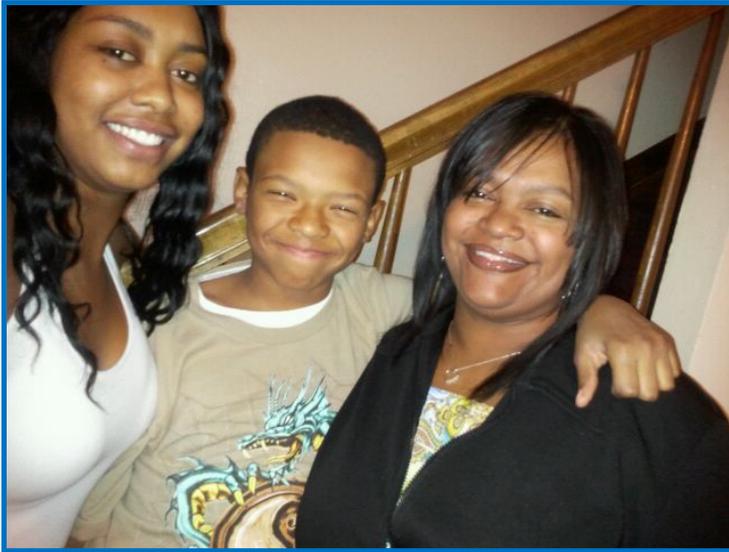


TEAM DECC 2011

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. Alyssa is the final Featured Member of Team DECC:



Alyssa Arrington
of Public Works-Street Maintenance for the

Denver Employees' Combined Campaign (DECC)

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Alyssa's story

I learned about DECC roughly 18 years ago and thought, **“WOW, I want to be a part of that. I want to help.”** I had just started with the City and County of Denver and as a young, single mother of a brand new baby girl, my initial contribution was not much, trust me...

Even so, I felt compelled to give so I started out with a small amount, then each year I would increase the amount.

Some of you might remember, “back in the day,” we would receive our PEP plus cost of living. Those increases incentivized me to increase my donation. Then in 1998 I had my first opportunity to serve as the Lead Coordinator. I was so excited, until I found myself in front of a room full of people that had heard nothing good about the DECC. I thought, “UH-OH, how do I turn this around?” I invited representatives from a couple of charities to speak, did raffles, gave away door prizes, even stuck McDonalds gift certificates under some of the seats. Finally a breakthrough. My co-workers donated. Later I moved to Street Maintenance and since have become the resident coordinator.

Every year I enjoy going out to each campus, meeting with the crews, bringing in charity reps to tell them about services provided to sick and less fortunate. Until the presentations, many times our employees were unaware how much help is available to others, or how much their contribution is involved in “making a difference.”

Whenever possible, I like to give my kids (yep, plural...blessed with a boy in 1999) the opportunity to give back.

They have prepared food and fed the homeless, delivered gifts to the residents of nursing homes, donated and helped with clothing drives. The next time you are held up at a traffic light it may be because one of my kids is giving a dollar to the person standing on the corner with a sign. I don't want them to take for granted how blessed they are.

As the lead coordinator, I have to say **“Thank You”** to my director, Kelly Duffy. She is now one of the co-chairs (check out her picture on the front of the brochure). Thanks also to our operation supervisors for letting me take time out of their busy day.

Most of all, I want to give a great big thanks to my co-workers that have found it in their heart to give.

As you can see, I cannot do this alone. It is so important for us as the **City and County of Denver family** to do our part to help others. Each year the DECC, with our help and support, is able to help over 400 charities. Each and every one of us is so very blessed to be able to care for, and support our families. **I am thankful to be on the giving end, but also very thankful to know that if we ever find ourselves on the receiving end, there is help through the DECC.**

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Denver Employees' Combined Campaign

**THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE DECC PROGRAM. YOU ROCK!!!
WELCOME AND THANK YOU FUTURE PARTICIPANTS!!**