmonastery.org



CARE AND SHARE™
FOOD BANK FOR SOUTHERN COLORADO



Friday, November 04, 2011

Father Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Father Przybyla,

Your generosity is making a difference in our community. We very much appreciate your recent gift of \$500.00 and are putting it to immediate use in our mission to bridge the gap between hunger and abundance in southern Colorado. We could not continue to provide food and services to those in need of a helping hand without the generous assistance of people like you. As we head into the winter season, your funding provides services to many children and their families living in difficult economic conditions, and because of that they will be more food secure and better able to cope with other problems confronting them.

We look forward to continue working with you in this important endeavor and we welcome you to stay involved with Care and Share all year long. We send newsletters highlighting our activities and other mailings periodically and hope you enjoy receiving those. If you would prefer to set up a recurring gift and reduce mail received, please contact us. Also, you may check our website for information and updates on our impact in the community. We work as efficiently as possible, maintaining that 95 cents of every dollar donated goes directly into program support, with 5 cents going toward other administrative costs. Again, thank you very much for your trust in the work we do.

Sincerely,

Lynne Telford
President/CEO
Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado

*Thank you for
this generous
gift.*

**Please contact Allan Siracusa (allan@careandshare.org, 719-434-4680) if you would prefer an annual giving acknowledgement rather than a thank you each time you donate. This will save much needed funds. In accordance with IRS regulations, we confirm that no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

"Bridging the gap between hunger and abundance."

Share Food Bank • www.careandshare.org | 2605 Preamble Point • Colorado Springs, CO 80915 • 719-528-1247
100 Greenhorn Drive • Pueblo, CO 81004 • 719-296-6995





CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF THE PIKES PEAK REGION

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region

701 S. Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
719.447.9898
719.667.1818 fax
www.casappr.org

A MEMBER OF THE
NATIONAL CASA ASSOCIATION

(A child's voice in court®)

November 14, 2011

St. Francis of Assisi
Fr. Ken Przybyla
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

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Joshua Waymire

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
Trudy
Strewler Hodges

Dear Fr. Przybyla,

You continue to make a difference in the life of a child! I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$500.00 to the CASA® One Church/One Child Program in general support of our programs. The support of your church community truly makes a difference in helping us fulfill our mission *"to provide a volunteer's voice in court for children who are victims of abuse, neglect or domestic conflict and promotes community awareness of these issues to ensure safe and permanent homes."* If at any time you would like a representative of CASA to give a short presentation or update to your group, please contact Jill Cheetham-Mitchell at Ext. 1016.

With CASA's over 22 years of effective and compassionate advocacy, more than 7,000 children's lives have been changed for the better. Last year, CASA served 1,060 children through all five of our programs. **On their behalf, we thank you.**

Sincerely,

Trudy Strewler Hodges
Executive Director

*Your support is truly
priceless!
With thanks!*

Thank you for your generous donation of \$500.00 to the CASA One Church/One Child Program in general support of our programs. The support of your church community truly makes a difference in helping us fulfill our mission "to provide a volunteer's voice in court for children who are victims of abuse, neglect or domestic conflict and promotes community awareness of these issues to ensure safe and permanent homes." If at any time you would like a representative of CASA to give a short presentation or update to your group, please contact Jill Cheetham-Mitchell at Ext. 1016.

Per IRS regulations, a **charitable contribution** is a donation or gift voluntarily made to, or for the use of, a qualified organization. CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, Inc. (Fed. ID No. 84-1115548) is a qualified organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The amount of the charitable deduction is limited to the excess of the amount of the donation over the fair market value of any benefit received. **NO GOODS OR SERVICES WERE PROVIDED TO THE DONOR FOR THIS GIFT.** The donor should retain this letter in order to fulfill IRS substantiation requirements.



November 7, 2011

Father Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Dear Father Przybyla and Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi:

You've just given a world of hope to homeless families working to become self-sufficient! I am so grateful to have your support, as together we work to end family homelessness in Colorado Springs! Your donation will provide critical services to **give families a hand up, not a hand out**. Services like . . .

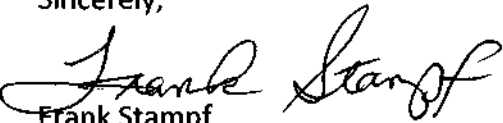
- warm, safe housing, so that families can stop worrying about shelter
- help finding employment, so that parents can earn enough to provide for their children
- practical life skills training, including job skills and money management

Last year, PIH assisted 348 people in 133 families, including 207 children in need! As one of our Partners expressed it: **"Thank you to the wonderful people supporting Partners in Housing that have helped me in my journey to becoming self-sufficient during a very trying time in my life."** It is generous and caring gifts like yours that make their success possible!

If you would ever like Partners In Housing to talk to your parish about our mission, or if your parishioners would like to get involved with our Christmas gift card drive to help our families this year, please call Erin Taylor at 325-5835.

Please share my heartfelt thanks with your parishioners – in this time of great need, **your gift transforms the lives of homeless families** working to achieve self-sufficiency. We are so blessed that you continue to be a part of our mission. Again, thank you for bringing help and hope to homeless families!

