

special events

LINDA ARMSTRONG KELLY, Mother Of Cycling Champion Lance Armstrong, to Keynote 2010 "Cycles of Success" Luncheon



Linda Armstrong Kelly with son Lance Armstrong

Raising Lance, Raising Me. Her appearance is sponsored by Novus Biologicals.

"My mother is my hero," Lance says in the book's foreword. "She once told me, 'If you can't give 110 percent, you won't make it,' and I've never forgotten that. She is my best friend, my motivator, and my most loyal ally. I wish everyone had at least one person who inspires him or her the way my mother inspires me."

If you didn't receive an invitation, call 303-321-6363, ext.

208, or visit Florence Crittenton Services' website, www.florence-crittentonco.org.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, at levels from \$10,000 to \$750. Contact Suzanne Banning, Vice President of Development & Marketing, for details, at 303-321-6363, ext. 203.

Kelly, like the 288 girls served each year by Florence Crittenton Services, was just 17 when she gave birth to her son Lance. Kicked out of her home, living in a housing project and mired in an abusive relationship, she was a candidate for disaster. But Kelly overcame the odds, earned her GED and became both a successful professional and an empowering mom. Her son's success is proof that empowered teen mothers can produce cycles of success.

Kelly tells her story of perseverance in her book *"No Mountain High Enough"*.

CYCLES OF SUCCESS LUNCHEON

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010
Time: Registration—11:30 a.m. Luncheon—noon
Location: Seawell Grand Ballroom, 1101 13th Street
Cost: \$100 per ticket.

Speaker Sponsor



Video Sponsor



Benefactors



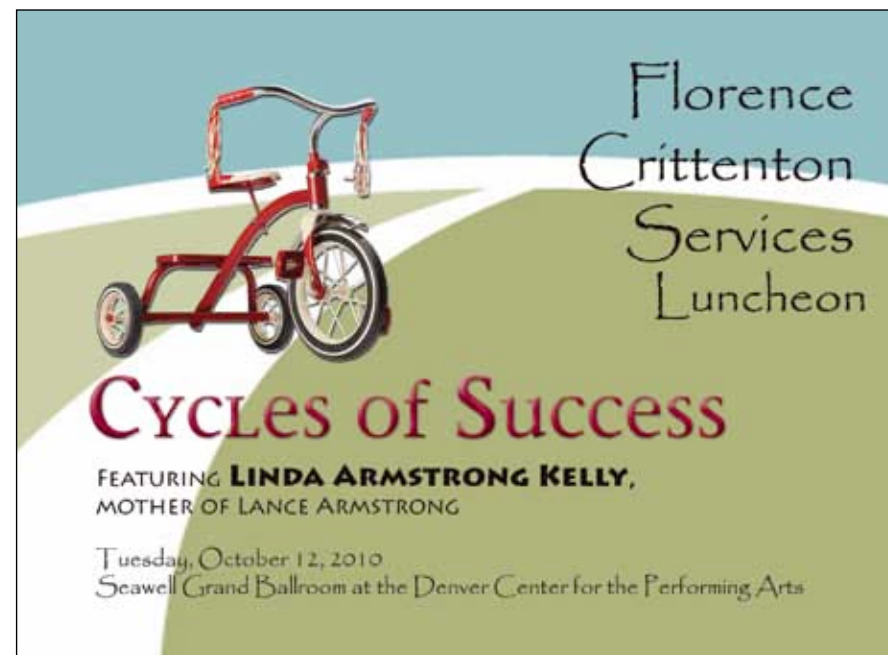
CONSTRUCTION LEADERS



Contributors



cycles of success luncheon



RSVP today to attend the 2010 Luncheon "Cycles of Success," featuring Linda Armstrong Kelly, mother of bicycling champion Lance Armstrong!

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THE PathFinder

The newsletter for volunteers, supporters and friends of Florence Crittenton Services

September 2010

Florence Crittenton Services

Helping Teen Parents Raise Healthy Families



Sue Carparelli, President & CEO

New name reflects rich history of Florence Crittenton ...

