



Lullabies

Message from Deb

By Deb Sanders, Founder

I am not sure I can convey more about what Mommy Rocks does than what you are about to read.

Nicole Harvey lives in New England and found our Mommy Rocks Web site. I received her e-mail out of

the blue in October and was overwhelmed by her understanding of how important a rocking chair is to a new mom. Since her first e-mail I have been in contact with her. Her book club bought books and sent them to us to give to our moms and she promoted our

Barnes & Noble book fair. So it shows that no matter how far away or close you are, everyone has something to offer. Below I give you words from a mom and ask that you turn her words into actions and support Mommy Rocks in 2011.

Rocking Chair Blessings

My name is Nicole Harvey. I'm a 35 year old mom of Jack, age four, and Taylor, age one and a half. As I sat rocking my daughter to sleep for her nap this afternoon, I was struck by the number of hours I have spent in my rocking chair. I bought it when I was pregnant with Jack, over four years ago, and I still rock both kids in it daily.

I sat there quietly today, as I do many days, thinking back to my time as a new mom. When the baby never stopped crying I was exhausted beyond belief. I thought for sure I would have a mental breakdown - despite a loving, understanding, and helpful husband, extremely generous parents and in-laws, (with their time and money) a roof over my head and food on my table.

And yet, what I remember most from those early days are not the struggles, the tiredness, the helplessness.

What I remember most is the time spent in the rocking chair - the soothing rhythm calming both the babies and me - the relaxation slowly experienced by both

wondering about moms with less than I have. I donate to new moms at church every year. It's easy - buy diapers or a few onesies and drop them off for someone else to deal with.



2011 Mommy Rocks Mom

But today, as I rocked with my daughter, I was struck by the needs of new moms beyond the "basics." Continuing to rock, in the silent time before I put her in her crib, I always say prayers. Today I prayed that I might figure out how to help those less fortunate than me. As I prayed, I continued to rock, and rock, and rock.. I was struck by how powerful the feeling of simply rocking in a rocking chair is. And of course, rocking with a baby in your arms-well, to me, there's nothing like it.

baby and mom - our bodies both slowing down, our muscles unclenched and our eyelids becoming heavy. Slowly, together, we would rock, and almost become one.

I sat there rocking today

Anyway, this is a long way of saying congratulations to you for figuring this out a long time ago and helping so many new mothers in need. I wanted to let you know that I am inspired by you and Mommy Rocks to do more for others and that you will all be in my prayers.



A Few Words About In-Kind Donations

Mommy Rocks survives on small donations from individuals and an occasional church community or service group, but those in-kind donations are what allows us to give moms and babies the little extras and some basic necessities.

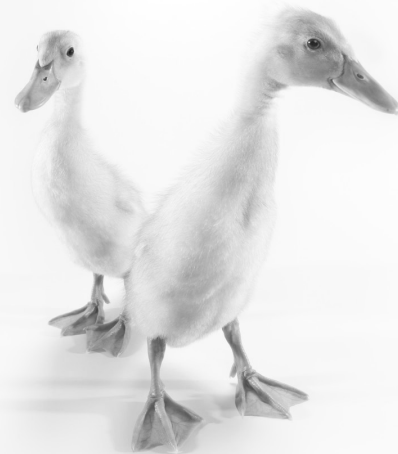
The largest part of our budget is set aside to purchase rocking chairs so when groups or individuals ask what kinds of things we need, these are some of the items we ask for: diapers (newborn to size 2); outfits 0-3 month; baby wipes; blankets (both large and receiving); new books; gift cards to Target, Wal-Mart, any grocery store; and of course gently used rocking chairs.

In-kind donations are part of our planned budget every year so if you or your friends or business associates wish to participate in a project to benefit Mommy Rocks, give us a call and we'd be happy to help you in any way we can.

