



# MEET THOSE SERVED BY CHOICES

# CHOICES Annual Report 2015

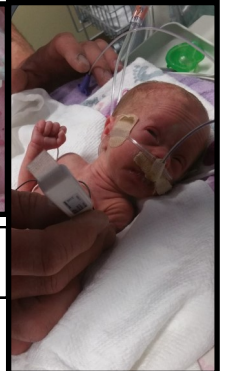


Kyla came to CHOICES not at all sure what she would do with her life, much less her life with a baby! Within a few minutes, she discovered two babies up on the ultrasound screen, each with strong, fast heartbeats. When asked her first thought at seeing two babies, she says, "I better not say." After being in shock for a few days, Kyla gathered herself and began to make decisions on how she would support two children alone. The nurse who did her ultrasound remarks that, "Kyla put 100% awareness into doing what is best for the babies." Born in December, three months premature, the girls are still in the NICU of Denver Children's but are gaining weight and growing, with tests showing no long term health issues. Kyla is grateful that CHOICES kept in touch throughout her pregnancy, though she moved several times. "I absolutely adore the entire staff and would refer a friend so they can have the good experience that I had!"

## TWINS?



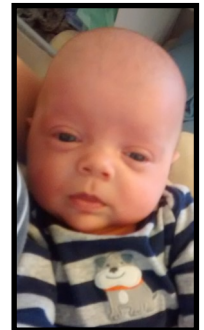
Brynlee Noelle born weighing 2lbs 7oz. now weighs 2lbs 10oz.



Braelyn Nevaeh born weighing 1lb 11oz now weighs 2lbs 2oz.

## WORKING HARD AT INDEPENDENCE

Wyatt and Camirae didn't expect to become parents, but once they recovered from the shock, they have committed to do everything they can to support and care for their son, Skyler. Wyatt has worked three jobs at times to make sure he is not reliant on outside help to support his son. As soon as he discovered he was going to be a father, Wyatt took on night shift work at Walmart, while working days as the manager of Town and Country Kennels. He's now been promoted to a management position at Walmart and has aspirations to return to college. Their mentor, Sondra, tells me that they were always on time for class, even when Wyatt was working round the clock. Born in October, at only 3 pounds and 12 ounces, little Skyler is now topping 10 pounds!



### Joy In LIFE

*Save the Date!*  
*New Donor Dinner*  
*Thursday, May 12, 2016*  
*The Pinery on the Hill in Colorado Springs*



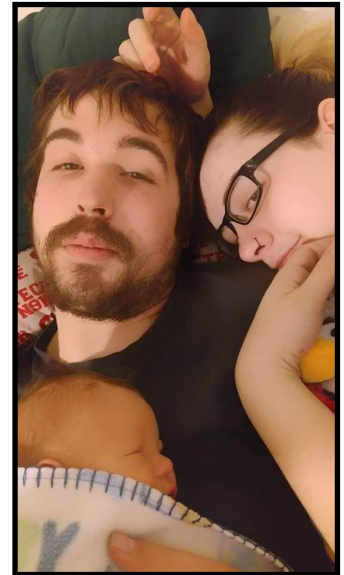
Email [info@whatchoices.com](mailto:info@whatchoices.com) to reserve your table today!

During 2015, CHOICES served:

- 1988 Client Visits (growth of 17% from 2014)
- 143 First Time Clients and 120 clients who began the program in 2014
- 263 Distinct Clients—218 Women (7% increase) and 45 Men (a 15% increase over 2014)
- 97 clients came in suspecting an unplanned pregnancy, of which 44% were considering abortion
- 862 Hours of One-on-One Parenting Mentorship
- \$20,688 in donated Baby Supplies “Purchased” with 3,448 Baby Bucks earned in the Earn While You Learn Parenting Program and in the How To: Dads Fatherhood Program
- \$9,850 in donated goods supplied to other assistance agencies
- \$2,100 in donated goods supplied to clients in collaborating partner programs (Community Partnership classes including GED, LaLeche League, TRE playgroups, Early Head Start, First Visitor Bright by Three and TESSA)
- 51 Volunteers Served Over 4,080 hours working in the CHOICES offices. Another 37 volunteers put in over 4,884 hours making items for the Rocky Mountain Christmas Boutique.

## New in Town

Moving to Cripple Creek 24 weeks into her pregnancy, Oceane had no connections and limited resources. CHOICES was instrumental in getting her in prenatal care with an obstetrician. Both parents faithfully attended classes to learn as much as possible in the few short weeks before delivery. Together with their mentor, they made a birth plan in order to ease Oceane’s concerns and be prepared for whatever delivery might hold. Evan never missed a class, even when he had to leave early and report immediately to work. Oceane says, “CHOICES has helped me prepare for my son’s arrival. I literally didn’t have anything for when my son was born. They helped me prepare myself and my home. CHOICES taught me that it is okay to be scared, but always remember your child is the most important thing.” Earning Baby Bucks each week, they were able to provide everything their baby needed, without having to turn to others for help. They can take pride in the safe environment they’ve provided for little Xzander!



