

# AnchorLine

*the newsletter for supporters*

fall  
2011

inside:

looking forward

through our eyes

summer events

Anchor Center  
for Blind Children  
teaches visually  
impaired infants,  
young children  
and their families,  
providing hope  
and a nurturing  
environment  
where  
children  
reach their  
highest  
potential.



## Caden's Journey — One Day at a Time

Even before Caden was born, an ultrasound revealed some concerns about his development. Caden had been born almost six weeks early and spent many weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Mike and Diane, Caden's parents, felt overcome with worry. "While we knew of some potential complications, we were still not prepared for the long road ahead," recall Mike and Diane. "We dealt with each diagnosis or potential diagnosis as it was given. We took every day one day at a time." During this time in the hospital, Caden was diagnosed with Optic Nerve Hypoplasia (under-developed optic nerves) and was referred to Anchor Center.

Caden began attending the infant program over four years ago as a tiny baby. Scared and uncertain of what lay ahead, Mike and Diane were grateful for the support they found at Anchor Center. "We would listen to everything that the staff told us and would soak it up like a sponge. We loved seeing other families and started to look forward to the days we had at Anchor Center." The infant program helped Caden's parents understand his unique learning potential and they were encouraged by his developmental progress. "We remember the excitement of seeing him track an object or responding to light. It gave us a lot of hope."

As Caden got older, his personality really started to shine. Now an active preschooler, Caden loves music time with Ms. Amanda,

riding around in the wagon, and playing in the motor room. He would stay on the swing or the glider all day if his teachers would let him. "Caden is an adorable kid and has made a lot of advancements in his communicative and social skills," says preschool teacher, Lisa.

Mike and Diane share in the amazement of his growth and development. "Caden seems to learn something new with each visit to Anchor Center. When we pick him up at the end of his school day, he runs down the hall to greet us. We can tell by how excited he is that he has had a wonderful day. As parents,

we can't imagine what Caden's life, or ours, would be without the love and support of Anchor Center."



Caden Hoff is one of 12 upcoming preschool graduates in Spring 2012



# from the executive director



Can you believe that Anchor Center will be turning 30 next year? You'll be hearing more about the celebratory plans over the next few months as we look back on where we've been and how far we've come. As we move into another decade, we will be inviting all former students to a giant class reunion. We are eager to see how they, too, have matured and what they have accomplished. We are admittedly proud that Anchor Center helped get them launched. The celebration is being chaired by former board presidents Linda Branish and Mary Jones—so we know it will be a huge success and great fun. Please let us know if you would like to be part of the planning—which will include celebrating our fifth year in the Julie McAndrews Mork Building.

It is impossible to not talk about the fabulous fall weather and thank the 30-plus volunteers who spent precious weekend hours cleaning up our gardens and planting hundreds of bulbs, anticipating a magnificent spring as we prepare for winter. If you haven't been by to see the property, please take time out for a garden walk. It will soothe your soul. The children are like our gardens—growing, blooming, maturing, getting ready for whatever comes next. Sometimes they take a break from all of that and just tuck in for a while, get their bearings and sprout new wings. They rejuvenate our souls.

Yes, the crisp fall air reminds us it is that time of year for giving thanks and feeling joyful. Thank you for being a part of all that we are and for making the children's lives, and ours, so much richer.

Blessings abound,

*Alice Applebaum*

## What Color Are you? *Red, Yellow or Blue?*

Join the Kaleidoscope Color Circle and for \$10 or more per month, your gift provides the therapy and education that children with visual impairments need. For less than 50 cents per day you can make a huge difference in a child's life. Please help by becoming a monthly supporter at the level of your choice. Go to [anchorcenter.org](http://anchorcenter.org) under the "How You Can Help" section to learn more. You can setup your recurring gift on [givingfirst.org/anchorcenter](http://givingfirst.org/anchorcenter) for Colorado Gives Day and your first recurring gift will be matched with the incentive fund.

### Fall Wish List:

- paper towels
- facial tissue (tender noses)
- toilet paper
- 5 oz Dixie cups
- snack- and gallon-size Ziploc bags
- light up balls from PetSmart (green, red, yellow and blue)
- batteries
- liquid hand soap
- wash cloths
- gift cards: Hobby Lobby (art supplies) and Target (reading supplies)



24 hours to  
Give where you live

Support us on  
Colorado Gives Day!  
Tuesday, December 6  
online at [GivingFirst.org](http://GivingFirst.org)

*A special incentive fund  
will increase the value of  
your donation!*

Presented by  
Community First Foundation  
and FirstBank

[GivingFirst.org/cogivesday](http://GivingFirst.org/cogivesday)



## Time Is Running Out! Special IRA Opportunity Expires Dec. 31

The charitable IRA rollover legislation allows you to transfer lifetime gifts up to \$100,000 using funds from your individual retirement account (IRA) without undesirable tax effects. This opportunity is only available through December 31, 2011. (For more detailed information check out the Gift Planning section of [anchorcenter.org](http://anchorcenter.org).)

You may contribute funds this way if:

- you are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift
- the gifts total any amount up to \$100,000 in 2011
- you transfer funds directly from an IRA
- you transfer the gifts outright to one or more qualified charities, or for gift annuities, charitable trusts or donor advised funds

PG 3

## Navigators—Charting our Future

The fourth annual Navigator luncheon honored a special group of supporters who have included Anchor Center in their wills, estate plans or other gifts of future provision.