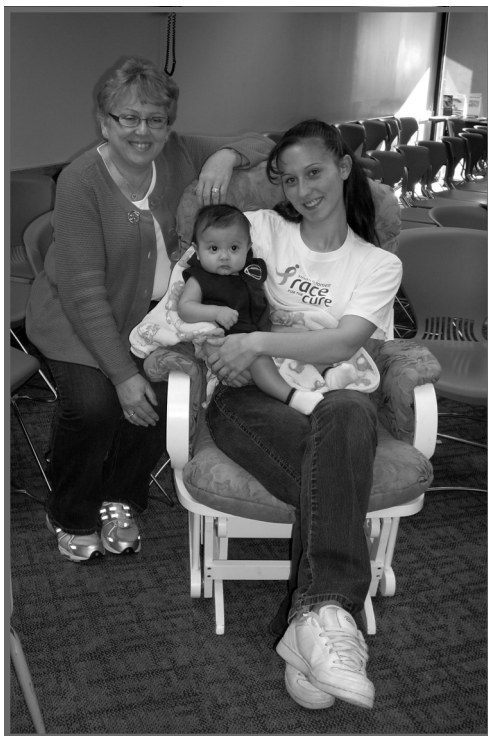
Thanks to you who have donated books, chairs, diapers, flashlights, clothes, baby wipes, envelopes, postage stamps, fabric; made layette sets, blankets, sweater sets, burp pads and bibs and covers for hot water bottles; assembled and repaired rocking chairs; and even donated a vehicle. You know who you are from the East Coast to the West Coast and right here at home, all to serve moms in Colorado!

Thank You

Thanks to all who attended and donated gifts at the recent Mommy Rocks Baby Shower! We appreciate the shower of gifts that will be passed on to the moms and babies.



Volunteers and Advisory Board Members Sought



Deb and Mom at Rocking Chair Roundup, Tri-County WIC office

We are looking for volunteers for the following positions:

Publicity-Media:

Have computer; internet access; good communication skills.

Community Outreach:

Should be comfortable with public speaking; establish relationships with key community members.

Advisory Board Members:

Attend the bi-annual meetings; participate in fundraising; support and promote the mission of Mommy Rocks. Previous board experience a plus but not necessary. Open positions include: officers and members-at-large.

Fundraising committee:

Have willingness to organize and participate in fundraising activities.

Meet and Greet Moms:

Once or twice a month for 2-4 hours help distribute rocking chairs and gifts to moms. Must be personable, outgoing and able to lift up to 40 lbs.

Ten Year Anniversary Committee:

Get on board with us and help plan and implement events and activities for our 10th Anniversary for Mothers Day 2012.

All individuals will receive an orientation to Mommy Rocks and participate in distribution of rocking chairs prior to taking a position and completing the application process.

For more information, contact Deb Sanders at information@mommyrocks.org or 303-601-8421



Save the Date and Join Us!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

IN-STORE:

Friday, May 6, for in-store purchases

ONLINE:

May 6 - May 10 for on-line purchases

Voucher Code must be used
10453629

Book Fair On-line or at your
favorite Barnes & Noble

We will be at the Denver West
location 14347 W. Colfax in
Lakewood over lunch hour and in
the evening, so drop by and see us!

Shop on line at
bn.com/bookfairs.com
from May 6-May 10



Garage Sale Sponsored by Marietta Clare Insurance Agency

DATE:

August 6

PLACE:

Marietta Clare State Farm
Insurance Agency Office
915 S Wadsworth
Lakewood, CO 80226-4305



Wine Tasting and Italian Food

DATE:

October 1, 2011

PLACE:

Spero Winery, 3316 W 64th Ave.
Denver, CO 80221

TIME:

6:30 PM

Limited Seating - RSVP's required
with \$40.00 paid by September 23.
Call 303-601-8421
for reservations.

