



FOUNDATION NEWS

WINTER 2007 VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

GRANTS LAUNCH SMARTHOME PROJECT

The SmartHome Project got a big boost in November! Within the space of one week, Imagine! received notice that the Department of Housing and Urban Development had approved a grant for \$590,000 for the Longmont SmartHome, and the City of Boulder's Department of Human Services recommended an additional \$200,000 for the Boulder SmartHome to augment the \$50,000 awarded last year. These commitments assure the success of the overall project and point to groundbreaking for both homes in 2008. The Longmont SmartHome is planned to be built in the new Blue Vista subdivision, and the Boulder SmartHome will be a scrape-and-build project at the site of an existing 60-year-old Imagine! group home on Iris Avenue that needs to be replaced.

The Imagine! Foundation will now officially begin its capital campaign for both homes. Cash contributions, in-kind donations of materials and services, and additional grants will all be a part of the development of the homes. The Foundation will offer a variety of recognition opportunities at the sites and at Imagine!'s new donor recognition area in Imagine!'s Coal Creek building. Supporters of the SmartHome Project will also receive special updates on the progress of both homes, and Imagine! will set up a new SmartHome website that will track the development of both homes and highlight funding results.

Imagine! staff members have spent several years investigating the most effective ways to incorporate "smart" technology into the homes. Their goal has been to look for ways that technology can enhance the quality of life for consumers, augment the effectiveness of staff as caregivers, and provide cost and energy savings for Imagine!. As the first such homes in the nation for people with cognitive disabilities, the SmartHomes will also serve as demonstration models for the future of residential care. It is gratifying and key to have federal and local governmental support at the outset of this project, and Imagine! and the Imagine! Foundation are confident that local individuals, businesses, and foundations will ensure its success.



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CIRCLE THE DATE – THE IMAGINE! CELEBRATION JANUARY 25, 2008

The Imagine! Celebration is just around the corner! New live auction items since the fall newsletter include: a five-course dinner for 10 prepared in your home by Dave Query with wine compliments of Liquor Mart, a 42" television, a cattle drive, a "Beer Lover's Bonanza" (all the makings for a memorable keg party), a beach house in Manzanilla, a garden party for 16, a stay at a spacious vacation cabin near Grand Lake and Rocky Mountain National Park, and a "Water Adventure" on a 43-foot cruiser, complete with swimming, jet skis, ski boats, and an on-board cook-out! You will soon be able to see and read about all of the live auction items on Imagine!'s website (www.imaginecolorado.org) for early perusal and bidding!

The event is Friday, January 25, 5:30-10:00 p.m. at the Millennium Harvest House Boulder. Highlights will include the announcement of the Consumer of the Year and the Distinguished Donor. In addition, Betty Eldridge and family are offering a challenge grant for the Special Appeal, which will raise funds for both SmartHomes.

The Imagine! Celebration Committee has put together many new and different auction items and a few surprises for what is expected to be a sold-out crowd. Invitations will be mailed by the first of the year, so plan to reserve early and join in the fun!

Imagine! Celebration Committee

Debbie Paul, Chair

Judith Carmichael

Diane Carroll

Becky Fase

Marilyn Haas

Kristin Karakehian

Julia McIver

Mary Rianoshek

Colene Van Winkle



Live auction items at this year's Imagine! Celebration include a five-course dinner for 10 prepared in your home by Dave Query with wine compliments of Liquor Mart, a 42" television, a cattle drive, a "Beer Lover's Bonanza" (all the makings for a memorable keg party), a beach house in Manzanilla, a garden party for 16, a stay at a spacious vacation cabin near Grand Lake and Rocky Mountain National Park, and a "Water Adventure" on a 43-foot cruiser, complete with swimming, jet skis, ski boats, and an on-board cook-out!



SUPPORT IMAGINE! WHILE YOU SHOP ONLINE

If you shop online, you can also automatically raise money for Imagine!. The website iGive.com offers a free membership that allows you to shop as usual at many of your favorite online sites that will then donate a percentage of your purchase to Imagine!.

iGive.com has 688 stores to choose from, including such familiar names as Barnes & Noble, Coldwater Creek, eBay, Eddie Bauer, Kohl's, Lands End, Nordstrom, Office Max, and Sports Authority.

When you are a member and you go to your favorite site, a small message box will drop down briefly to tell you what percentage of your purchase will go to Imagine!. It's that easy.

Imagine! has been receiving money from iGive.com since 2000 and has earned over \$600. However, this amount has been earned through just a handful of people. iGive.com suggests that the typical online shopper can generate \$20-\$40 per year for Imagine!.

We'd like to encourage everyone who shops online to consider joining iGive.com and designating Imagine! as the recipient of the online percentage. Each new member earns Imagine! \$5 right off the bat! Visit iGive.com at: <http://www.iGive.com/html/refer.cfm?causeid=9101>.



The website iGive.com offers a free membership that allows you to shop as usual at many of your favorite online sites that will then donate a percentage of your purchase to Imagine!.



DONOR RECOGNITION RECEPTION SET FOR APRIL 30

Imagine! and the Imagine! Foundation are anticipating that about 300 people will attend the first ever Donor Recognition Reception at Imagine!'s Coal Creek Conference Center on Wednesday evening, April 30, 2008.

