



WE ARE BUILDING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.



PARC
PLACE

Family-Centered Pediatric Palliative and Respite Care

2024-2025 Impact Report

For children and young adults with complex medical needs, one of the most powerful gifts we can offer is a place of peace — a space for respite, expert medical care, emotional support, and an abundance of love.

WE ARE BUILDING SO MUCH MORE THAN A HOUSE.



Founder's Message



“

With nearly half a million dollars raised, we are both proud and deeply humbled by the support we've received.”

– Kimberly Stokka Merendino

We started PaRC Place out of a deep desire to help others in need—specifically, children and young adults in Colorado facing life-limiting conditions. But this mission is also rooted in a very personal story. The night before my husband was diagnosed with stage IV cancer in September 2022, I unknowingly took the first step on this journey by signing up to become a death doula. At the time, I believed that calling was meant to help him die well.

Now, three years later, I understand that it was guiding me toward something even bigger, PaRC Place and the creation of Hayley House, a home where children and young adults with life-limiting illnesses, and the families who love them, can find peace, comfort, and dignity during the most vulnerable seasons of life.

Since receiving our 501(c)(3) designation in July 2024, the momentum behind PaRC Place has been extraordinary. In just over a year, we have hosted five successful fundraising events: our kickoff celebration in December, a marathon sponsored by PureWest Energy in May, a golf tournament in June, a clay shoot in September, and our Bubbles, Bourbon, and Bluegrass event in October. Each event not only exceeded our fundraising goals but also strengthened our sense of community and shared purpose. With nearly half a million dollars raised, we are both proud and deeply humbled by the support we've received.

Our mission is clear: to provide respite, palliative, and end-of-life care in a setting that truly feels like home. We are building a state-of-the-art facility where families can access expert care, emotional support, and moments of peace during some of the hardest times they will ever face. We look forward to the day we open our doors and welcome our first families. That day is coming and we know we will get there with the help of those who believe in this vision and are willing to walk this journey with us.

Thank you for believing in PaRC Place. **Together, we are building something that will change lives and bring light to even the hardest moments.**

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KStokkaMerendino".

Kimberly Stokka Merendino
Founder, CEO, Board Member

WE ARE BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF COMPASSION AND A PLACE OF EXTRAORDINARY KINDNESS AND CARE.



Our Mission

PaRC Place exists to provide compassion respite, palliative, and end-of-life care for children with life-limiting and life-altering conditions, while supporting the families who love and care for them.

We meet families where they are, offering dignified, relationship-centered care that reduces isolation, restores steadiness, and honors the full humanity of every child, caregiver, and family member during moments of vulnerability, grief and transition.



Our Vision

We envision a world where no family facing serious childhood illness feels alone; where every child is held with reverence, every caregiver supported, and every family has access to calm, compassionate care during life's most tender and vulnerable moments.

PaRC Place strives to be a trusted sanctuary and a model of excellence; reducing isolation, strengthening families, and setting a new standard for pediatric respite, palliative, and end-of-life care rooted in dignity, peace and human connection.



Our Promise

At PaRC Place, we promise families up to 28 nights of respite care each year for their child, allowing time for rest and reconnection. During end-of-life care, we promise families can stay as long as needed, free from limits and added stress.

We promise a peaceful, home-like environment with expert care and compassion. Our interdisciplinary team partners with families to honor each child's unique needs, ensuring they feel safe and valued.

We promise to support families through uncertainty, offering community and dignity during times of crisis, grief, and healing. No family will face serious childhood illness alone.

WE ARE BUILDING ON THE LEGACY OF A VIBRANT YOUNG CHILD WHO EMBRACED THE WORLD AND LIVED EVERY MOMENT WITH GUSTO AND GRATITUDE.

We're building a place that would make Hayley proud.

Hayley Kristian Johnson came into the world as a medical puzzle to the many medical teams who flew in after her birth to understand her complex circumstances. From the very beginning, Hayley required extensive orthopedic care—multiple surgeries to replace missing bones and repair those that were fractured. After being discharged from the NICU, she began undergoing surgeries at just four months old and continued to endure major procedures each year, including a 25-hour anterior and posterior spine fusion when she was only two and a half.