Navigator attendees included (left to right) **Dick and Shauna Landon, Lucy Wirth, Alice Applebaum, Linda Branish, Lynnette Morrison, Marilyn and Donald Werschky, Thayer Hubbard, Ronnie Mitzner** and **Mary Rogers**. Guests attending were Board President elect, **Curt Brown**, and board members **Tom Gold, Marlo Naumer, and Keith Vaughn**. **Tami Perez-Mesa**, mother to Carlie, was the parent speaker.

Other Navigators who were greatly missed at the luncheon are **Laura May and Herbert Bacon, Sue and**

**Donald Blaes, Patti and Bill Carpenter, Wendy and John Clayton, David and Cheryl Dutton, Ann and Hugh Evans, Mike and Kaye Hurtt, Ruth Law, John and Julie Mork, Gordon Nelson, Lexy and Brad Pfeifley, Carol Puchalski, and Tom Rogers.**

Our Navigators are an extraordinary group of individuals who have committed to leave a legacy for future generations. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

Navigators Luncheon 2011



# through



▲ Bouncy castle at the Pumpkin Patch



▲ Oh, what pretty colors



▶ New friend



▲ Falling leaves



▶ Giddy up!

# our eyes



PG 5

▲ What's up here?

◀ This is fun!



▲ Trick or treat



▶ Preschool BFFs  
(Best Friends Forever)



# Energy Corporation of America ForeSight Golf Classic 2011

The Energy Corporation of America Foresight Golf Classic 2011, held on June 16, was another huge success! Thanks to the generosity of all the corporate, team and hole sponsors we were able to raise over \$97,000.

Sincere appreciation for the tournament goes to Mr. and Mrs. David Liniger and RE/MAX LLC., Sanctuary staff and our title sponsor, Energy Corporation of America. We could not have achieved this without you and we truly thank you for your support!

### Presenting Sponsor



### Title Sponsor



### Participating Sponsors

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- Wells Fargo



Anchor Center student Anya and sister Reese with parents Will and Liz Wieder (center) joined by John and Julie Mork, and son Kyle.

PG 6

## Virginia Deal Williams Award

Susan Raymond received the 2011 Virginia Deal Williams Award in June for volunteering excellence. Susan originally came to Anchor Center when she was commissioned to do the sculptures for our sensory garden and has been a part of our family ever since. Susan's incredible artistic talents extend to photography as well and has provided volumes of priceless pictures of our infants, toddlers and preschoolers. From field trips to weekly visits in our classrooms, Susan has been there to capture the magic of Anchor Center. Susan Raymond, thank you for all that you do for us, for "having our backs," for loving the children and their families and for simply being there for us. Most important, thank you for all you ARE!



Susan Raymond on the other side of the camera lens, accepting her award

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Angel Party

**January 19, 2012**

For more information about becoming an Angel, go to [anchorcenter.org](http://anchorcenter.org), "How You Can Help" Angel Circle of Giving



### Visions of Love

**February 10, 2012**

An evening event at Anchor Center, pairing fine wine and chocolate!



### Energy Corporation of America Foresight Golf Classic

**June 14, 2012**

Sponsorships now available! Contact [Savannah@anchorcenter.org](mailto:Savannah@anchorcenter.org) for more details.

**Help us go green — please send us your email!**

To stay current and receive updates not sent via snail mail please send your address to [kwolfe@anchorcenter.org](mailto:kwolfe@anchorcenter.org).

# A Night to Remember

It was a magical setting for *Sunset in the Country 2011* at the beautiful estate of Jim and Pam Crowe and arguably one of the most memorable in the event's 15 year history. In fact, this year's annual gala broke all previous fundraising records netting over \$250,000! Our deepest thanks go to the table hosts who filled and decorated 49 tables, to Jim and Pam Crowe for their tremendous generosity hosting the evening, to Dinah Sink of Level 3 Communications who masterfully coordinated the site, Curt Brown for his leadership in chairing *Sunset* for the second year, Marlo and Chic Naumer for sharing their story and the 450 guests as well as our many dedicated volunteers for making this an event beyond our greatest expectations!



*Sunset in the Country 2011* event hosts, Jim and Pam Crowe

The tent was, as always, stunning



Event chair Curt Brown with wife Natelle, and parent speakers Marlo and Chic Naumer with daughters Stella and Anchor Center student Claire



PG 7

## Did You Know?

- Anchor Center for Blind Children was started by the Delta Gamma Alumnae of Denver.
- The Denver Alumnae Chapter celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2010.
- Delta Gamma Fraternity's philanthropy is "Sight conservation and aid to the blind."
- Delta Gamma Fraternity has three collegiate and alumnae chapters in Colorado: Beta Chi at the University of Denver, Beta Delta at Colorado College, and Phi at the University of Colorado. All have provided Anchor Center with volunteers and cash donations through fundraising activities. We can't thank them enough for their past, current and future support!
- The anchor is the traditional symbol of hope and the Delta Gammas have certainly given children with visual impairments hope for a brighter future!



**DELTA GAMMA**  
FRATERNITY

*for hope. for strength. for life.*



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