Sincerely,


Frank Stampf
Executive Director

Thank you for your gift of \$500.00 (ck#021756), received on 11/4/11. This letter is your receipt.

*Providing Homeless Families with Children the Hope and Opportunity
to Achieve Self-Sufficiency through Supportive Services and Transitional Housing.*

455 Gold Pass Heights • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906
719.473.8890 • Fax 719.635.9360 • www.PartnersInHousing.org

*Father Przybyla -
Thanks so much to you and
your parishioners for
your generous gift. It
will help us make
a difference
to the homeless
families we serve...*

November 7, 2011



Father Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

825 East Pikes Peak Avenue, Suite 600
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Phone: 719-633-3400
FAX: 719-633-3800
www.pikespeakhospice.org

Dear Father Przybyla:

Thank you for your recent donation of \$500.00 to Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care. Your support is greatly appreciated.

In 2011, Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care begins its fourth decade of providing hospice and palliative care service to the community. Over the years PPHPC has grown core services and developed new programs and business lines to better serve the community.

Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation raises contributions so Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care can offer patients and their loved ones exceptional care. Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care receives reimbursement from insurance sources for *basic* hospice services, but your contribution to Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation brings the kind of support that allows *extraordinary* hospice and palliative care for our community, including ten complementary therapies and bereavement support. As one family has stated:

"I cannot tell you how much I appreciate the care and support that was provided to both myself and my wife while she was in your care. Thank you all very much!"

On behalf of *all* the patients and families we serve, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha M. Barton".

Martha M. Barton
President and CEO

Thank you for your committed support!

Father Ken Przybyla
St. Francis of Assisi
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

*Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation sustains
and enhances the work of
Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care,
while serving donor's charitable interests.*

Date of Gift: 11/7/2011

Total Tax Deductible Amount: \$500.00

Total In Receipt for the Year: \$750.00

Check Number: 021758

No goods or services were provided in return for this gift.

Receipt: Please keep this portion for tax purposes.

To Everyone Involved in the 2011 Christmas Tree Project:

From David and Michelle & All The Christmas Tree Project Elves

This was the second year of the amazing Christmas Tree Project and it turned out to be a truly incredible few weeks.

To summarize this year's events...

- We gave out over 270 trees (150 live/120 artificial).
- We had a website donated by Alan McCormack in Ireland (www.thechristmastreeproject.org)
- Scott Cooper gave us 150 live trees.
- We picked up dozens of donated trees.
- We delivered dozens of trees to those who could not pick them up themselves.
- We partnered with Q102.7 radio in their toy give away (get a toy and get a tree!) We gave away 30 live trees to families. Thanks to Dan D'Agnese for making this happen.
- We partnered with Mr. Biggs and gave them some live trees for their Christmas giveaway.
- We had requests for trees from Goodwill, DHS, and the Woman's Resource Center, among many other local organizations working with families in need.
- The ValuSource office was the drop-off/pick-up location and the ValuSource staff pitched in to make it all work. A special thanks to Justin Loggins and Dan D'Agnese for all the elf work!
- We had a free website donated by Alan McCormack from AMCWebdesign in Ireland.
- St. Francis of Assisi Parish donated an incredible amount of ornaments and decorations (again!).
- Scores of people donated money.
- We got a single mother of 5 a tree in Rialto, California with the help of an Elf from the Sun Rise church in Rialto.
- A woman in Penrose, Colorado donated a pickup-truck full of brand new ornaments and decorations.

We want to thank everyone involved, it could never have happened without all of you...

Christmas Tree Project in the News

We had a terrific amount of news coverage this year. Here is some of it:

The **FRONT PAGE** of *The Gazette*:



KRDO TV News
KOAA TV News
Q102.7 Radio (We partnered with them in their toy give away.)
National NPR news
USA Today newspaper
Jeff Crank talk radio show (We were on the air with him.)

News Links

Gazette: <http://www.gazette.com/articles/christmas-129575-families-wide.html>

KRDO: <http://www.krdo.com/news/29991917/detail.html>

Our New Website

We wanted a website this year, so we put out an ad on the international web programmer site (www.guru.com) to find someone to create the site. Alan McCormack from AMCWebdesign in Ireland saw the ad and responded. He graciously offered to do the site for free because he wanted to support the project. So, our new website (www.thechristmastreeproject.org) was done by Alan. Kudos and thanks, Alan!

Our new website:

The Christmas Tree Project 2011

Home About Us Donations Request a Tree History & Stories

Our History & Mission

Last year we started by giving away one Christmas tree from an ad we put on Craigs list, which sparked a citywide effort that ended up giving away over 300 trees in two weeks. Our mission is to give away fully decorated Christmas trees to families in need and **we need trees, decorations** (and **cash** donations!). Putting smiles on people's faces and warming their hearts for Christmas is what this project is all about.

