



Every child is healthy, safe, learning and ready for school.

NEWS RELEASE

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Teller County's Parents as Teachers home visitation program recognized as innovator in early childhood parenting *Community Partnership Family Resource Center receives Prestigious Losos prize at international conference*

Woodland Park, CO, Oct. 31, 2023 – Its ability to imagine new and creative ways to help parents become their children's first and best teacher has earned the Community Partnership Family Resource Center (CPFRC) the most coveted honor offered by the Parents as Teachers National Center (PATNC) – the 2023 Losos Prize for Innovation. The group recently received the award at PATNC's international conference in New Orleans.

PATNC is a St. Louis, Missouri-based non-profit international organization that specializes in early childhood development and parenting education through home visiting.

The Losos prize, created in 2006 and named in honor of lifetime PATNC board member and former board chair, Carolyn Losos, is given annually to a Parents as Teachers Blue Ribbon Affiliate that has developed fresh solutions to address specific needs in their community or have enhanced existing programmatic and service delivery needs in a new or innovative way.

"We are elated to receive this significant honor and we thank Parents as Teachers for recognizing our commitment to provide an innovative system of evidence-based home visiting services to some of our city's most under-resourced families, especially pregnant women with young children," said Cory Gorton, CPFRC's affiliate supervisor.

To earn Blue Ribbon status, Parents as Teachers Blue Ribbon affiliates complete a comprehensive Quality Endorsement and Improvement Process every five years and must meet at least 75 percent of the quality standards and all of the essential requirements.

The Community Partnership Family Resource Center is one of PATNC's 1,306 national affiliates that implements its home visiting model. Parents as Teachers' evidence-based home visiting model is designed to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect through family engagement, impactful parenting, child and maternal health, and the school readiness of young children. It is the most replicated model among home visiting agencies.

The LOSOS prize winning affiliate received \$5,000 to support activities that further its work, a complimentary registration to attend the conference, and formal recognition while there.

PATNC President and CEO Constance Gully said the Community Partnership Family Resource Center had demonstrated creativity and innovation in pursuit of the PATNC vision that all children will learn, grow, and develop to realize their full potential.

“We appreciate the hard work and the countless hours that members of the Community Partnership Family Resource Center spend advancing Parents as Teachers’ mission, and its commitment to preparing children and strengthening families,” Gully said. “They are most deserving of one of our highest accolades.”

The Community Partnership Family Resource Center was founded in 1992 to fill gaps in family support and human services. The Center not only follows the high standards of Parents as Teachers, but also follows those of the Family Resource Center Association of Colorado as a Premium member and provides the highest quality of programming to families. In 2006, 2013, and 2021, the CPFRC was recognized as Non-Profit of the Year by the Greater Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce.

CPFRC’s mission is to deliver programs and services which strengthen families to reduce child abuse and neglect. The Center has been a model affiliate since 2016 and a Blue-Ribbon Affiliate since 2018, providing high quality programming to families in Teller County, Colorado. CPFRC offers robust, meaningful, and structured Group Connections three times a week.

It works with the public-school districts to offer Parents as Teachers to families accessing a tuition subsidy program, collaborates with the Teller County Department of Human Services to offer Parents as Teachers during supervised visitations or for families who have open DHS cases to prevent further DHS involvement.

In 2019, Community Partnership was one of two Family Resource Centers in the U.S. selected by the National Family Support Network in Washington D.C. and Casey Family Programs in Seattle, Washington for a Return-on-Investment study, measuring how the collaboration between a Family Resource Center and its County DHS leads to better outcomes for families.

The Parents as Teachers’ conference was held under the theme Unmasking Potential. Attendees exchanged ideas concentrated on early childhood home visiting and facilitated through more than 90 workshops and panel discussions focused on community engagement, collaborations and partnerships, diversity, equity and inclusion, health and wellness, parenting, and child development, serving multi-cultural groups, and parenting in a digital world.

About Parents as Teachers

Parents as Teachers (PAT) builds strong communities, thriving families, and children that are healthy, safe, and ready for school. The internationally recognized evidence-based home visiting model is backed by 40 years of research-proven outcomes for children and families. PAT currently serves nearly 200,000 families in all 50 U.S. states, 115 Tribal organizations, five other countries, and one U.S. territory. Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc. is a non-profit organization headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri.

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The Community Partnership Family Resource Center (CPFRC) received the Losos Prize for Innovation at the Parents as Teachers 2023 International Conference in New Orleans. Pictured from left are Donna O'Brien, PATNC vice president of program and development; PATNC Board Member Stephen Rosenblum, CPFRC's Jackie Manley and Cory Gorton, and Constance Gully, Parents as Teachers President/CEO.