

# Weathering Life's Storms



## Are you prepared?

The truth is, no matter how prepared we may think we are, one catastrophic life event can change everything.

Do you know what resources are available to help someone who is faced with life's challenges?

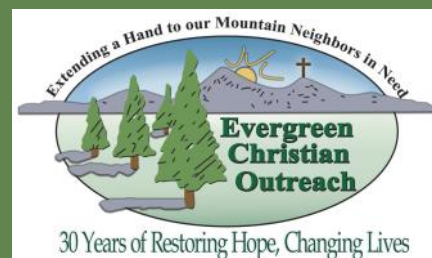
Do you know where to go for help?

For 30 years EChO has been able to help members in our community who are struggling to deal with a life storm.

Together we can provide services and assistance needed to build a strong foundation of support for the children, adults and seniors in our community.

***Together we can help people thrive and reach their full potential.***

2017 Fall Newsletter  
EvergreenChristianOutreach.org





*The mission of EChO is to provide assistance to residents of the Evergreen mountain communities who are unemployed, under-employed, dealing with a long term illness, or experiencing other forms of personal crisis.*

## Board of Directors

### Executive Board

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# Together We Can STEP UP to STOMP out HUNGER



## 8th Annual Turkey Trot / Fun Run

Register online at

[www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org](http://www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org)

Or pick-up registration form at the EChO Food Bank or Resale Shop to register before November 20th.

\$25 adults: \$10 children 11 and under:  
\$65 family of 4 (max)

No Time to Trot?

You can NOT TROT, but still make a difference.

Make a donation online to support EChO!

[www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org/2017-turkey-trot/](http://www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org/2017-turkey-trot/)

## 2017 Turkey Trot Sponsors



Moore Lumber and Hardware  
Tupper Briggs Real Estate Team  
Regan Orthodontics  
LIV Sotheby's International Realty  
Go Paint  
New York Life - Jeanie Boymel  
Highland Haven Creekside Inn  
Intermountain Humane Society  
Ride - Need a Ride???

# Message from the Executive Director

Sharon Smith



## Together We Can...

make a difference in the lives of others in our community.

We've all heard the saying, "it takes a village", and that certainly applies to the work we do here at EChO. Without the help and support of our mountain communities, EChO would not be able to do what we do best – help our neighbors weather the life storms that may come their way. Partnerships with county, state and local agencies, collaboration with area non-profits, support from local businesses, service organizations, churches and schools are essential to our overall success and help provide much needed resources and services.

Recently we have been saddened and deeply touched by the devastating events impacting other states – wildfires, floods, hurricanes, and the very recent mass shooting in Las Vegas. All of these have taught us that we must stand and act together to rise above the crises at hand. We hear of the many ways people have responded to the call for action to help those affected by these catastrophic events. Together we can make a difference and together we can heal.

While our mountain community has not experienced the emergency situations mentioned above, we still need your help. Right here in our own community we have seniors who do not have enough to eat (53% of our food bank shoppers are area seniors on fixed incomes). We have students going to school hungry (1 in 5 children in Colorado do not have enough to eat) and working families are struggling with not knowing where or when their next meal will be (only 6% of our shoppers are unemployed). The number of individuals experiencing homelessness has increased as well as the number of veterans requesting assistance. Yes, right here in our mountain community we have individuals struggling to weather life's storms.

None of us knows what tomorrow may bring. In an instant our life can change and we may be faced with insurmountable challenges. An accident, a medical emergency, a life altering diagnosis, a natural disaster, the loss of a job, spouse, or home could happen to anyone. If you were suddenly faced with a "major life storm", would you know where to go for help?

For the past 30 years EChO has been here to provide that help. Lifting up others helps all of us. We are stronger and healthier individually, and as a community, when we work together addressing the needs of others. With your help and financial support we can continue to do so. We cannot do it alone, but together we can.

*Sharon Smith*



EChO is one of three nonprofit organizations in Colorado that will be honored by Governor John Hickenlooper in October for being the first to successfully complete the requirements and training needed to earn the designation of a Non-Profit of Excellence by the Colorado Non-Profit Association.

EChO is extremely proud of this award as it recognizes our commitment and dedication to providing a high level of service to our clients and our community.