“Our three year old kept asking me “when will Santa bring us our Christmas tree with lights” as we drove past house after house -all sporting twinkling trees in the window. YOU helped my heart stop breaking. You truly get Christmas. Thank you! (times a million).”

gazette.com
COLORADO SPRINGS The Gazette
Click to read Article

Donate Trees (and Decorations) Donate Money Request a Tree

email: christmastreeproject@hotmail.com phone: 719-799-6025 Colorado Springs, CO Web Development AMC Web Design

Christmas Stories

A single mother with 5 children in Rialto, California contacted us about a Christmas Tree. We then contacted a church in Rialto and explained that we needed an elf to buy and deliver a Christmas tree with all the trimmings--and that we'd pay for everything. The amazing woman at Sun Rise church who answered the phone agreed to make it all happen (she is now an official Christmas Tree Project Elf!). The mother of 5 was amazed and touched that from Colorado we would put in the time and energy to make her Christmas tree magic happen.

A woman from Pennsylvania wrote to ask if we could get a friend who was going through cancer treatment and living alone in Pueblo a tree. We made some calls, and in short order, we found a ranger in Pueblo, who not only agreed to buy the tree, the decorations, and deliver them, but who called us back to say that she and her family would pay for all of it, as well. (We now have an official Christmas Tree Project Elf in Pueblo, too!).

A woman with 11 children came to get a tree, and it turned out that it was the first Christmas tree the family has ever had.

A woman brought her 3 year-old son to pick up a tree. We showed her our “happy room” that was covered wall-to-wall with ornaments and Christmas decorations and asked them to pick some things they would like to take home. Her son immediately picked up a small toy train ornament. Justin, who works at ValuSource, realized that a toy train set was donated that morning and was buried somewhere in the pile of boxes, so he dug it out and gave it to the woman to give to her son—the huge smiles on both their faces were priceless.

With hundreds of phone calls, drop-offs and pick-ups, we could not have done it this year without the ValuSource staff pitching in to help. I'd like to especially thank Justin Loggins and Dan D'Agnese for all their magical elf work this year.

I got a call from Scott Cook who had a “few extra” trees he wanted to donate. It turns out he donated **over 150** live trees to the project this year. It was an amazing act of generosity that touched hundreds of children this year. Scott not only donated the trees, but helped deliver them where they were needed--sometimes at only a few hours notice. Thanks a million, Scott!

Sue called from a local nursing home after seeing the article in the *Gazette* and wanted a tree for her room. She didn't know the address or her room's phone number, but by giving us the name of the nursing home, she was sure we could figure out how to get her a tree! We did track her down and delivered a beautiful tree to her room—she was thrilled.

We had over 120 artificial trees and truck loads of decorations donated and we also had dozens of people donate money to help us buy ornaments and decorations. We could never have done this without all of you!

Deborah Kaufman was critical in helping us find ways to get the 150 live trees into families' hands. Thanks so much, Deborah!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish again donated an amazing amount of ornaments and decorations which made it possible for us to deliver fully decorated trees, as well as provide families with Christmas decoration “goodie bags,” which everyone just loved.

Douglas Reiter was an amazing help this year, picking up and delivering trees all across town. As he says, “Unless I have it wrong, we are here to help each other.”

ValuSource's landlord Dana Stanecek was so generous in letting us use an open office in our building for Christmas Tree Project headquarters this year. Thank you, Dana!

Emails We Received for Tree Requests

HELLO MY NAME IS TXXXX I HAVE 4 CHILDREN 13/10/7/3 THEY ARE MY HEART MY FIANCE IS THE ONLY ONE WORKING WHILE IAM HOME THE KIDS SO WE MAKE JUST ENOUGH FOR BILLS AND RENT AM HOPEFULLY STARTING SCHOOL ON JAN 2012 IAM JUST SO TIRED OF THE STRUGGLE DONT EVEN HAVE TO GET A TREE THIS YEAR AM JUST PRAYING THINGS GET BETTER I JUST WANT TO SAY ITS JUST SUCH A BLESSING FOR U GUYS THAT HELP THE NEED ONE DAY WHEN AM DOING GOOD ILL BE ONE OF THE ONES WHO WILL DONATE TO HELP U GUYS FOR OTHER FAMILIES IN NEED THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ MY EMAIL AND GOD BLESS HAPPY HOLIDAYS ANY FUTHER INFORMATION PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT 719-XXX-XXXXTHANK YOU.....

Good morning, My name is Jxxxx currently I am deployed to Afghanistan and I am working on donations for my FOB to help those deployed enjoy the holidays as much as possible. I was wondering if I can get a few small Christmas tree donations and 3 big ones, one for my Command building, Chapel, and one for my unit Headquarters Office? Please let me know if you can help me.

Hi David and Michelle, My name is PXXXX, I live in Pennsylvania. I have a very dear friend in Pueblo that is a cancer survivor and on a fixed income (also alone this Christmas) and would just LOVE to have a Christmas Tree! If you could help her by giving her a tree I would be ever so grateful! She would not be able to come and pick up the tree! To see my dear friend have a tree would make my Christmas too! If you would be able to help please email me back and I will forward her address! Colorado is very blessed to have people like the two of you! God Bless you and your family! Merry Christmas!