The event will honor Walt and Linda Pounds and Betty Eldridge and her family for their significant contributions to Imagine!, as well as those who have included Imagine! in their wills (The Imagine! Promise), and donors of \$5000 or more since the Foundation began in 2001.

All donors will be thanked and celebrated for the difference they have made in the lives of people with cognitive disabilities.

The reception is being planned by the Imagine! Foundation's Promise Committee, chaired by Foundation founder Bob Charles.

Special assistance is being provided by Joan Holtz, an Imagine! Children's Services staff member, who is part of Imagine!'s new Leadership Program that seeks to identify and develop future leaders

and managers within Imagine!. As part of the program, Joan is learning about other parts of the Imagine! organization, particularly the Imagine! Foundation, and has chosen the Donor Recognition Reception as her specific project.

Mark your calendar now, and please join us as we celebrate the many generous donors who have been so instrumental in helping Imagine! to serve people with cognitive disabilities.



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IMAGINE! CONSUMER IS A PROUD HOMEOWNER



Imagine! consumer Teri Leiker is shown relaxing at her new condominium. Teri's dream of homeownership came true because of her hard work and determination. Congratulations to Teri and all those who helped make her dream a reality!

Imagine! consumer Teri Leiker recently had a dream come true when she purchased her own home. Teri is a happy, proud owner of a condominium in Boulder. She was able to purchase her home with assistance from Section 8 Housing. Section 8 is a type of federal assistance provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) dedicated to sponsoring subsidized housing for low-income families and individuals.

Mary Simonson, Imagine!'s Section 8 Housing representative, is skillful at ensuring that qualified Imagine! consumers receive subsidized housing.

Mary is eager to give credit to Teri and her mom, Margie Whittington, for doing the bulk of the legwork for the home purchase.

Teri has lived on her own since 1995 and receives support for independent living skills through Imagine!'s Community Partnerships department. She also enjoys participating in therapeutic recreation activities with Imagine!'s Out & About department.

Teri has worked at King

Soopers on Table Mesa in Boulder for almost 20 years! She bags groceries and is responsible for bringing in shopping carts from the parking lot. Teri is prompt and dependable and very well-liked by her coworkers and customers, according to her Imagine! Case Manager, Dana Plemon.

When Teri was asked what she thinks about owning her own home, she replied, "I'm just proud of myself. It feels great!" Well, Teri, we're proud of you, too, and hope you enjoy your new home.

Congratulations to Teri and all those who helped make her dream a reality!



THANKSGIVING MADE EASY FOR IMAGINE! CONSUMERS AND FAMILIES



Restaurateur and former Imagine! Foundation board member Dave Query (left) and his staff at Centro Latin Kitchen provided a free Thanksgiving dinner to Imagine! consumers and their families.

Dave Query has done it again! For the fourth year, restaurateur and former Imagine! Foundation board member Dave Query has

offered a free Thanksgiving dinner to Imagine! consumers and their families.

This year's event was held on Thanksgiving Day at Query's Centro Latin Kitchen & Restaurant Palace on Pearl Street in Boulder. A total of 300 dinners were provided, with Centro and Imagine! staff and board members

volunteering to serve the meals.

Imagine!, the Imagine! Foundation, and Imagine! families are very grateful to Dave and his staff for this particularly kind and generous celebration of thanks.



BECOME PART OF THE IMAGINE! PROMISE

The Imagine! Foundation is inviting friends of Imagine! to become members of The Imagine! Promise – a group of people who have named the Imagine! Foundation in their wills.

If you have already included

the Imagine! Foundation in your will, please let us know so that we may recognize you as a member of The Imagine! Promise.

If you have not yet done so, we hope you will consider this very important avenue of

support for people in our community with cognitive disabilities.

Visit <http://www.imaginecolorado.org/foundContribute.htm#bequest> for more information.



People who have named the Imagine! Foundation in their wills are being honored as members of The Imagine! Promise.

WELCOME NEW IMAGINE! FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER DON FORT

Don L. Fort, Managing Member of Fort Drilling, LLC in Longmont, has

joined the Imagine! Foundation's board of directors.

Welcome, Don! We look forward to working with you.



Don Fort

Imagine! Board of Directors

Bill Sabin, President

| | |
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| Bob Davis | Kevin Nelson |
| Donna Fairchild | Jerry Rudy |
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Foundation News is the newsletter of the Imagine! Foundation

1400 Dixon Avenue
Lafayette, CO 80026-2790

Phone: (303) 666-7018

Fax: (303) 665-2648

www.imaginecolorado.org

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THE MISSION OF IMAGINE! IS TO CREATE AND OFFER INNOVATIVE SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES WITH COGNITIVE, DEVELOPMENTAL, PHYSICAL AND HEALTH RELATED NEEDS SO THEY MAY LIVE FULFILLING LIVES OF INDEPENDENCE AND QUALITY IN THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES.

Imagine! Foundation
1400 Dixon Street
Lafayette, CO 80026-2790

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Grants Launch
SmartHome Project

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Inside.**

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BELIEVING IN THE POTENTIAL OF ALL
Imagine!
FOUNDATION