### EChO STAFF

Sharon Smith  
*Executive Director*

Chris Elmgreen  
Rachel Saylor  
*Client Advocates*

Cindy Costello  
*Bookkeeper*

Nancy Judge  
*Food Bank Manager*

Lynn Kutalek  
*Food Bank Assistant Manager*

Mary Petrich  
*Volunteer Services Director*

Karen Triberti  
Maggie Jones  
*Front Desk Receptionists*

Beckie Mosch  
*Jobs Program Director*

Lori Frease  
*Development Director*

Kim Moore  
*Fundraising/Event Planning*

Janet Shown  
*Grants*

Kaethe Zellner  
*Emergency Shelter Program Director*

Sandra Moog

Linda Parkins

Susan Scheuermann

Katie Richards

Lana Dolly  
*Enrichment Center Program  
SER Trainees*

### EChO RESALE Staff

Kim Gaudet  
*Manager*

Lisa Stewart  
*Floor Supervisor*

Samantha Austin

Mary Sousa  
*Donation Clerks*

Christine Lapointe  
*Floor Merchandiser*

Les Moore  
Sue Foster  
*Cashiers*

Roxann Berland  
*Furniture Supervisor*

Walter Dominguez

Rick Lynch

Joe Edwards

Hunter West

*Warehouse Donation Clerks*

Scott Robinson  
*Furniture Finisher*

Gary Clemons  
Tony Winters  
*Resale SER Trainees*

*Proud Members of:*



COLORADO  
**FOOD  
PANTRY  
NETWORK**



Conifer Area  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



EVERGREEN AREA  
Chamber of Commerce

# Jobs Center

Beckie Mosch, Director

## Together we can work to make people self-sufficient.

Many have walked through our doors at the Jobs Program over the last several months. The success stories are remarkably cumulative. Reflecting on the accomplishments, here are two stories of change, proving that together we can!



Meet Sally, someone who has proven that, together anything is possible, regardless of the obstacles. She has undergone numerous life-changing events starting in 2010. It began with a diagnosis of Leukemia (CML), just 2 weeks after leaving her job. Reaching out to EChO, she received services and financial support from Client Services, and the EChO

Resale store hired Sally.

In December of 2011, a second diagnosis, Cushing's disease, resulted in Sally's need for surgery. She was not able to resume work, and her husband's business was struggling. The medical bills were insurmountable, causing her family to lose their home and become renters. Then her husband got a diagnosis of a hereditary disease in 2016, needing treatments, meaning more medical expenses. The treatments seemed to be helping when he tragically died in a car accident during the holiday season. Her son was also in the car, sustained a concussion. Sharon Smith, EChO's Executive Director, was there to help the family through this devastating process, assuring that things were going to work out. She helped Sally find a new place to live.

Sally came to the Jobs Program at the start of the year. She diligently brushed up on her computer skills by frequenting classes and Tech Time one-on-one tutoring support. Soon she became part of the Senior Community Service Employment Plan (SER SCSEP). This federally funded program offered Sally paid training at our Jobs Program. This past spring she attended the Mountain Area Job Fair (co-hosted by EChO), interviewed, but did not get the job. Only a few months later, she was hired by a local children's dentist office. Sally gratefully remarked, "I thank everyone who helped me along this journey in my life. For this I am eternally grateful."

### EChO IS ON FACEBOOK!

Please check us out!  
"Like Us" and "Friend Us"  
to keep spreading the good news.  
Evergreen Christian Outreach  
and EChO Resale Shop



Now meet Adam, who is a member of Troop 737. He just completed his Eagle Service Project for the Jobs Program. Service projects are required of any Life Rank Boy Scout to achieve the final Eagle Badge of Rank before turning 18 years of age. Only 5-7% of all Boy Scouts accomplish this prestigious level. Our program desired a laptop cabinet to make for easy access and security of stored laptops used out in the community for classes.



Adam assessed the requested logistics for this project by listening intently. His start-to-finish plan for the computer cabinet included a community fundraiser for the project – a spaghetti dinner, recruiting the assistance of a local restaurant for the food and other scouts in his troop to help serve the food. His expectations were exceeded leaving room for a monetary donation for computer lab equipment.

