



LATEST AT MHM



- Seven families with 15 children between them have transitioned from Joshua Station into stable housing this past fiscal year, and we have welcomed 16 more families into Joshua Station.
- The apprentices of the Issachar Center are transitioning from college finals and scattering to Chicago, Mumbai, Branson, and other locations (including several organizations in Denver) to follow God's lead and pursue their calling through summer semesters, jobs, and internships.
- This summer, Denver Urban Semester welcomes 12 college students for internships in Denver nonprofits such as Save Our Youth, Sox Place, and Open Door Ministries.

At Mile High Ministries we share a dream with God for our city: that this will be a place where those who were once poor now prosper, children are no longer doomed to misfortune, and unlikely partners live and work together in peace.

This dream is inspired by scripture and communicates God's love for the poor and His desire that we work together to realize this dream.

So what does this dream look like at Mile High Ministries right now?

No doubt you've heard about, and perhaps even contributed to, the MHM Expansion Project to build a new facility on Joshua Station's back lot. Because of the overwhelming generosity of our MHM family and the local foundation community, we've exceeded our original project goal! This great success has allowed us to consider making additional improvements to the current Joshua Station facility—home to our 26 families striving to move beyond homelessness. When the MHM expansion is complete, we will have apartments for over 33 families as well as apartments for larger families, an ever-growing need in our city.

Why the additional renovations? With more families moving in, we need to reconfigure community spaces, build a new youth room, create private office space for our JS counselors and family advocates...

along with a few other enhancements.

These important improvements to our facility are all about two things: making better use of our current space to accommodate more families and building healthy community, which is the key to our overwhelming program success.

The cost of these additional renovations is \$400,000. John Atencio of John Atencio Jewelry is partnering with Mile High Ministries to raise the needed funds to make Joshua Station an even better home for our current families and the many more who will come in the future.



We're making Joshua Station a larger and better home for homeless families to experience transformation.

For more information about how you can support these renovations, please contact Jeff Johnsen at 303.839.5198 ext. 4, or Karen Marchant at 303.839.5198 ext. 2 or karenmarchant@milehighmin.org.

We're heading toward the end of our fiscal year June 30. Please pray that we can meet our goals to end the year in the black and keep our programs going strong.



MILE HIGH MISSION: We mobilize our communities and equip leaders for God's transformational work among the poor.

Freeing victims of domestic violence

MHM's Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic (JAMLAC) is committed to providing compassionate care to those who are most vulnerable. One of the ways JAMLAC serves victims of domestic violence is by helping them take advantage of a humanitarian feature built into our current national immigration law.

The federal Violence Against Women Act allows abused immigrants to petition for legal status in the United States without relying on an abusive U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident spouse, parent or child to sponsor the application. For many victims of domestic violence, their potential sponsor will threaten to withhold sponsorship as a tool of abuse. This program allows those victims the opportunity to "self-petition," or to independently seek legal immigration status in the U.S.

In March alone, eight JAMLAC clients received these self-petition approvals, thanks to JAMLAC Immigration Director Tina Diaz, pictured right.

Tina describes the profound sense of relief her clients feel when they become independently 'legal' after years of fear and abuse: "Many cry, many repeatedly say 'I can't believe it,' and many leave our meeting with a smile as wide as the Rocky Mountains," Tina says. "It is a true gift to be part of the transformation they experience."



Our friend Rich Erwin 1949-2013

The Mile High Ministries family lost a dear friend when Joshua Station Family Advocate Rich Erwin suddenly passed away at home on April 1. Rich was integral in converting an old Motel 7 into our beloved Joshua Station 12 years ago, and since then he has helped usher hundreds of families from homelessness to stability through Joshua Station's transformational housing program. He was a father figure for many whose lives he touched, MHM staff included. He's pictured above left acting the proud 'Papa' for yet another JS graduate.

He is survived by his beloved wife Vicki, his father Charles, son Shane, and daughter Shari, as well as siblings, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and a bevy of informally-adopted family members.

Vicki has asked that any memorial gifts in Rich's honor be made to Joshua Station. We all miss Rich dearly and treasure the time he spent with us.

MHM Programs:

Joshua Station — Transformational Housing
Justice & Mercy Legal Aid Clinic — Transformational Legal Advocacy
Issachar Center for Urban Leadership — Equipping Leaders
Denver Urban Semester — Students Engaging the City

MHM Events:

Christmas Store
Co-producer of Denver Faith & Justice Conference

MHM Affiliates:

Access — Journeys of Action & Reflection
Loving Arms Team — Romania Service Journeys
Sankofa — Institute for African-American Leadership

MHM Resources:

Street Psalms Press print and e-books
Urban Entry video series

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