What happened next: After we managed to find someone in Pueblo to buy a tree, decorate and deliver it, we got this response (the person in Pueblo called me after she delivered the tree and told me she and her family would cover the costs of the tree and decorations). The woman in Pennsylvania wrote back after hearing we delivered her friend a tree “I am so touched by what you have done for my friend Kimberly. I had to hang up the phone because I am still crying. YOU ARE WONDERFUL PEOPLE!!!!!! GOD BLESS YOU!”

To whom it may concern - I don't know if you have trees left but if you do I would like to find out how to get one. I am broke this year and my daughter and son in law have done so much to help me and my wife over the years I would like to make sure they have a tree this year for their boys (2yrs old and 7months old). I know they would have been fine for Christmas but helping me with my diets and rides to Dialysis have worn on them financially.

Hello My name is WxxxxFor the past 2 years I have been homeless and on the streets. In October of this year I was finally able to get on my feet enough and was blessed with a nice apartment. Since getting my apartment my husband has been incarcerated and will not be home for the holidays. I have never had a Tree of my own and would love to have my first one. Money is tight and I am unable to get myself one. Please consider my story for one of your trees. Thank you for your time.

I know that Colorado Springs is a long way from Casselberry, Florida and there is probably a snowball's chance of you being able to help us but this is Christmas and a time for dreams and miracles. My son is 11 and has Asperger's Syndrome (autism) along with many other issues. For the second year in a row we thought we would be okay for Christmas - it was going to be tight but we would manage. On December 5th our hopes shattered. My son's dad lost his job and hasn't been able to find one since. Unemployment may not start until after the holidays and will certainly help but won't meet our basic bills. As for me I am disabled and have been for almost 19 years. When we bought our house in 2000 we envisioned a bright future. We were wrong. We lost both of our dads within a year. In 2002 I lost my benefits for 16 months then he lost his job in 2003. We struggled and managed to get on our feet again and then our son started having serious issues. In 2004 we survived three hurricanes and eventually lost our house to the damage. We lived in a FEMA camper for almost 2 years. Yes camper - not a mobile home. Our son's problems grew steadily worse and we finally found out he had autism. In the meantime there was no room in a camper for a christmas tree. Our son was devastated. He actually made a video for Extreme Makeover Home Edition but we never sent it. In it he asked if they couldn't help us could they please help someone worse off than we were. We have been renting ever since. The last place we were in was so small we lived with our things piled in boxes around us. So there was no room for a tree. Last year we had a tree and JXXX was able to help decorate it and he was so overwhelmed with excitement and joy I cried watching him. This year again we have no tree. I dont know how to tell him we won't have one because we can't afford to get one. I know that Colorado Springs is too far away to deliver a tree. I just want to say thank you for helping other people have one because we sure know what it feels like. Please dont stop. I heard about your generous gifts through Ty Pennington and just really wanted to say thank you for giving people hope especially at Christmas. God Bless

Hi, I am requesting a Christmas tree for my family. Our house burned back in April, and our family of 5, has been living in an efficiency since then at xxxxx xxxxx club apartments. My fiance lost his job Nov 11, so we've just been able to get the rent paid. This is the first year I haven't been put up any decorations because We havent had the money to replace the one's that burned. My kids are 7,8 & 14. I was able to get them a couple if gifts through Christmas unlimited and would love very much to have a tree to put them under. If you decide to help our family please email or text me anytime. I can't make calls on my phone. Thank you and have e a happy holiday!

This is Rxxxx . Me & my family moved here 3 weeks ago from DC. My husband is retired military & we are both looking for jobs. We have 2 children: 9 & 18 month old. We are living in temp lodging while in transition. Which is a one bedroom apartment. We do have a caravan & I bought a fake \$6 tree just for something. If you happen to have a small one that would be great! We appreciate what you do!!!!

Hello, my name is Jxxxxxx. I work with the Women's Resource Agency in Colorado Springs. A client of ours was fortunate enough to have a family sponsor her family for Christmas gifts, unfortunately she still does not have a Christmas tree. She is a single mother of two and is unemployed. She has been trying very hard to obtain employment but is having a hard time due to some personal issues. When I took her to pick up the gifts I told her that we should hurry and get them under the tree before the kids got home and she began to cry. I was unaware that she did not have a tree. If there is anything you can do to help we would greatly appreciate it. She would need to have it delivered as she does not have a vehicle.

Hello, I am an unemployed recently disabled single mother of a 10 year old son with cerebral palsy and simply do not have the money for any non-necessities which sadly includes a Christmas tree this year. We do not have much space for a large tree as we are staying with a friend in a very small apartment so I had hoped to go out and cut a small one but I was told that I need a permit to do so and that the permit costs money as well. If your program has any small trees- no bigger than 5 feet tall I know my son would enjoy it immensely. This may be the first year we do not put up and decorate a tree. Thank you for this program and all the families it helps Happy Holidays

Hello, My name is KXXXX and I saw you story on KRDO this evening. I was hoping I would be able to get a tree this year from your organization. I am a single mom and just recently saved my house from foreclosure. When I did my modification with the bank, my house payment went up \$300. I now live paycheck to paycheck and have no room for extra spending. We have never had a fake tree and have never gone without a tree, but this year we are willing to take anything we can get. My 4 year old keeps asking when we are going to get a tree and I can only tell him I am working on it. The gifts under the tree are already going to be minimal, I would be heart broken

if we went without a tree as well. I do not need any of the decorations or lights, those can go to another family in need. I would just like to give my boys a tree they can decorate and wake up to on Christmas morning. Thank you for your consideration!