His artisanship created a pleasing piece of furniture that not only allows our senior trainees to access the computers with ease but also equips us with the ability to wheel it to different rooms. Adam's commitment to high quality service will benefit the Jobs Program for years to come. We are incredibly thankful for Adam's dedication to helping our community, confirming the fact that, together we can!



Check out our website for all the details!  
[www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org](http://www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org)

# Food Bank

Nancy Judge, Manager

Lynn Kutalek, Assistant Manager

# Resale Store

Kim Gaudet

Resale Shop Manager

# EChO

Resale and Home  
Furnishings Store

All proceeds to benefit the programs of Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO)

**Together we can reduce food insecurity** in the mountain communities.

Over the summer, EChO provided weekly food boxes to families with school-aged children; the boxes included shelf stable items as well as protein, dairy, and produce. We had 121 children signed up for the program with a pick-up rate of over 80% each week. Comments from parents included: "The impact is a blessing when you are a single mom," and "Huge financial help during a tough time."

As we look forward to the winter months, EChO will be rolling out an "Adopt-a-Shelf" program to the community. The goal is for organizations or

individuals to adopt one shelf for a specific period of time and collaborate with EChO to keep that shelf full for the time slot commitment. This could mean someone purchasing and delivering to EChO the items to fill that shelf, or it could mean providing a financial donation and allowing EChO to use its buying power to take that money further.

Initially we will roll out the ability to adopt the canned fruit shelf and the low protein soup shelf (think chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, or broth). We have 50 weeks available for each shelf and we are prepared to add other shelves as the response warrants. The cost per shelf, per week is \$75.00. Please contact Nancy Judge at 303-670-1796 or [nancy@evergreenchristianoutreach.org](mailto:nancy@evergreenchristianoutreach.org) with any questions or interest.



**ADOPT A SHELF**  
At the Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO) Food Bank.

**OUR BIGGEST NEEDS**  
Canned Fruit  
Hearty Soups

**AN EASY WAY TO HELP**  
Want a fun way to donate to EChO? Adopt a shelf in our food pantry and help families get some of the most needed items.  
As an individual, group of friends, member of an organization, or business, you donate funds monthly and we will stock your shelf. And you can donate in the name of someone and their name will appear on the shelf for the allotted time. Great idea for Christmas giving to the person who has everything.

**GET STARTED**  
We will recognize your generous sponsorship of your shelf for the month in our food pantry and on our website.  
Contact Nancy at 303-670-1796 or [nancy@evergreenchristianoutreach.org](mailto:nancy@evergreenchristianoutreach.org) to learn more. The best time to reach Nancy is Monday through Thursday from 10a-4p.  
EChO Food Bank is located at 27640 Hwy 74, Evergreen CO  
[www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org](http://www.EvergreenChristianOutreach.org)

## Food Bank GREATEST Needs

- Hearty soups
- Cereal
- Canned tuna
- Canned fruits
- Canned beans
- Peanut butter

**You can drop to Food Bank M-Th 10am-4pm  
27640 Hwy 74, 303-670-1796**

**Together we can help change the lives** of those in need in our mountain community.

At Resale it begins when a donor drives up to our donation door and donates items to the store. Our volunteers and staff sort, process, and merchandise these donations for sale. Customers from our community and afar purchase these items. Proceeds from their purchases support the food bank, client services, and job center to assist our neighbors in need.

Donors who take the time and energy to pass their gently used items are very important to EChO. We might sell them, use them to assist a family who's lost everything in a fire, help another charity, auction them, make use of them for events, or use them to assist in merchandising our store. EChO Resale has thrived in our community due to the generosity of our donors. We accept donations Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We have a two-bag or -box limit per day for clothing, toys, décor, housewares, etc. We also pick-up furniture for free in our mountain community.

Our volunteers and staff work hard at Resale, as much of what they do is very physical; but the reward of their service is huge as well. The Resale shop has over 100 volunteers and 12 employees who are dedicated to EChO's mission, and they love what they do. One couldn't do without the other, and there's an amazing collaboration and great camaraderie between them.