Throughout these countless surgeries and medical challenges, our family was surrounded by extraordinary healthcare providers who supported us every step of the way. Together, we found ways to remain resilient in the face of dire predictions, leaning on compassion, expertise, and hope to carry us through.

When Hayley's years of surgeries finally came to an end, she embraced life with boundless joy and adventure. She skied with friends, went parasailing, hiked, biked, swam in the ocean with dolphins at the Dolphin Research Center in Key Largo, Florida—and seized every opportunity to live life to its fullest. Hayley had a remarkable gift for bringing joy into even the most difficult moments, teaching all of us what it means to live with courage, curiosity, and love.

Hayley passed away unexpectedly in 2005, and we honored her life surrounded by more than 350 of her "closest friends" from every walk of life—an extraordinary reflection of the impact she had on so many people in such a short time.

Jeff and I are deeply proud to support PaRC Place and its mission to provide respite, palliative, and end-of-life care for children, young adults, and their families. Colorado has long lacked a place where families facing life-limiting illness can turn for holistic support, rest, and peace. PaRC Place fills that critical gap by caring not only for the child, but for the entire family navigating unimaginable circumstances.

We are profoundly honored that the first physical home of PaRC Place will be named Hayley's House, a PaRC Place. It is a privilege to see Hayley's legacy live on in a place that will bring comfort, dignity, and love to families during their greatest times of need. We believe deeply in this vision and are grateful to be part of building something that will change lives.

- Tracy Price-Johnson, Mother of Hayley



LAYING THE GROUNDWORK, MEASURING THE IMPACT.



20 MINUTES

In the U.S., a child dies every 20 minutes due to medical complexities, underscoring the need for pediatric palliative care.*

AGE < 21

Children with Complex Medical Conditions (CMC) in Colorado total approximately 16,433 under age 21, representing less than 1% of children but accounting for over one-third of children's healthcare spending and 40% of all hospital deaths in Colorado.

285 BEDS

To meet statewide needs, Colorado requires approximately 285 pediatric palliative respite beds based on national utilization rates.

PaRC Place plans to provide 8 beds for children up to age 21 and 5 beds for young adults to address gaps in transitional care.

NEARLY 24%

of families with Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) cut back or stop working to provide care.

< 96.9%

Palliative care may be accessed by approximately 96.9% of inpatients in Colorado hospitals, but specialized pediatric palliative care remains limited.

1 in 4

One in four families with children under 21 is less likely to place their child in out-of-home care once respite services are available.

↓ 8%

For every \$1,000 spent on respite care, hospitalization rates drop by 8%, demonstrating cost-effectiveness.

50 HOURS

Overnight respite care is critical to reduce caregiver burnout, which arises from over 50 hours per week of medical care provided by parents, often with insufficient external support.

Caregiving impacts are severe: 72%

of caregivers fail to attend doctor appointments as needed, 40% report increased depression, and family caregivers have chronic conditions at more than twice the rate of non-caregivers.

5 Colorado has at least 12 community palliative care programs, with 143 physicians, 58 advanced practice nurses, and 149 registered nurses certified in palliative care; however, only 5 pediatricians are board-certified in Hospice and Palliative Medicine, indicating a workforce gap.

STAY AWHILE.

A state of the art home for children and their families includes resources both for the individual who needs care and also for the family that needs support. We expect to be able to provide the following for use by the child or young adult being cared for, their parents, and siblings:



8 rooms equipped to care for individuals with various medical conditions or to provide end of life care



Three casitas complete with kitchenette, living room, king bed and ensuite bathroom for families to retreat or spend last moments together



An outdoor play structure for individuals of all abilities and a garden where peace can be found in nature



A sensory space to explore various textures, smells, sights and movement



A bereavement suite where families can stay with their child up to 48 hours after they have passed



Kitchen for medical professionals to prep patient meals, as well as volunteers offering support by creating, cooking, or preparing meals for families



An interfaith sanctuary where family members or individuals can go to find connection and experience peace



