

THE LATEST NEWS FROM MHM

- Thank you to all Spring Theater Event underwriters and participants for helping us raise \$34,375 to empower and support the families of Joshua Station and the clients of the Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic (JAMLAC).
- Please pray that we meet the year-end fundraising goals for Mile High Ministries and all our programs to empower, equip, and mobilize our communities.
- Share a Breaking Bread meal with Joshua Station residents. We're serving breakfast on June 12 (7:30-8:30am) and lunch on June 5 (12-1:30pm). RSVP@milehighmin.org.
- JAMLAC welcomes two new staff attorneys: Stephanie Suzanne and Eric Martinson.
- We're in the water business! Mile High WorkShop, our social enterprise program, is launching a venture called Juvo Water. Stay tuned, or contact Andy Magel at amagel@milehighmin.org for more information.
- Congratulations to the 11 apprentices who graduated from the Issachar Center for Urban Leadership on April 29. The next class of 10 apprentices starts in August.
- Please come visit our new facilities and see the exciting things underway at Mile High Ministries! Contact development@milehighmin.org for a tour.

Joshua Station Delivers

Teen residents express their experiences in poetry

On Thursday night April 24th, two of our Joshua Station kids became shining stars. As they performed their poetry on stage during our annual Spring Theater Event fundraiser, my heart swelled and tears of joy flowed. Hearing the words they wrote describing their experiences at Joshua Station (JS) was a gift and an inspiration.

Our families at JS all are dealing with hard circumstances. We provide housing and a program to walk with them as they work diligently to overcome their many hardships. As parents wrestle with the challenges they face, their children become engaged with the opportunities we have in place for them. The whole family is surrounded by our family advocates, counselors, a youth director, an education coordinator, resident volunteers, and ministry partners. Entire families are undergirded by life skills classes, a caring community, prayer, and celebration as they reach mountain tops.

As you read a portion of Kim's poem or watch the video of Kim and Robert's performances (see them at www.milehighmin.org), please share with us our deep gratitude for the gifts that their families represent and for the transformation that Joshua Station offers.

~Penny Salazar-Phillips, Director of Joshua Station



Kimberly's Poem

Whether people are moving out,
Or new people moving in,
Here we are a family.

Listen carefully.

Listen to our peace.

Listen to the sound of our waterfall.

We are rose petals opening up like arms for the future.

Each petal a new adventure waiting for us to explore.

Each flower spreading across the earth's crust making it amazingly beautiful.

Our spirits start like small seeds

That grow into the biggest trees

As our faith gets stronger.

Joshua Station protects you from those who harm you.

Like a palm tree

Blocking the suns raging rays.

There's so much to be grateful for in the shade.

Pay attention 'cause you can miss it... something that no one else can see.

This is what I'm becoming...something unstoppable, inevitable, something remarkable. This is what I know.

Learn more about Joshua Station, and watch videos of Robert and Kim's performances, at milehighmin.org/joshua-station

MHM Executive Director Jeff Johnsen, left, sits with Kim before her performance



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

From victim to advocate with the Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic (JAMLAC)

I'll let you in on a little secret —the JAMLAC staff LOVES food. Most days around lunchtime you will find us all gathered in a conference room eating together. A daily phrase, around 11am, is "¿Qué para almuerzo?" (What's for lunch?) That is why one of our favorite clients is Teresa—she brings us food. Not just food, but *lots* of homemade food, traditional Mexican dishes, and fresh flan.

Teresa came to JAMLAC after being traumatically abused by her husband. She had very little money to her name and she came seeking legal assistance for a divorce, child support, and child custody for her two boys, one of whom is disabled.

Now Teresa is thriving. She works nights doing janitorial work and spends her days being a wonderful mom. She not only still brings our staff a feast of food about once a month, but she has also become a financial donor to the JAMLAC program. She is hoping to donate enough so we can provide full legal representation to another victim of domestic violence like she once was.

At JAMLAC, we truly believe that everyone has something to bring to the table. For Teresa it is great food and a giving spirit. We are just happy that by providing legal representation to Teresa, her giving spirit and her amazing smile could shine once again. ~Nikki Koster, JAMLAC Development Officer



We're Partnering with Good Neighbor Garage

Generous folks sometimes donate their used vehicles to us, and now we've got help repairing or selling those vehicles from a familiar place—MHM's granddaughter ministry! Two decades ago we incubated the fledgling Belay Enterprises, which launched Bud's Warehouse. When they were ready, Belay (and Bud's) spun off to operate as an independent organization.

Now MHM is teaming up with Good Neighbor Garage, which was also launched by Belay. The Good Neighbor Garage will process all vehicles donated to MHM programs, and either fix them up to give to our families or help us sell them to fund our programs. Here's to old friends!



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
Mile High WorkShop — Creating Transformational Employment Opportunities

MHM Events:

Christmas Store
Co-producer of Denver Faith & Justice Conference

MHM Affiliates:

Access — Journeys of Action & Reflection
Sankofa — Institute for African-American Leadership
Anthony Grimes — Building Beloved Community

MHM Resources:

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

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

www.milehighmin.org/give

913 Wyandot | Denver, CO 80204
303-839-5198 | info@MileHighMin.org

Joshua Station | Issachar Center for Urban Leadership
Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic (JAMLAC) | Denver Urban Semester



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TRANSFORMATION AMONG THE POOR