The EChO Resale Shop began with a need in our community, followed by generous donations, and a vision – and has grown into an amazing gift that benefits and enriches our entire community. Together our community has helped support this fantastic store to benefit many.

The store – now over 10,000 sq/ ft. and open Monday through Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm – sells everyday items to unbelievable treasures from all over the world. It has a tiered pricing structure due to the large quantity of expensive items we sell. Much of our merchandise is priced at least 80% off retail pricing. We offer \$1.00 clothing once a month and daily sales that bring the already great prices even lower.

Stop by to find a fantastic deal, an unbelievable treasure, a unique gift, a fun collectible or to upgrade your furniture. There really isn't much you won't see at the EChO Resale & Home Furnishings Store.

If you wish to receive your newsletter by email, please submit your email address to:

[lori@evergreenchristianoutreach.org](mailto:lori@evergreenchristianoutreach.org)

# Client Services

Chris Elmgreen & Rachel Saylor

Client Advocates

Kaethe Zellner

Emergency Shelter Program Director

Together we can provide families with assistance while they face a variety of unique situations.

Just this year we were able to help two families facing devastating diagnoses. One has fully recovered and is back to work. The second family came to us with a terminal illness, and we were able to provide food, financial and emotional support.

We were blessed to have developed a close relationship with this family and heartbroken to learn when the man lost his battle. However, we were able use resources to help lay the father to rest.

Many families came to us with temporary setbacks, quickly recovered and are now back on their feet. Client Services is proud to announce we assisted in housing three homeless veterans, and we were able to help one veteran find a furry friend for companionship. We are most proud of a local combat veteran who decided to reach out to us for help with PTSD. We helped him enter into inpatient treatment. After a month he enrolled into college and will be housed after he completes 90 days.

We were honored to help a granddaughter lay her grandmother to rest next to her WWII veteran husband in Ft. Logan cemetery. We have collaborated with many agencies to case manage our most at-risk and vulnerable members of our community. We are grateful for the support we have received from our mountain community, the volunteers who play a large role in making our organization function, our staff, and for those clients who manage to bring smiles to our faces when they visit us. Together we can provide services to better our community.



**Together we can provide shelter on life-threatening winter nights to those that do not have housing.**

The warm and caring environment of the Emergency Shelter Program (ESP) is unusual in the world of shelters. Guests have expressed that at an ESP shelter there is a sense of security that they have not found elsewhere. Guests have truly appreciated the family-style dinners offered, the kindness of the volunteers and the encouragement they have felt. Some of our guests were even able to move on to permanent housing or other supportive transitional programs.

*Just this year we were able to help two families facing devastating diagnoses. One has fully recovered and is back to work. The second family came to us with a terminal illness, and we were able to provide food, financial and emotional support.*

ESP could not operate without the support of community and religious organizations that are committed to the development and operation of this program. Forty-seven nights of shelter were provided during the 2016/2017 season, and we expect that to increase during our second season, thanks to the commitment of 112 dedicated volunteers who contributed over 1,640 volunteer hours.

Volunteers worked at the shelters, cooked food, managed grants and budgets, solicited donations, developed policies, conducted trainings and managed the shelter operations. Our community partners have helped with hosting ESP, donating supplies, developing policies and procedures, coordinating transportation, funding and grants and other support as needed.

These groups have made an enormous impact and include: At Home in Evergreen, Seniors' Resource Center, the Jeffco Sheriff's Dept., Evergreen Fire Rescue, Severe Weather Shelter Network, Evergreen Rotary, Salvation Army - Evergreen Extension, Congregation Beth Evergreen, Evergreen Lutheran Church, Bergen Park Church, Christ the King Catholic Church, Church of the Transfiguration, Evergreen United Methodist, The Sanctuary Evergreen, Evergreen Christian Church.

The Emergency Shelter Program Leadership Team has been busy getting ready to open on October 16, 2017 for our second season and we are pleased to announce some exciting changes.

Christ the King Catholic Church has agreed to open its doors to become the fifth ESP Host Site! Thank you Father Jim, Marcie Dahlen and Bud Madigan for your hard work making this possible. Christ the King is in the process of putting their ESP team together which will include a Site Coordinator, Team Leaders and a pool of regular volunteers purchasing supplies, and training volunteers.

