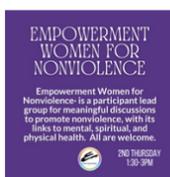
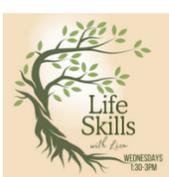




EMPOWERMENT NEWSLETTER

2025 Q3
July - September



WAGEES OUTING at the zoo!

September 2025



Our WAGEES team, who works with female identifying individuals on their re-entry journeys from incarceration, got to go to the Denver Zoo in September. Many participants hadn't been to the zoo in over a decade! It was a fun and gorgeous day filled with petting sting rays and posing with elephants!

Celebrating Mary Lucero-Hill's Powerful Presence at USCHA 2025

We are proud to share that our team member, Mary Lucero-Hill, was selected to participate in the 50+ HIV and Aging Scholarship at the United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA), held in Washington, D.C. in early September 2025. Mary's abstract was chosen for presentation, and she delivered a compelling session titled: "Grief Is More Than Death and Dying: Navigating Non-Death Losses."



Reflecting on the experience, Mary shared: "This was my first time speaking at a conference of this magnitude. I felt excited, nervous, and overwhelmed—but I gave it my all, representing both The Empowerment Program and myself with pride. And it was a success! The topic resonated deeply with what we're all experiencing as a nation—losses of many kinds. I wish I had the words to describe what it felt like to be surrounded by advocates, leaders, and policy changers. Thank you all for your support and well wishes. I felt your spirit with me, cheering me on."



The conference was a powerful gathering of voices and history. Mrs. Jeanne White-Ginder honored the legacy of her son Ryan White, marking the 35th anniversary of the Ryan White Care Act. Ervin "Magic" Johnson spoke candidly about his journey since diagnosis and the evolution of HIV treatment and advocacy. The event concluded with a thought-provoking panel featuring Dr. Anthony Fauci, highlighting the ongoing efforts to support those living with HIV and prevent its spread.



Mary's participation and presentation were a testament to the strength, compassion, and leadership she brings to our community. We celebrate her achievement and the vital conversations she helped lead.

US Conference on HIV/AIDS
Washington, D.C. September 2025



Mental Health First Aid Training with Community Reach Center

We're proud to share that our staff recently participated in a transformative Mental Health First Aid training led by the incredible team at Community Reach Center. This engaging and informative session equipped our team with practical tools to recognize signs of mental health challenges, respond with empathy, and connect individuals to appropriate support.

The training emphasized the importance of mental wellness in the workplace and beyond, helping us foster a more compassionate and resilient community. Staff members walked away feeling empowered, informed, and ready to be a resource for others.

A heartfelt thank you to Community Reach Center for their expertise and dedication. Together, we're building a culture where mental health is prioritized and everyone feels seen, heard, and supported.



A Heartfelt Thank You to the Junior League L.U.V.S. Volunteers!

We are incredibly grateful to everyone from the Junior League who volunteered at Empowerment to help us prepare for our 40th Anniversary Ruby Celebration! Your time, energy, and sponsorship made a huge impact.



Thanks to your efforts, our building now boasts a fresh coat of paint that looks absolutely amazing. It's made our space more welcoming for both staff and participants, and we couldn't be more thrilled with the transformation. Thank you for being part of this milestone moment and helping us celebrate 40 years of empowerment and community impact!



The Empowerment Program's
40TH Anniversary
Ruby Benefit Celebration
October 15, 2025



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION!
A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Community Capital Corp.
Kenneth Hoagland



WISH LIST

Items can be found on our [Amazon Wish List](#).

We are currently NOT taking clothing donations.

- Reading Glasses
- Backpacks
- Hand & Body Warmers
- Sleeping Bags

- Laundry Detergent Sheets
- Trash Bags
- 2 person Tents & Tarps
- Thermal Blankets

- Cup of Soups / Oatmeal
- Adult Incontinence Briefs
- New Bras & Underwear
- Feminine Hygiene Products

OUR MISSION: To holistically help individuals build healthier lives from the inside out.

OUR VISION: Empowering participants to make healthy and safe decisions through trauma, gender, and culturally responsive holistic public health services.



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