The new school year brings fresh energy, excitement and a renewed commitment to our mission of empowering struggling teen parents to be productive members of the community. It is with that spirit that we are also transitioning our name from Parent Pathways to Florence Crittenton Services, capitalizing on our rich history, dating back to 1893 when we were born as the Florence Crittenton Home in Denver. The new name reflects our continued evolution as an organization and a sharpening of focus on our efforts to help teen parents raise healthy families.

In this issue of *Pathfinder*, you'll read about all the ways we work to create cycles of success for our teen clients and their children. You'll meet a couple of amazing alumni who are watching their own daughters succeed. You'll learn about our incredible volunteers and discover ways **you** can help Florence Crittenton Services this fall.

I hope we'll see you at our "Cycles of Success" luncheon Oct. 12! Our keynote speaker, Linda Armstrong Kelly, will talk about how she, a former teen mom, worked to finish high school and raise the ultimate cyclist of success, bicycle racing champion Lance Armstrong. Join us for true inspiration!

Florence Crittenton Creates Cycles of Success

Staff, students and administrators celebrated the cycles of success we create at Parent Pathways, now Florence Crittenton Services, when pregnant and parenting teens, many with babies in tow, walked through the front doors on the first day of our new school year.

That first day included tours to help everyone get acclimated to building changes, including the opening of the new Family Engagement Center. The Baby Bucks store, supported by the Zonta Club of Denver II and the community, was

open to show the girls where they can go to claim incentive awards (such as baby clothing and diapers) for good attendance, grades and behavior.

At lunchtime, everyone enjoyed pizza and an ice cream sundae party to help

students and staff get better acquainted. Janus employees scooped the ice cream and chocolate syrup for a long line of students in the warm summer sun, and later



Students enjoying sundaes on the 1st day of school

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How does Florence Crittenton Services help pregnant and parenting teens create cycles of success? We focus on seven key areas for a holistic approach. (See graph, above)

Read more on page 2

Cycles of Success: What Does That Mean?



When a girl becomes pregnant as a teenager, it often launches a cycle of extremely negative consequences. The odds that she will drop out of high school drastically increase, spawning a dependency on public assistance that continues into future generations. Her potential income plummets. Her daughters are likely to become pregnant as teens themselves. Her sons are more likely to get involved in crime.

a high school education in a unique “multiple pathways” collaboration with Denver Public Schools.

Post-Secondary & Career Readiness Planning. Teachers and counselors, aided by a post-secondary resource specialist provided by Goodwill Industries, educate students on career and higher educational options and help them navigate choices.

Florence Crittenton Services is committed to helping teen families create cycles of success. Using a holistic and proven approach, we offer a spectrum of wraparound services for the entire teen family, focusing on effective, targeted areas:

- **Academics.** The Florence Crittenton School provides

- **Life Skills Acquisition.** From college applications, to family budgets, to conflict resolution, to relationship navigation, students acquire the skills they need to negotiate their complicated lives and reach their goals.

- **Health & Wellness Services.** A staff nurse and visiting doctor monitor students’ and babies’ health and provide all vaccinations, while a Student Support Team provides emotional support. Professionals help students access and navigate health



care systems, ensuring their physical and mental health needs are met.

- **Early Childhood Education.** Our Qualistar-rated Early Learning Center helps children meet developmental milestones, and provides parenting training for their young mothers.

- **Parenting Education.** We provide education on infant care and early childhood development, nutrition education through Early Learning Center lab classes, and after-school parenting classes.

- **Family and Fathers Support.** Because our students do better with support from their home communities, we offer classes, counseling, social events, support groups, GED/academic referrals, legal workshops, job readiness coaching and more for babies’ fathers and families.



Using all of these strategies, Florence Crittenton provides a spectrum of wraparound services for the entire teen family!

florence crittenton school

School Supplies Drive Gives Flo Crit Students Great Start for 2011

Nothing says “Back to School” like backpacks filled with school supplies – but for the teens who attend the Florence Crittenton School, buying back-to-school supplies is an impossible task. Those rulers, notebooks, binders and especially calculators – plus sturdy packs to carry them in – can tally several hundred dollars. And with most of the school’s students living near the poverty line, school necessities are a luxury they can’t afford.

But the generous spirit of companies such as Janus, COPIC Insurance, WOW Communications, DirecTV and Zachry Engineering – combined with contributions from individuals such as Sheri Duran

and Jean Gonzales – meant that we were able to provide backpacks with school supplies to every single girl at Flo Crit this year -- a total of 225 packs.

Janus employees, after coming in advance to stuff the packs with donated items, toured the classrooms distributing the backpacks on the first day of school. Pink was a favorite, and the grateful



smiles on the girls’ faces expressed how much it meant to be so well taken care of. This kind of support helps them stay in school and create cycles of success.

First Day of School

Continued from page 1

distributed backpacks stuffed with school supplies. Florence Crittenton Services offers a spectrum of wraparound services for the entire teen family, including education, health/wellness services, career guidance and parenting training for pregnant and parenting teen mothers at the Florence Crittenton School;

early childhood education for their infants and toddlers at the Qualistar-rated Early Learning Center; and counseling, education and parenting support for young fathers and family members through the Family Engagement Center. We’re excited to launch another year creating cycles of success!



About Us

Florence Crittenton Services is a 501(c)(3) organization helping teen parents raise healthy families. Our programs include the Florence Crittenton School, Early Learning Center and Family Engagement Center.

Our Mission: To help teen parents raise healthy families

Our Vision: Healthy self-sufficient families building strong communities

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Cycles of Success . . .

Meet Renee Sanders-Starr, Class of ‘92, and Antoinette Perez, Class of ‘94

Renee Sanders-Starr graduated from Flo Crit in 1992, when daughter Keiosha was two. A scholarship enabled Renee to earn her criminal justice degree from Metro State after starting at Community College of Aurora.



Renee and daughter in the early 90s

went back to school after working a year, got her cosmetology degree and opened her own beauty supply store.

Today Renee, 36, lives in Aurora, is financial director of her business, and has three children, aged 20, 18 and 2. She is married to their father and enjoying life. Daughter Keiosha Starr, 20, is going to barber school so she can continue the family business.

Antoinette Mary Perez, who graduated from Florence Crittenton in 1994, is a soft-spoken mother – but she packs a pistol as a Denver police officer. Her daughter Jessica Marie Espinoza-Perez is a sophomore at Metro State majoring in social



Antoinette and Jessica today

work. Perhaps Jessica will come work at Flo Crit some day and inspire our students to create cycles of success for their children.



Got Some Time to Give to Florence Crittenton?

More than 50 interns from the **Dish Network** converged on Florence Crittenton in early August to get the school ready for the new year. They painted walls, washed windows, weeded gardens, scrubbed the playground equipment and more.

Several volunteers also helped ready the school. **Paula Kurtz**, **Marcea Copeland-Rodden** and **Kathy Henderson** moved furniture and arranged books as we reorganized offices to create the Family Engagement Center.

Kathy has also been organizing our warehouse, and is here so often that we’ve nominated her for a Dovia (“Directors of Volunteers in Agencies) “We Can Count on You!” Award in the outstanding individual volunteer category. We have also joined with the Denver Botanical Gardens and the Denver Scholarship Foundation in nominating Paula,



Dish Network Interns painting the hallway

and have nominated **Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of Colorado** in the corporation category.

This fall we have a lot of needs coming up:

- The Early Learning Center needs volunteers to help feed and cuddle the 66 infants and children of Florence Crittenton students, especially between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- The Baby Bucks Store needs volunteers every other Friday afternoon to help reward students for good behavior, grades or attendance. The store is also in need of contributions of larger size diapers (4,5 and 6)
- We need a front desk receptionist weekday afternoons to greet and direct people.
- The new Family Engagement Center needs someone Tuesday evenings to greet young fathers and families who attend parenting classes.
- Volunteers are needed to prepare for our Oct. 12 Cycles of Success Luncheon, including building centerpieces, folding programs and assembling name tags.

Can you help? Contact **Marcia Jamison**, Volunteer and Special Events Manager, at 303-321-6363, ext. 208, or mjamison@florencecrittentonco.org.