This season, ESP will open its doors to families in need of shelter in addition to single adults. At Home in Evergreen obtained an Evergreen Rotary grant to purchase tents for each of the host sites, providing some privacy for families indoors.

The grant also provides funds to purchase cots for sleeping. ESP overnight volunteers had requested this change at the end of last season and had expressed that sleeping on the hard floor with only a thermarest pad was difficult.

ESP is truly an interfaith and community effort. We applaud all those who have helped and would like to invite others to get involved. Please join us for one of our upcoming volunteer trainings offered throughout the fall of 2017. Check out our website for schedules.

[www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org](http://www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org)

# Volunteers

Mary Petrich, Volunteer Services Director

## Together we care for children, thanks to volunteers.

While summer vacation can be an exciting break, the hiatus can be a source of concern and anxiety as the three months can put the squeeze on already-limited finances as there are costs that many would not consider – lunches, supplies, and clothing.

The absence of free or reduced-rate school lunches can leave a family wondering how they will fill that void. EChO's Summer Lunch Program became the answer to a prayer when a small group of volunteers took on the task for assembling and distributing lunches for 121 children who enrolled in the summer program. They created a menu of five different meals each week, taking into consideration special diets, nutritional value, ease of preparation and children's typical taste preferences. They packed the lunches and had them available for pickup each week. This formidable undertaking was deemed a tremendous success. Notes, verbal expressions and small gifts of gratitude from the families flooded in to lend testimony to the value of the volunteers' efforts. It goes without saying that the intention is to continue the program in future years.

Providing school supplies was an EChO outreach program embraced by Flatirons Church West Campus. Their congregation conducted a backpack/supply drive for our community, supplying 149 backpacks filled with essential school items. Other items are contributed by our local donors, and for two weeks the families are able to choose their backpacks and fill their supply. If you doubt the amount of excitement and fulfillment this volunteer endeavor generates, I invite you to help with the project next year.

The last component in the "Back to School" preparation addresses the expense of outgrowing wardrobes and the financial impact on families. In conjunction with the Salvation Army, EChO's children are treated to a \$75 shopping trip to Walmart to choose their new clothes. EChO volunteers act as chaperones and use their shopping savvy to maximize the dollar allotment. This is a heartwarming project that has proven to be a favorite of the 40 volunteers who participate.

These programs demonstrate EChO's focus on the next generation, and volunteer support is what makes it all possible. No matter what role they play, volunteers are very much a part of this caring community

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### November

- 1-30 **Pre-Schedule your COGives donation** to count on Colorado Gives Day.
- 2 **Non-Profit Expo** presented by Genesee Pub & BBQ
- 11/12 **Alternative Gift Fair** - Evergreen Lutheran Church
- 18 **9Cares Colorado Shares** at Bergen King Soopers
- 15/16 **Thanksgiving Meals** to Clients
- 20/21 **Thanksgiving Meals** to Clients
- 17 **Thanksgiving Concert to benefit EChO**
- 23 **8th Annual Turkey Trot** - Thanksgiving Morning

### December

- 5 **Colorado Gives Day**  
24 hours to Give Where you Live
- 12 **EChO Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Party**
- 19-21 **Christmas/Holiday Meals and Children's Gifts**

Check out the Website for more details on these and other events.

**[Evergreenchristianoutreach.org](http://Evergreenchristianoutreach.org)**

Sunday, October 28th is

## National Make a Difference Day

What will YOU do to make a difference in our community?

- Volunteer?**
- Donate to Food Bank?**
- Donate to Resale Store?**
- Give?**

Your financial contribution of any amount will help provide assistance to over 300 families in our community that could use additional help.

**You can donate in honor or memory of someone who made a difference in your life.**

Please use the envelope or you can donate safely and securely online on our website.



**MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE DAY**  
NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

*Casino Royale  
Casino Night*

*September 15, 2017*



*Thank You to our  
Casino Night Sponsors*

*Cynthia and Chris  
Thrall*

*LeaderOne Financial  
Corporation*

*EChO Resale Store*



*Spring Job Fair 2017*

*EChO Garden at Buchanan*

*Back to School Salvation Army  
Clothes Shopping for Children*