A pool and/or hot tub that provides an opportunity to receive aquatic therapy



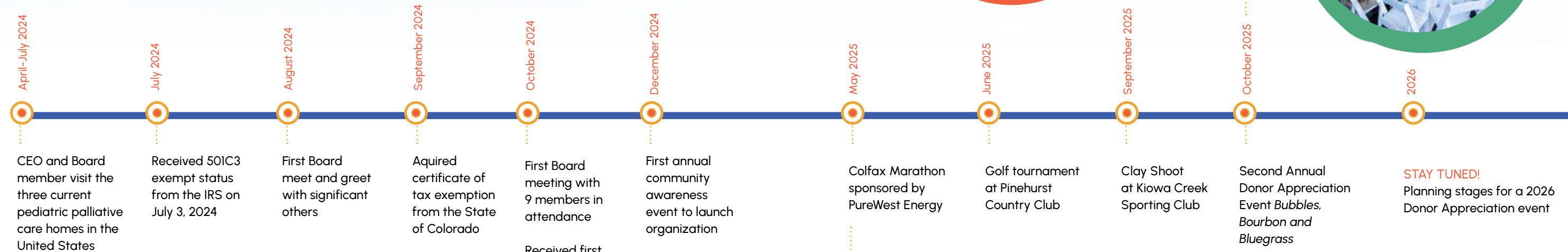
An art room to create memories and express oneself



A gaming room for those who enjoy the opportunity to compete

BUILDING BLOCKS OF OUR PROGRESS.

Key Milestone in 2024-2025:



PaRC Place Family Support Scholarship Program

While Hayley's House, a PaRC Place is under development, PaRC Place is already supporting families through our Family Support Scholarship Program. This program provides direct financial assistance to families navigating life-limiting and life-altering conditions, helping meet urgent needs such as respite care, travel, lodging, and other essential supports.

Families can apply for assistance through our website, and community members who wish to support this work can make a gift to help ensure no family faces these challenges alone.

Together, we are meeting families where they are—today—while building the care they will need tomorrow.



PaRC Place is thrilled to be partnering with PureWest Energy for the second year in a row on the Colfax Marathon. We are hopeful to maintain the strong connection between organizations for many years to come. In 2026, PureWest will strive to donate \$10,000 as a part of the partnership with PaRC Place.

BUILDING MOMENTUM: 2024-2025 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Showcase & launch

We officially launched PaRC Place surrounded by board members, friends, and family—grounded in the stories that inspired this work from the very beginning. The gathering centered on listening: hearing directly from families, sharing the vision for compassionate, family-centered care, and affirming our collective commitment to building a place of comfort, dignity, and connection. It was a powerful moment that set the tone for the work ahead and reminded us why PaRC Place matters.

Golf Tournament

On June 16th, Pinehurst Country Club hosted over 50 golfers for a full round of golf, giveaways, and giving back in support of medically complex children and their families in Colorado.

#RunForRespite at Denver's Colfax Marathon was a powerful reminder of what our community can do when we come together to support medically complex children and their families.

Clay Shoot

We gathered at Kiowa Creek Sporting Club for a charity clay shoot. A great time was had by all — enjoying a day filled with sporting clays while supporting medically complex children and their families in Colorado.

Bubbles, Bourbon, and Bluegrass Donor Appreciation Event

To close out our first year, we gathered with supporters for Bubbles, Bourbon, and Bluegrass — a heartfelt donor appreciation event celebrating the community that made PaRC Place possible. The evening was filled with connection, gratitude, and shared belief in the power of compassionate, family-centered care. It was a meaningful reminder that PaRC Place is being built not just with resources, but with people who care deeply about families when they need it most.



WHAT WE BUILD TOGETHER STANDS ON THE STRENGTH OF OUR DONORS.



Marolf Family

"PaRC Place and its mission is near and dear to my heart. I lost my little sister to leukemia when she was only 3 years old. Our family was falling apart and crumbled after she died. PaRC Place not only serves children with life-limiting and life-altering conditions but their immediate family members as well who are often exhausted and feel isolated and disconnected. **PaRC Place brings trusted support, much needed relief and a whole lot of TLC to these precious children and their families.** I am deeply grateful to be a part of this work."