Hello My name is hxxxxx . I hate to ask but i was wondering if you still had Christmas trees available?? Times are very hard for my family right now. I am a widow with two children 9 and 6. A girl Named Txx and a Boy Dxxxxxx . I moved out from Oklahoma to be w/ family when i was laid off. and am still unable to find much work. If you all would still have any Christmas trees available it would me the world to us. I would have called but my phone was recently turned off. I can still receive texts until the end of the month. Hopefully you receive this and God Bless and TY

I am a grandmother of eight, unemployed currently and use to be a teacher I would like to have a tree for my grandchildren and family, it would mean so much to me and the children. I have one grandson who is five and just starting to enjoy Christmas, I do not have gifts as of yet, I really concerned about the four youngest grandchildren receiving gifts they are all boys. When I was working their was no problem of having enough for everyone but now I am not working and want to at least get balls for them. They love football and baseball.

Hello, I am not one to ever ask for help. In fact, before last year I hadn't put up a tree in years. My son's were teenagers and didn't care. However, I have gotten remarried and now have a 4 year old in the house. He keeps asking where the tree is. I am a full time student and work full time. My husband can't find work. We live paycheck to paycheck trying to make ends meet. If you have any trees left, I know it would make the 4 year olds Christmas. There won't be much under the tree, but at least there will be a little Christmas spirit in our home. Thanks for your consideration.

I left a message on your answering machine. A young lady named Kxxxx has just moved back to the area with her family and no income as of yet. She has 2 small children and no way to buy a tree. If you could possibly help them out it would be greatly appreciated, thanks so much....

Hi, I heard about your gift on the radio this morning. My ex husband is a very good dad and takes our son every year for Christmas, as my ex husband lives in the snow, and I live in the desert. Every year our son gets to play in the snow and have a white Christmas. My ex husband does not make a lot of money, and I know he would feel bad about taking a hand out from me. Would you be able to send him a tree? He lives in Big Bear Lake, CA. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Hello, I sure could use help with a Christmas tree for my daughter and I this year. I am a single mom doing all I can to make ends meet. My Christmas budget this year has gone to gifts and support for other family and friends but I ran out of money and time to get a tree for my own home! I can always borrow one, I suppose but I don't know anybody who has one I can borrow right now, Christmas is next week and my daughter keeps asking me when are we going to get a tree to decorate. Then I heard a news report on the radio (103.9 in fact) about The Christmas Tree Project. So I was wondering, are there still any fresh trees available? We would only need a small one (say 3-4 feet?) but will take whatever is available. I can also pick it up as I drive a truck. Please let me know what we can do to make arrangements. If there are none available, I appreciate your time and consideration anyway and wish you a blessed Christmas! Thank You Kindly,

Hi I just moved here and my paychecks haven't quite Caught up to the bills yet. I haven't been able to get a tree and Presents yet and the kiddos are asking questions.

I'm sure there are plenty of worse off folks, but if you Had an extra tree, I'd give it a great home :) it's just not in my budget Right now. Thanks for your program and consideration. People like you make the world a better place. Thanks,

Hello! My name is Nxxxx , right now I'm a stay at home mother of two children Axxxx (3) and Jxxxxx (1). My boyfriend and I are trying to give them an amazing Christmas but times are tough right now. He is currently working two jobs and is able to pay all the bills and we are saving what is left over for a tree and presents. If there are still trees available it would be a genuine blessing! Thank You!,

Hello my name is Jxxxx and we dont have a christmas tree and I have 2 kids that I already cant afford to buy gifts for and they would really love to have a tree at least. we live in a motel and are way behind on our rent here and are at risk of being homeless this weekend if we dont come up with the money by friday. my kids are too young to understand the situation so i would love to get them a tree to brighten up there holidays a little bit. So if you could please help and let me know if you have a tree left thank you so much

I have a friend who has a tree but no ornaments to put on the tree. They lost nearly everything when they became homeless. They put nearly everything in storage then couldn't pay the storage bill and things were auctioned. They got their tree by some sort of miracle.. it was in their van instead of storage by mistake. They now have a home and are doing decent but can't afford ornaments. They have two boys ages 4 and 2. I gave them a bag of lights, their church gave them some lights that didn't work that they took to the CSU event and got free LED lights in exchange so they have lights. The tree is prelit. But there are no decorations on the tree. :(I gave them a box of gold balls but a few are busted.. Can you help them with some ornaments? The boys deserve a good Christmas and some decorations.. and the mom and dad really need some miracles to help boost them up after this horrid year they have had. Please don't tell them I told you about them! They would be ashamed. :(I am trying to encourage them to make use of some of the Christmas Charities this year for the boys' presents but I'm not sure if I will be able to or not. Please pray for them! Thank you!

