

TEAM DECC 2011

Each week the DECC will feature a different DECC team member and participating nonprofit organization to highlight the wide variety of charities participating in your campaign. This Week's Featured Member and Charity:



Nora Kimball of the City Council

Metro CareRing

DECC # 0509
1100 East 18th Avenue
Denver, CO 80218-1111
303-860-7200
www.metrocarering.org

The mission of the **Metro CareRing** is to help meet the most basic of human needs: providing nutritious foods to hungry people and assisting people through times of crisis and provide resources for self-sufficiency. Aside from food, referral services, utilities assistance, and vouchers to pay for identification documents such as state ID's and birth certificates are also provided.

Making a difference in Colorado...

Metro CareRing was initiated in 1974 by five downtown Denver churches to offer a comprehensive response to people in need. At that point, churches were providing piecemeal emergency programs but not coordinating with other agencies. Metro CareRing allowed leaders to channel resources of the community through one single location, strategically and centrally located on 18th and Downing.

Since then, hundreds of thousands of individuals and families have found their way to our doors. Some of the most touching stories are those who at one point had come to Metro CareRing and came back to volunteer once they got back on their feet. For some families, the food they receive from MCR, means that their children won't go hungry that night, or that they can stay in their home.

One gentleman sent us a handwritten letter the other day. He is a veteran, and wrote to tell us how very much he appreciated the services we provided him, and the amount of dignity and respect we paid him. We, at Metro CareRing, are so grateful to the city of Denver for offering their support through the DECC so that we may continue to offer our critical services.

What your donation can do:

\$1 per pay period will provide 10 pounds of food for hungry families in Colorado.

\$5 per pay period will feed a family of 4 for 3 days.

\$10 per pay period will provide a Colorado ID to help individuals get a job.

Thank you, Denver!

Last year, MCR provided 131,000 services to families and individuals in need. Our services help people get back on their feet, but more so, ensure that the very basic needs are met. When children are well fed, academic and emotional performance increases in school. Families with enough to eat are healthier and adults perform better at work. At our core, we provide food to hungry people, but the wake that is created has positive and powerful effects on schools, jobs, and the community at large.

MCR would not exist without the 160+ volunteers that assist us on a regular, ongoing basis. We offer a variety of volunteer opportunities, which can be scheduled with Ellie Agar: 303.350.3699 or ellie@metrocarering.org.

Nora's Story

One out of 7 adults and 1 out of 5 kids in Colorado go hungry every day. And, unfortunately, in this economy the number of folks showing up at MCR's door has grown enormously. Several years ago while driving to work, I saw a long line of people standing out on a sidewalk in the freezing cold, obviously waiting to get inside the place. I had no idea why or what they were waiting for. After seeing this over and over I called that council district office and it was then I began to learn about MetroCareRing. Imagine being so hungry you would stand, sometimes for hours, in that kind of weather. And, then, after waiting, you could find out they had run out of food and could serve no more people that day! It was then I realized the importance of supporting MCR in its mission to provide this very basic need while at the same time advocating for solutions to hunger and poverty by offering other vital resources for self-sufficiency.

I hope you'll make your pledge to MetroCareRing, listed under Emergency Services/Temporary Assistance 0509 on your DECC form, and in so doing, you'll know your support means being part of that important difference all year long.

Metro CareRing