Kevin Rifkin

"I support PaRC Place originally out of a personal relationship having to go through adolescence end of life without an option like PaRC Place. After getting more involved and seeing the overwhelming need for this, with either limited or no options, my passion was ignited. **The mission for me tells adolescents and their families that they are not alone, and that in the darkest times, there is still a silver lining.**"



Barry Rosenberg

"When Zeva was born on November 30, 1991, everything appeared normal. After years of difficulty conceiving, her arrival felt like a miracle. But within her first year, her parents began noticing that Zeva was not meeting developmental milestones. Her mother, Lee—a registered nurse and licensed acupuncturist—raised concerns, but they were initially reassured that babies develop at different rates.

As months passed, Zeva did not thrive. She startled frequently and showed signs that resembled seizures. A connection at Children's Hospital led to further evaluation, and a pediatric ophthalmologist confirmed what no family is prepared to hear: Zeva had infantile Tay-Sachs disease and was unlikely to live beyond two or three years.

Faced with this reality, Zeva's parents made a deliberate choice—her life would not be defined by fear or despair. Instead, they centered their time together on love, comfort, and presence. They celebrated Zeva every month, took her on gentle hikes near their home in Lookout Mountain, Colorado, and carefully adapted daily life to keep her comfortable and included. Without realizing it at the time, they were practicing palliative care—focused entirely on quality of life.



Support came in pieces: care from Denver Hospice, a devoted neighbor who provided respite and loved Zeva deeply, and a circle of friends and family who helped carry both grief and joy. Even in the face of loss, Zeva's life was filled with connection and meaning.

Zeva died peacefully on June 22, 1995.

Today, PaRC Place exists for families like Zeva's—families who deserve coordinated palliative care, trusted respite, and a home-like environment where children and their loved ones are supported together. **PaRC Place brings compassion, dignity, and relief to families during the most vulnerable seasons of life—so they don't have to navigate it alone.**"





Kim Stokka Merendino, Founder and CEO

Adam P. Smith, Chairman of the Board

William Padilla, General Counsel

Grace Anshutz, Secretary



Rodolfo Canon



Pam Cortese

"I was thrilled when Kim Merendino, whom I deeply respect and has been a dear friend of mine for many years, asked me to serve on the board of PaRC Place. As with many of our board members, I own a business and serve on another BOD; however, this request was truly special – special because of the mission serving children and families in need, and the immense compassion of all of those supporting this work. I am honored to serve on the PaRC Place board and I look forward to supporting this very worthy cause." – Pam Cortese, Board Member

THE FOUNDATION OF THIS INCREDIBLE BUILDING ARE OUR PASSIONATE, DEDICATED BOARD MEMBERS.

"I am so excited to be a part of an organization that will have such an incredible impact on children and their families across Colorado. Our community will stand beside each of our families as they navigate what can be a very lonely and overwhelming time.

It is so important to me to know that everyone feels that they are not alone and have a community of strength supporting them every step of the way, and I know PaRC Place will do just that." – Kim Eilber, Board Member



Kim Eilber

Amy Marolf

"I joined the PaRC Place board because I have seen how transformative compassionate, family-centered care can be—especially in moments of crisis, when families are overwhelmed, exhausted, and unsure where to turn. PaRC Place fills a critical gap by supporting not just children with life-limiting and life-altering conditions, but the entire family system around them, recognizing that healing and resilience extend beyond the patient alone. This model of care honors dignity, connection, and humanity at a time when families need it most." – Grace Anshutz, Secretary