Hi! My name is LXXXXX. I am a single mother of a 2 year old little girl. Work has slowed way down the last couple months, so Christmas this year is going to be really hard for us. Any money that I have made is all going to bills and what is left has to go to food and gas and daycare, so I am not able to afford much for Christmas this year. We were planning on not getting a tree this year, but I saw your story on KRDO and I thought I would see if you still had trees available. If so, I can talk my boyfriend into driving down to where you guys live (we live in Broomfield). We are going to struggle to even get her some gifts. So let me know the availability of the trees! Thank you!

Good morning folks, My name is LXXX and my family and I are requesting a tree for Christmas. My husband has been disabled for a year now with bone spurs on his neck and I am about to graduate with a Bachelors in Digital Media Design and looking for a job. However, at this time we are struggling to make just our bills and are behind in rent, we surely cannot afford to buy a Christmas tree this year. We want to keep our spirits up for the coming new year and hope it brings me a great job, get us out of debt and my husband to get well. Please accept my request for a Christmas tree. My husband and I would truly appreciate your kindness and generosity. Thank you,

To the feins, Hi my name is MXXXXX. I saw the story about your project. Me and my family have fallen on hard times this year. We have a toddler that will be turning 2 in February and we just had a new addition 7 weeks ago. I got laid off right before I had my little girl and are living off of one income. I recently found a new job but won't get my first paycheck until the 30th. Although we can't afford presents for our children I would love to have some Christmas spirit still in the house. If you still have any available or know of any organization that can help I would be so grateful. Thank you so much. Happy holidays!

Hello my name is cxxxxx and I have a really great friend that needs a Christmas tree and decorations they also can't afford Christmas for there kids can u help please call me at

To Whom It May Concern....A lot has happen this year to Me and my kids that I am way to short to even get my kids a Christmas Tree. I have 8 kids. But six are with me. I had a miscarriage back in August of this year and that right there costed a lot of money just to get my son cremated. But it would be great to get my kids a tree. Thanks and God Bless

Dear Christmas Tree Project, I hate to have to ask, but this year, it would really mean a lot if you could give one of your trees to us. No decorations needed... just a real tree. My husband went in for a bladder surgery in July and the doctors paralyzed him, leaving him in an electric wheelchair permanently. SXXXX is a Spina Bifida baby, a birth defect that left him with some paralysis below the knee and the need for 40-50 surgeries in his life... but none that had devastated him and taken away his mobility until now! He has been on crutches since age 3 and fought his entire life to stay out of a wheelchair. Now the doctors have taken his mobility away, and as a result, devastated our finances. Do you have a tree for us to lighten up our darkest hour? We have ornaments from every year we have been married (22 in May), as Sxxxxx's special tradition has been to buy an ornament with the year on it to help us remember each year together. I'm hoping to at least take a picture of a tree this year. Thanks so much for considering this request, and God Bless You for doing this, even if you can't do it for us. We will be glad to pay you back when we can, hopefully in the next year.

Hi, my name is bxxxxx. I have a 15 month old son and we just recently moved from the house where we lived with my husband. We are about to go through a divorce and dont have much money. Getting a christmas tree would bring a little extra happiness and holiday spirit which is needed at the time. I would greatly appreciate anything that can be donated to us. Thank you and Merry Christmas,

Hello I have been looking for a free or inexpensive tree for my brothers son and his family they have three young ones 7 year old girl 4 year old boy and 8 month baby girl. They have no tree yet, I went to visit yesterday and no

nothing at all Christmas. I sure would be appreciative and they would be so happy. I hope I am not to late. Merry Christmas

Hello, My name is Axxxxx and I was told to ask about a tree. My family doesn't have a tree right now because of money problems. I am a Soldier stationed at Fort Carson. We have a fake tree, we have actually had it for a while, but last year my kids had lost the parts to it. At the time I was deployed to Afghanistan. So I didn't know we needed a new one. We're having money problems because of bill collectors from old hospital bills and because of expensive car repairs. I still need 2 new tires, but I have to wait till I get my tax return before I can afford new tires. We were also behind on a few of our month to month bills because of some family issues. We had sent money back home to help out family. That set us back more then we had thought. So really were not as bad off as it seems, but every little bit helps us out. I am married, we have 4 kids, and one on the way. My oldest is my 13 year old son, next is my 8 year old daughter. Then my 6 year old son after that. And finally I have a 2 year old daughter. I only have a car that's not running so good right now. So If its possible I would appreciate delivery. Also for the simple fact that I work almost all day. Thank You for your time.

I am emailing to request a Christmas tree. I recently moved here from Indiana with my 3 children, because of an abusive relationship. I could not afford to move my things, so I had to leave them in storage in Indiana. My children and I are staying with my ex-husband in a 2 bedroom apartment because I am not able to afford my own place yet. If you have a tree left, could you please take me into consideration.

