



MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, July 19, 2006

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BRIDGING GAPS, BUILDING LIVES **PRO BONO MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM CELEBRATES 20 YEARS**

DENVER, Colo. – The **Mental Health Association of Colorado** (MHAC) announces the 20th anniversary of its signature Pro Bono Mental Health Program. Started in 1986, the program was originally developed to address the lack of mental health treatment options for homeless people living with chronic mental illness. The program has expanded through the years to connect low-income children and adolescents, families and the elderly with mental health services. To date, nearly \$9million in free mental health services have been given to low-income and homeless people all across the metro area.

“The Pro Bono Mental Program bridges a gap in mental health services,” states MHAC President and CEO, Jeanne M. Rohner. “There are many low-income and homeless people in our communities who are receiving shelter or food, but who are not able to access critical mental health care along the way. By building this bridge, we are helping to build lives.”

MHAC networks with mental health professionals and the host sites to match needs and interests. Currently, more than 70 therapists, psychologists and psychiatrists give back to the community through this program at 30 host sites in the metro area. Volunteers help their clients build support systems, develop coping skills and work through crises. The overwhelming response from the host sites, clients and professional volunteers is that positive changes are being made in the lives of many people.

To learn more about the Pro Bono Mental Health Program, visit www.mhacolorado.org.

Sites in the Metro Area:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado	Project Wise
Boys Hope	Rainbow Alley
Brandon Center	Rainbow House
Bridgeway Homes & Education for Pregnant Teens	Renaissance Children's Center
Colorado Youth at Risk	SafeHouse Denver
Curtis Park Community	Saint Francis Center
East High School	Samaritan House
Forest Manor Apartments	Samuels Elementary School
Guardian Angels School	Seniors' Resource Center
I Have A Dream Foundation of Boulder County	Senior Support Services
Inner City Health Center	Stout Street Bridges
Jeffco Action Center/Estes Street Clinic	Stout Street Clinic
La Casa Quigg Newton Family Counseling Center	The Gathering Place
Morning Star Adult Daycare	The Inn Between
Parent Pathways	Warren Village
Presentation of Our Lady	

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About the Mental Health Association of Colorado

The Mental Health Association of Colorado, the Colorado affiliate of the National Mental Health Association, is the catalyst and voice for the Colorado mental health movement. Through Education, Advocacy and Outreach, we provide resources to Coloradans affected by the entire spectrum of mental health issues.

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