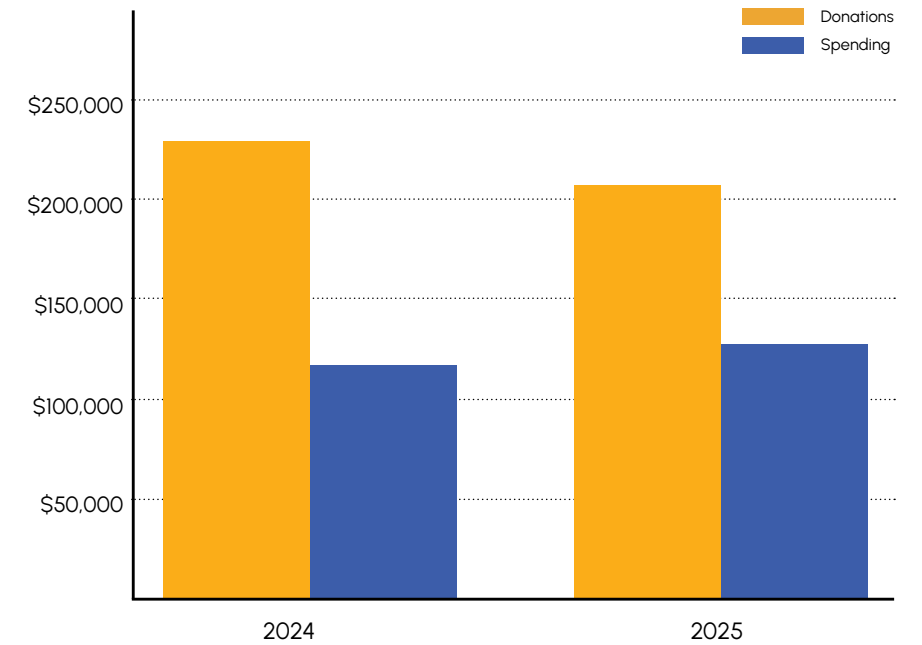
Tracy Price-Johnson



Kevin Rifkin

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2024, we achieved strong donation levels and managed our spending efficiently, resulting in a healthy surplus. As of 2025, spending has increased primarily due to event investments, while donations have followed a typical mid-year pattern. The following charts illustrate how funds were raised and allocated.



September 1 - December 31, 2024

Revenue

Donations and Grants	\$ 229,478.66
Interest and Other Income	\$ 3.65
Total Revenue	\$ 229,482.31

Expenses

Fundraising	\$ 0.00
Events	\$ 54,592.62
Management & General	\$ 61,687.53
Total Expenses	\$ 116,280.15
Change in Net Assets	\$ 113,202.16

January - December, 2025

Revenue

Donations and Grants	\$ 200,593.00
Interest and Other Income	\$ 4,418.23
Total Revenue	\$ 205,011.23

Expenses

Fundraising	\$ 2,254.08
Events	\$ 75,338.66
Management & General	\$ 61,378.10
Total Expenses	\$ 138,970.84
Change in Net Assets	\$ 66,040.39

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR.

As we reflect on our first year as an organization, it's impossible not to feel both deep gratitude and powerful momentum. PaRC Place was born from love, shaped by lived experience, and fueled by an extraordinary community that believes children, young adults, and their families deserve compassionate, dignified care during life's most vulnerable moments.

In the year ahead, our focus is clear: moving from vision to reality. Our top priority is laying the foundation—both literally and figuratively—for our first physical home, Hayley's House, a PaRC Place. This state-of-the-art, home-like facility will offer respite, palliative, and end-of-life care in a setting designed to bring comfort, peace, and connection to entire families. We are actively advancing site planning, architectural design, and our capital campaign to bring Hayley's House to life, with every decision guided by the voices and needs of the families we aim to serve.

Beyond bricks and mortar, PaRC Place is committed to building lasting systems of care. In the upcoming Colorado legislative session, we plan to advocate for the introduction of a bill that would establish a licensing pathway for Pediatric Palliative Care Homes in the state. This critical step would not only support PaRC Place, but also create a framework for compassionate, family-centered care options across Colorado ensuring more families have access to the support they deserve.

We are also proud to be stepping fully into our identity as PaRC Place, a name that reflects the depth, breadth, and humanity of our mission. This evolution clarifies who we are and what we offer: a place where pediatric, adolescent, and young adult respite and palliative care are woven together with emotional support, dignity, and belonging. As we share this new chapter with our community, our focus remains on growing with intention and integrity.

At the same time, we are strengthening partnerships across medical, caregiving, and community networks; continuing to engage families so their lived experiences guide our path forward; and beginning to recruit the passionate professionals and volunteers who will help bring PaRC Place to life.

We know this work is ambitious. Building something meaningful takes time, resources, and unwavering commitment. But thanks to the incredible momentum of our first year and the generosity and trust of those who walk alongside us we are confident in what lies ahead.

This is just the beginning. Together, we are building PaRC Place—and Hayley's House—a home unlike any other, where care meets compassion and no family has to face life's hardest moments alone.



Family-Centered Pediatric Palliative *and* Respite Care

HELP US BUILD SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.
GET INVOLVED. GIVE TODAY.

Learn more and give online at parc-place.org



Follow us & share our story