My family and I just got our own place, and while we have a very big Christmas Spirit, we cannot afford a tree and decorations! We would love to have our new place feel like Christmas, even if we can't afford presents for each other really, it would be nice to at least be able to decorate! I want to thank you guys for doing a WONDERFUL thing like this for families in need because it does make the holidays better! Thank you again in advance,

Hi my name is Dxxxxx, I am married to a US Army Soldier and we have two wonderful children. My husband just returned from deployment 3 weeks ago and it seems like since he's been home money has been extra tight. I guess it's because he isn't getting the deployment pay anymore. We haven't had money to go and get a tree, and I really would like my children to have a tree for Christmas..It just seems like Christmas isn't Christmas without the tree..If y'all could help us out that would be amazing and extremely appreciated! Thank y'all so much in advance!

Hi, My name is Jxxxx, I'm a single mother of 1. Her name is Sxxxx and she will be 2 on the 29th. I got fired from my job in July for staying home with my daughter when she was sick and unable to go to daycare. Her dad isn't apart of her life, so I'm all she's got. I was about to get evicted this month so I took down the xmas deco I had up and I had to pack up almost everything. Luckily my grandfather gave me money for rent to stay one more month. Anyway I don't have any extra money. So that means no tree and no presents for my daughter this year. Christmas tree's have always been a big deal for me and it's saddens me to not be able to even get a little one this year to share that joy and comfort with my daughter. Even if I can't put presents under, I know she would love a tree. She gets so excited to see one when we're out. There's so much more to our story, but I guess this is the jist of it. If you're able to help I would be so grateful. Thank you for reading my letter. If you ate able to give us a tree or have any questions my number is 719-xxxx-xxxx. Thanks again.

Hello my name is Nxxxx i am a mother of four children. i got laid off from my yearlong temporary position a few months ago. i am afraid that i will not be able to get a tree for my children. growing up we were never able to have one and this will be the first year that i will not be able to buy a tree for them.. i am asking for your help to provide the most beautiful thing.. the awe and amazement in a child's eye. that first look at their tree as its plugged in. i would greatly appreciate your help with full filling my wish for my kids to have a tree. the number where i can be reached at is 719-210-2538 this is my children's fathers phone as i do not have a phone at this time. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Hello, I received your information from Cxxxx, who saw a ad I posted on Craigslist. My children and I are in need of a smaller artificial Christmas tree this year and possibly some decorations. I had to separate from my abusive husband earlier this year and he took everything as far as Christmas went. I am a single mom of 2 who is unemployed and continuously looking for a job. This is going to be a tough Holiday and just want my kids to have a tree. My son and I are allergic to pine so if you have a artificial tree that you can deliver would be great. Thank you so very much.

Hi, my name is Allycen. It was a god send to hear that somebody might be able to help me get a tree for my 2 kids this holiday season. I have a 1 year old daughter, Kxxxx ..And a 4 week old, Gxxx. My newborn is due home from the NICU (in the hospital) any day now.. He surprised us by coming 6 weeks before his due date.. So my husband and I have had to rush out and do a month and a half worth of getting ready for baby in just a few days.. So money is kinda tight to say the least. If you could help us get a tree then you would be fulfilling a christmas wish for us.. My son's 1st christmas tree ever, My daughters wonderment and smile as she watches the lights

glistening on the tree.. The pictures and memories that we could have for their baby books.. If you can help, I would be forever grateful, Thank You.

Hello, This year ,in May, I was laid off from the Public Schools and haven't been able to find a job since. I have 2 teenagers at home and we have been struggling. I never liked to ask for free things but this time I feel bad about having Christmas without a tree. So I am asking you for a little gift. Maybe next year I will be able to return the favor. What you are doing is so great and you make a lot of people happy at this time of the year. I want to thank you.

Hello, I was just searching around for some help for this Christmas for my family and stumbled upon your story (which is awesome!) I was wondering if you have any tree's left for this year? I used to have one but gave it away thinking that I would buy a new one come Christmas and have hit some hard times and unable to afford one now. We have a family of five (two 18mo old twins and a 12 year old) and are now trying to live off of one disability check. I think I can pull off Christmas but it would be nice to be able to put it under a tree. If not I completely understand and will keep your info in case times turn around and I can help out because I think your idea is wonderful! Thank you, XXXX

And the Thank You's

I want to thank you for helping me to see the wonder in my children's eyes as they saw the tree that you gave our family.. Without your organization we wouldn't have been able to have a tree.. Thank you so very much.. Hope your holiday season is filled with as much joy as you've provided for us. Thanks, Nxxxx

My phone will be getting turned back on later this afternoon.. I would love to come pick up the tree this evening.. I will email u with my number when it gets turned back on.. God bless u guys for this.. u really made our Christmas bright this year.. THANK U!!!!

Oh my heavens!!!!!! Thank you so very much!!!! Truly a gift. Thank you!

