

2011 Local projects

Every year Mission Giving & Outreach (MG&O) makes generous grants to a variety of local projects. Helping hands as well as money are needed in most of these organizations. In 2011, our churches mission has supported these local projects:

- **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)** - Provides volunteer advocates and funding for legal expenses for children.
- **Acacia Dinners** - FCC supported serving and volunteering Sunday meals at the Acacia Hotel. Program ended in the summer 2011.
- **ESM Festival of Trees** - MG&O donates a decorated tree to be auctioned off at the Jingle Bell Gala with proceeds to support programs of Ecumenical Social Ministries.
- **S-CAP (Southern Colorado Aids Project)** - Provides support and hope for those touched with HIV/Aids.
- **IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network)** FCC joins with other churches to provide short-term housing for homeless families.
- **Habitat for Humanity** - Works to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness by building homes with volunteer labor and donated material. FCC participated in the Apostles Build with 11 other churches in the Pikes Peak region.
- **TESSA** - Offers a safe house for women and children who are seeking to escape abusive situations.
- **Partners in Housing** - Provides two years of transitional housing as a bridge to permanent housing.

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- **Lutheran Family Services** - Provides support, education and counseling to birth families in unplanned pregnancies thus providing opportunities for choice.
- **Westside Cares** - Provides emergency assistance in food, clothing and housing for low-income neighbors living in the Westside of Colorado Springs.
- **SET** - Service, Empowerment & Transformation through a network of health/human services for low-income people.
- **Mission Medical Clinic** - Provides medical services to heal the sick “in the name of Jesus Christ. Because we believe - we care. Because we care - we do.”
- **Inside/Out Youth Services** - To feed, empower, educate and advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning youth.
- **Marian House** - Providing services to people in need, to advocate for justice in social structures, and to call the entire church and other people of good will to do the same.
- **Seminary Scholarship** - Scholarships for FCC members who are in seminary.

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- **Christmas Adopt-A-Family** - Gift trees with ornaments and suggestions for purchasing gifts for families of Partners in Housing, & S-CAP.
- **One Nation Walking Together** - Making a difference in the lives of Native Americans, serving the poorest of the poor living on reservations in Montana, North & South Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico and Arizona and those Urban Native Americans living in El Paso, Pueblo, Fremont and Montrose counties of Colorado.
- **Urban Peak** - Aims to locate runaway and homeless youth on the streets and provide them with a safe stable environment while they are homeless. Urban Peak main objective is to increase the likelihood of family reunification. If reunification is not appropriate, Urban Peak provides shelter while the youth acquire tools to live independently.
- **First Steps Spirituality Center** - Provides spiritual support to hurting children and teens at no cost. First Steps offers one-on-one support as well as group events including grief camps, Hope for the Holidays and "Creatasphere" (an art based group where kids and teens use different art mediums to express their pain).
- **Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission** - Activists working to achieve peace and justice in non-violent ways.

2011 global projects

- **Heifer Project International** -MG&O in December supports the Heifer Project with a table to Purchase animals as an alternative to commercial gifts and help people around the world.
- **La Puente Home** - An emergency shelter in the San Luis Valley serving the homeless and helping them become self-sufficient through such efforts as a community thrift store.
- **Dille/Dunbar Fund** - The Fund is the major support for building Schools for Angolan Young Women.
- **Melel Xojobal** - A social service organization in San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. Melel Xojobal means "the true light." Melel Xojobal's mission is to empower the indigenous urban and rural population in Chiapas, mainly children, with participatory processes in education and communication. This is done with an eye toward improving their quality of life and reinforcing their dignity.
- **Aggie's Baby Home** - Purpose is to save abandoned and orphaned infants and children up to the age of 4 in Kampala, Uganda, by providing them a safe home, medical care and food and hopefully place each child in a new permanent home with a family.
- **CROP Walk** - Church World Service working with Interfaith Hospitality Network in Colorado Springs and local churches walk together in the fall for hunger & poverty. Walkers get sponsors, and 75% goes to Church World Service and 25% goes to Interfaith Hospitality Network.