Evan, Oceane and Xzander

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## THANKS for Local Business Support

**Absolute Septic**  
**Alec Builders Corporation**  
**Andrew Wommack Ministries**  
**Aspen Ridge Construction**  
**Black Mountain Pump Service**  
**Casey's Lumber**  
**Charis Bible College**  
**Credit Service Company**  
**Dos Lobos Enterprises**  
**Double M Concrete**  
**Echo Hill Ranch**  
**Hdaero Engineering**  
**I.D.I.A.**  
**Jerry Miller Excavating**

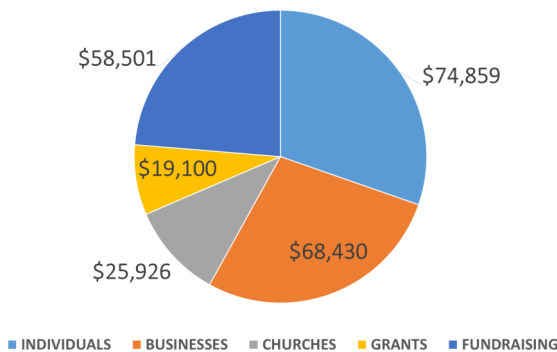
**Judd's Glass & Mirror**  
**M&S Snowplowing**  
**Marc Builders**  
**Michael Harper Real Estate**  
**My Free Water Store**  
**Park State Bank and Trust**  
**Peak Internet**  
**Powell Homes**  
**Restoration Services Group**  
**Spring Creek Realty**  
**Teller County Waste**  
**Teller Tech**  
**The Dave Brown Team**  
**William A. Nein CPA**



Join us for the New Donor Dinner on May 12th in this lovely ballroom. All we ask is that you bring at least one other single or couple who has NEVER attended a CHOICES event before. The evening will include a wonderful meal and an engaging program, meant to introduce your friends to the wonderful work of CHOICES. There is no charge to attend. Invitations will go out in March, but save the date and invite your friends now, as seating will be limited.

## Financial Update

Distribution of Income - Fiscal 2015



### Grants Received from:

- City of Cripple Creek—Pioneers in Public Service through CCV High School
- City of Woodland Park Community Allocation Fund
- Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
- The El Pomar Foundation

### At 12/31/2015:

**Total Assets: \$553,323**

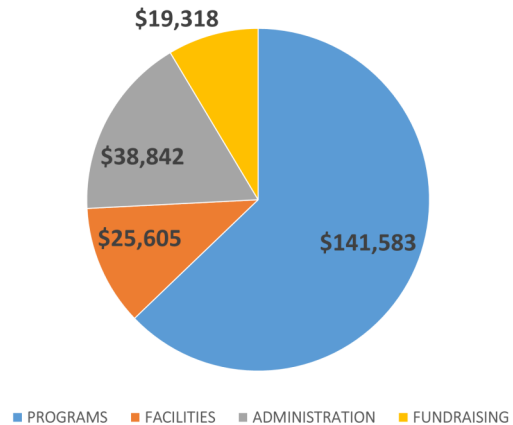
**Total Liabilities: \$125,526**

**Total Equity: \$427,797**

Equity primarily composed of two owned facilities, ultrasound machine and cash reserves.

Liabilities are limited to the two mortgages, held by Park State Bank and Trust, each with a balance less than 1/4 of the appraised value of the property.

Distribution of Expenses



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Each of us on the governing board of CHOICES are monthly donors, including our Executive Director. Spending decisions are weighed carefully, with the goal to maximize impact in the community while respecting the sacrifice that went into every dollar donated from our local citizens. In addition to strong local, individual support, the in-kind donations of diapers, wipes and baby clothing, equipment and supplies help our resources stretch much further.

CHOICES has been very blessed to be able to reduce our overall debt this year. The Cripple Creek mortgage was due for renewal and Park State Bank and Trust lowered our rate by one full percentage point. That facility will be fully debt free in under five years. The next goal is to see the Woodland Park mortgage reduced and paid off much faster than the 18 years of remaining amortization. Please consider joining us in that effort during 2016!



## *A Note from the Executive Director...*

*As we begin 2016, I look back with pleasure on the accomplishments of 2015. More than any other year in my tenure with CHOICES, it seems this was the year of clients whose lives were not simply benefitted by CHOICES but fully changed. As a result, there are many babies in Teller County whose lives will be forever impacted by the decisions their parents made at CHOICES.*

*Our programs are not something one "qualifies for" but rather one "commits to". Commitment is a word that many of our clients have never considered, much less experienced. CHOICES' commitment to their lives runs deep, from our board to our volunteers to our donors, and each person that enters CHOICES can sense this commitment. It draws them in and invites them to return the commitment with one of their own. Not only a commitment to life, but a commitment to excellence.*

*Whether it is watching a young woman's fear turn to anticipation or seeing a new father look his baby in the eyes and bond deeply, we at CHOICES get the privilege each week of seeing lives changed for the better. I am so grateful for the opportunity to witness these changes first hand. There is no other program that I've seen that is based so completely on relationship. It is exactly because of that relationship and deep commitment that each of our clients featured in this report allowed us to use their real names and their own family photos.*

*Thank you for committing to CHOICES with your time, your resources and your prayers! Together we see life altering results.*

*With gratitude,*

*Kathryn*



**Kathryn Perry**  
Executive Director



Susie Miller  
Client Services  
Director,  
Cripple Creek



Diane Allen  
Program Director



Cindy Nobile, RN  
Nurse Manager



Marcie James,  
RN  
Medical Testing  
Director



Jean Peck  
Lead Client  
Advocate,  
Cripple Creek



Christine  
Lukasavige,  
Community  
Mobilization  
Director



Angela Klocke,  
Lead Client  
Advocate,  
Woodland Park



## **Board and Staff**

Our Medical Director is Dr. Scott Russell, MD, of Front Range OB/GYN, who generously donates his time and expertise to CHOICES.

### **The Board of Directors of CHOICES:**

Bob Sturgeon, Chairman  
Duncan Harding, Vice Chairman  
Jere Frisinger, Treasurer  
Tamara Buttery, Secretary  
Cindy Blauch, Director  
Michelle Lane, Director  
Kathryn Perry, Executive Director