I received your email, in effort to be resourceful to get materials for this year's tree giveaways. Although we're unable to help with supplies or money, I wanted to take a minute and tell you how much our family is thankful for yours. We are a recipient of last year's tree give-a-ways. We lost our home, and then our apartment, and have been living with family in Missouri for the past 9 months. I just thank you again for the tree. Looks like this is another year we would have gone without a Christmas tree had we not gotten one from your generosity. We're getting our feet underneath us (after a major hit in our business) but we're going to make it. Our 3 children are eager to get into our new house (yes, FINALLY a place of our own that we will move into between now and Christmas) and to set up that tree. My eyes tear up when I think of your time and efforts put into this each year. You are doing something wonderful for so many people-I'm sure you'll never know how much they truly appreciate your hard work. I pray for God's blessings on your tree-giving season and all the people to help out this year. Happy holidays!

Thank you so much for the opportunity! We have five kids and were able to get a tree this year from the Good Will. However, the reason I responded to your add – we have a wonderful lady at the Ute Pass Library who works in the children's section and reads to the children that cannot even afford a tree from the Good Will. Would you be willing to give this amazing and delightful lady a tree – and do it through us? Hoping to pass on the joy, Dxxxx

Thank you for the Tree, David. Got it all decorated and it's beautiful! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I saw your story on the news and think it is just wonderful what you are doing. Thankfully my family is blessed with the ability to provide for our children. But I have one little girl who has been sick (off and on) for the last few years. She has a heart of gold and is always wanting to help anyone who needs it. Every year she goes around one of the local towns delivering Christmas gifts to needy families and there is nothing she loves more. I was just wondering if you are ever looking for volunteers to deliver or drop off things? We wouldn't be able to do it full time. But I know that sometimes every little bit helps. If you are not, then that is fine too. But I wanted to make the offer just in case. Thank you.

Hi, I just had to write and thank you for restoring my faith in humanity. Reading the stories and letters was truly touching. May you be blessed for the good you are doing. Such an awesome way to spread happiness.

I was feeling down because we won't be having much of a Christmas, if any, this year. This is second year in a row. We lost everything to foreclosure and the economy in another state two years ago. We had to leave much of our stuff behind, including Christmas trees, ornaments and such... and move. A series of events, led to us living in Colorado Springs. It's been a struggle and we are trying to rebuild. It's all we can do to pay our rent and buy food

so Christmas isn't a priority for us. After reading the stories at your website, I realized... I need to just stop feeling sorry for myself. I realized that in many ways we are blessed and so many others have it so much worse. We are adults... our children are grown... so for us not to have these things is not such a big deal. It's heartbreaking knowing their are small children without a Christmas tree and really puts things in perspective. I intended to request a tree, but after reading your website, I have decided simply to write and say thank you and God bless. May the donations and help you need to carry on your mission continue to come your way.

From the woman with 5 children in Rialto California, "they even sent me one in rialto, California thx again-- my tree its beautiful"

To all those people that helped my family during my time of need! I thank you very much from the bottom of my heart, you have touched me dearly!!

Congratulations on the success of the Christmas Tree Project. You have generated amazing results and have opened the hearts of both givers and receivers. Please accept this donation.

Thank you so very much for the wonderful Christmas tree and decorations. My children and I appreciate what you do. Merry Christmas!

Thank you so much for the Christmas tree we got this year. Had it not been for your wonderful program our children would not have had one this year. I hope whenever we are back on our feet again we can help this program another year so someone else may get the luxury of having a tree on a year they are too are not doing well enough to provide one themselves.

Thank you for our tree. The kids can't wait to decorate it before daddy comes home for Christmas. Merry Christmas.

Thanks so much for our Christmas tree. It's the first we've had in 3 years and it's beautiful. Each time I look at it, I'm reminded of the true meaning of Christmas and that there are people who care. God Bless!!

Thank you for the tree, my family is now able to feel the Christmas spirit. May your family have a merry Christmas.

Thank you so much for bringing a smile to my girls Christmas. I appreciated all the decorations and the tree to make it a better x-mas for them.

Thank you so much for your gift! This tree made our families day and Christmas wouldn't be the same without it.

Thank you so much for my tree!

To the people of the Christmas Tree Project; I am so happy that you have a program like this. My husband is deployed and I have 3 children. We are struggling. We didn't have a tree. My friend told me about the project and we were able to get a "live" tree. What a blessing. Thank you so much. My children were so happy when they came home from school. Merry Christmas!

Thank you for the tree, lights and decorations. You have made a 6-year old boy very happy.

Pictures

The “Happy Room” (named by Justin after he saw how happy people were after getting to pick goodies here). This is where we kept a constant supply of Christmas ornaments, decorations, and other holiday goodies that people who received a tree could take with them:



More “Happy Room” goodies to give away



Scott Cook's first batch of live trees:



The Christmas Tree Project tree lot behind the ValuSource office:



Lindsey Watts from KRDO News 13 filming for local TV news:



Joe Bevans from KOAA News 5 filming for local TV news:



Michelle on one of the many, many decoration runs:



A woman picking up a tree and Christmas "goodies"



David with Q102.7's Marty the Moose giving away trees at the Q102.7 toy give away:



Michelle and Rose with the Q102.7 van at the toy give away:



Sue, a local nursing home resident, with David the Elf after delivering her tree:



Sue's tree in the nursing home:



Some of the set-up and donated trees we gave away:



More artificial trees that were donated:



"Ornament Central" where we gave away the trees and ornaments:

