

CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

SERVING LARIMER COUNTY CHILDREN IN NEED

How We Can Help:

CRISIS INTERVENTION & ASSESSMENT: Turning Point therapists interview the child and the family to determine safety issues, stability of the family unit and conduct a full assessment for the purpose of developing an individualized treatment plan for the child and family.

TREATMENT: A therapist is assigned to the child and family and the presenting problem is addressed through **INDIVIDUAL, GROUP AND IN-HOME FAMILY THERAPY**. In-school **SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION AND TREATMENT** groups take place one to two times per week in conjunction with in-home family therapy. Additional services offered include support and advocacy, and **PARENTING AND LIFE SKILLS CURRICULUMS**. Toward the end of the treatment phase, youth are typically matched with a sponsor and referred to local AA/NA groups.

TRANSITION AND FOLLOW UP: The final phase of the program and addresses the un-met needs of the family unit. Referrals are made to local non-profits and human service agencies for **EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, FOLLOW UP MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING**. The therapist is available for an additional six months following program discharge to address relapse, change in family circumstances, attendance and truancy issues and further crisis situations.

CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES offers free mental health and substance abuse treatment services to low income families in **LARIMER COUNTY**.

Learn more inside this newsletter.



FIRST FOUR THURSDAYS IN SEPTEMBER FROM 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. AT THE VILLAGGIO E. HARMONY RD, FORT COLLINS Many thanks to: Bellissimo, Inc., The Rustic Oven, Super Suppers, Wahoo's Fish Tacos, & Southern Wine and Spirits. Details on the web at www.turningpnt.org



PEEK AT THE POINT

Newsletter

August 2011

1644 S. College Avenue | Fort Collins, CO 80525
970.221.0999 | www.turningpnt.org

Crisis Intervention Services for Larimer County Children in Crisis!



Turning Point offers referral, assessment, counseling, and treatment to children ages 4-23 and their families who are in crisis due to behavioral health and/or substance abuse issues. Turning Point works closely with local schools to identify children who may need our help. This program is funded through grants from The Daniels Fund and United Way of Larimer County.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Children under 23 and their families
- Children in crisis, struggling with behavioral health and/or substance abuse issues
- Children who are uninsured
- Children who are unable to afford these services.

WHY NOW?

The Crisis Intervention Program grew out of **UNITED WAY OF LARIMER COUNTY'S SOLID FOUNDATIONS FUND** initiative to provide "safety net" services to local families encouraging self sufficiency and community connectedness. The program provides free assistance and advocacy to low income families in crisis due to untreated mental health and substance abuse issues. The target group for this program includes children and young adults, ages 4-23.

In Fiscal Year 2010-2011 alone, this program served more than 135 children and their families. 90% of referrals to the program are initiated by middle and high school counselors and teachers in the Poudre and Thompson school districts.

80% of the children served in this program are from single parent families, 60% have incomes less than \$20,000 per year and 40% less than \$30,000. It should also be noted that between 5 and 10% of families served are Spanish speaking only. The therapists involved with the program report that not only are these families struggling with behavioral and substance abuse issues involving their children, they are also experiencing problems in the areas of employment, education, housing and a wide variety of un-met needs that create additional stress to the family unit.

WANT TO HELP? WWW.TURNINGPNT.ORG

@Turning_Point Twitter

Turning Point Center for Youth & Family Development Facebook

Turning Point provides youth with the necessary tools to travel through life, to overcome obstacles and road blocks, and to bravely meet challenges head-on. Our programs offer youth a road-map to success, a life-compass, guiding youth toward better decision making and healthier life choices. Therapeutic treatment, education and sobriety combine to offer hopeful futures for each of the children in our care.



NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FORT COLLINS, CO
PERMIT NO. 137

TURNING POINT AWARDED COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANT

Turning Point is the recipient of a multi year grant awarded by the Colorado Department of Education. The grant awards a total of \$780,000 over a four year period. This is an Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant. This funding will support Turning Point's Connections Program - a program-wide behavioral and academic support system designed for students who are at risk of future suspension or expulsion upon returning to their home schools.

Turning Point's education program served 190 students from 18 Colorado school districts last year. The Connections Program will target 90 students at high-risk for suspension/expulsion each year. More than half of the students in our care (on average).

The Connections Program incorporates evidence based practices and strategies that strengthen students' abilities to achieve and maintain success. This extensive treatment and transition program helps students change behaviors that initially place them at risk.

Why is this grant so vital to improving the futures of the youth in our care?