2010 Donors

Great Oak Level (over \$1,000)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Walnut Level (donors \$500-\$999)

Maple Level (donors \$100-\$499)

- Sal and Pam Costa
- Craig Sanders
- Gwen Piehn
- Linda and William Foreman
- Deb Sanders
- DinoMar, Inc.
- Linda and Mike Henry

Cedar Level (donors \$40-\$99)

- Diane Calkins
- Mil and Bernita Lundquist
- Theresa & Bob Buckley
- Peter and Patricia Doane
- Patrick Sweeney D.D.S.
- Diane Glass

- Karen VanGundy
- Becky and Mark Schiel
- Lonetta Milcarek
- Cynthia Farkas

Golden Aspen (Corporate Supporters)

- Barnes & Noble Denver West
- Mad Greens, Lakewood
- Village Roaster, Lakewood
- SAVA Catering, Littleton
- Beacon Printing, Denver

Olive Tree Level (Faith Communities)

- Saint Paul's Episcopal Church,
Lakewood
- Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter Day Saints, Lakewood
- Cloverdale Church of God,
Lakewood

Little Bear Chair Level (Youth who support Mommy Rocks)

- Alayna and Megan Nelson
in-kind donations
- Cody and Jennifer Schiel
in-kind donations



Spring, 2011

Mommy Rocks

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**Mommy Rocks is a project
of the Colorado Nonprofit
Development Center.**



Support Mommy Rocks

Make donations payable to
CNDC FBO Mommy Rocks or
to make a secure credit card
donation call 303-601-8421. All
donations are tax- deductible to
the extent permitted by law.

Mission Statement

To provide first time mothers
and their infants a “place” of
their own as small as it might
be to continue the life long
bonding and loving process.

Join Our E-mail List

To receive future newsletters
and announcements by e-mail,
please contact us at
information@mommyrocks.org.



Our Little Home at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

While recently waiting for moms to show up I ran the vacuum in our “little room,” straightened book shelves, sorted donations and took inventory of things we are in need of before our next distribution. Some of our shelves are bare and we could use diapers and baby wipes. Now that summer is near, our little handmade sweater sets will take a back seat to little summer hats.

I then made a call to our next mom. She was late and I think she may be lost, but no, she was in the hospital. She had her baby and didn’t have time to call me. Happy for her safe delivery, her chair can wait until she and the baby return home. It is quiet waiting for the next mom to arrive. Although I think that we may run out of items that are needed I am still joyful as I look around at how very blessed we are to see the love that has gone into our “little home” at St. Paul’s.

Blankets, all of them, every stitch sewn, crocheted or knitted made with love. Bib’s made from scraps of colorful material, giving life to what might be tossed away will now be placed on the chest of a little

one ready to take on that first dribble of milk or cereal. Books chosen with care from people who were read to or in turn read to their own children; *Good Night Moon*; *Winnie the Pooh* or *Cat in the Hat* are favorites. Layette sets wrapped as gently as a new baby in a blanket, with white tissue and a ribbon (pink, blue or yellow). And the surprise inside is a handmade blanket, bib, burp pads along with an outfit, all perfectly matched. I am surrounded by gifts from people I don’t even know and sharing their gifts is a gift to me.

We are not just about rocking chairs, although that will always be our mainstay and the basis for what we do, but sharing the gifts of others makes what we do all the more sweet. And then there is our “little home” at St. Paul’s! What a wonderful place to serve moms in need, and a supportive church community who supports our mission. For this I am the most joyful as I look around as the next mom walks in the door of our “little home.”

Deb Sanders, Founder

A Mother’s Day Tribute

This is where we let you know that we gave away our first rocking chair on Mother’s Day in 2002 and are pleased to report that (as of this writing) we have given away 565 rockers since then.

We are celebrating our 9th Anniversary on Mother’s Day!
After nine years of dedication to serve



moms in our area, we are asking you to remember Mommy Rocks this Mother’s Day and celebrate with us in your own way; with a donation, plan to attend one of our events, share Mommy Rocks with a friend or family member, ask us what your faith community or service club can do to support Mommy Rocks.