- 90% of the kids in our care have a history of prior school suspensions
- 20% of the kids in our care have been expelled
- 80% of our youth fall below the 40th percentile rank in Math
- 73% of our youth fall below the 40th percentile rank in Reading
- 40% of our residential students and 70% of our day treatment students are classified as Special Education

Turning Point's goal is to provide students with the skills necessary to make a successful transition back to schools and communities of origin. This grant will help us to reach that goal as it will provide for ongoing support and intervention to students during the 6 month transition period upon leaving Turning Point and returning to home communities and schools. These support services include family preservation, relapse prevention, accessing community resources and educational intervention in the student's home school.



KITES FOR KIDS FESTIVAL!

Celebrating our first year of success with kids on the Western Slope!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

Third Street Center • 520 Third Street • Carbondale

LARA'S STORY

Lara describes her childhood as normal and average, "as good as any childhood could be." However, she began smoking marijuana at just ten years old, and by the time she was thirteen she had begun experimenting with hallucinogens (acid and mushrooms.) Around that same time period, Lara was diagnosed with depression.

She struggled with her diagnosis, self medicated with marijuana and other drugs, and had a difficult time adjusting to the various medications prescribed by her physician to treat her depression. Her moods and behaviors were anything but stable, and she repeatedly ran away from home. Her plan was to get away from the drugs, the constant fighting with her parents, and the emotional trauma it caused her - but each time her mother placed a phone call to the local authorities, she was found by police, and escorted home. This back and forth continued for about a year, until she found herself returning home after spending some time in a juvenile detention center.

The last time she left home, she moved in with a friend to an apartment complex that housed mostly adults just out of prison. She was fourteen. She still doesn't know how she and her friend were accepted into the complex. Yet there they were, continuing to use drugs and alcohol. After a meeting with her parole officer when she failed her drug test, she was sent back to the juvenile detention center. Shortly thereafter she was referred to Turning Point to work through her mental health and substance abuse issues.

While at Turning Point, she has learned to live through her problems - to work them out - instead of running away. Lara has learned that this is her choice, her life, and most importantly her decision to stay in the program and work with her treatment team to ultimately improve her quality of life. She has developed anger and stress management skills, coping skills to lessen the urge to use drugs and alcohol to make herself feel better. Says Lara, "Now I can sit and face my problem, I do not have to hide from it. I don't know how much longer I am going to be here, but as long as I am here I am going to make the best of it."

Lara's family has been involved with her treatment and has taken advantage of Turning Point's family therapy programs as well. We wish Lara the best as she leaves our program and moves back home to be with her family and we are sure that she will succeed if she continues to put to use the tools she has developed while in our care.

*Clients name has been changed to protect confidentiality

BENEFITS CHILDREN IN CRISIS AT turningpoint

OLDTOWNZOMBIE.COM **SATURDAY OCTOBER 22ND**

ALL AGES MOM ZOM • ALL AGES ZOMBIE CRAWL • 21+ ZOMBIE PROM
ZOMBIE BALL • FACE PAINTING AND ZOMBIE MAKE-UP • FREAKSHOW • THRILLER DANCE

MORE INFO

VENDORS
567.6459

SPONSORS
567.0885

INKIND DONATIONS
567.0885

VOLUNTEERS
567.6459

OTHER
567.6459

WRISTBAND & TICKET SALES ONLINE

JOIN US FOR THIS FULL DAY FAMILY & ZOMBIE FRIENDLY EVENT!



DUI CLASSES

Turning Point now offers DUI/DWAI classes utilizing the highly effective Colorado Impaired Driver Education Program (IDEP) curriculum which is accepted state-wide by probation and the courts for all DUI/DWAI offenses.

With more than 40 years of experience working with Colorado youth and families, Turning Point is the obvious choice for DUI/DWAI education and therapy for both adult and youth offenders.

970.567.0961 • REFERRALS@TURNINGPNT.ORG

Sponsor Spotlight: Realities for Children



Realities For Children is an alliance of local businesses working together to serve the needs of abused children.

Realities for Children is an incredible organization that strives to build relationships between the local business and non profit communities to better serve abused children.

The Business Members of Realities For Children have made it their business to make a difference. Choose to work with these community business leaders when you need their services.

...Because No Child Should Be Forgotten

Their efforts make an enormous difference not only in the lives of children at Turning Point, but in the lives of children across Larimer County.

www.RealitiesForChildren.com
970.484.9090



info@realitiesforchildren.com