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**Contact:**  
Sue Beck-Ferkiss  
970-407-7021

## Local Nonprofit Hits One Million Mark with Helping Others

Community Invited to Attend “Thanx a Million” Celebration

**[Fort Collins, Colo]** - The Homelessness Prevention Initiative announced today its provided \$1,000,000 in rental assistance to help individuals and families facing eviction in Fort Collins.

Since 2001, the Homelessness Prevention Initiative (HPI) has been providing rental assistance and resource referrals to local families at imminent risk of eviction. The grassroots nonprofit has provided rental assistance and resource referrals to more than 12,600 individuals, 8,000 of which are children who were facing risk of eviction. The average amount of financial assistance per household is under \$300.

“Most of our donors are local and all of our clients are local. The contributions made to HPI stay in our community to help people right here where we live. This is a great example of the cumulative impact of many people giving a little. It adds up,” said Sue Beck-Ferkiss, HPI executive director.

Reneica Hanck is a former HPI client. “They were a godsend to us. It is sometimes difficult to get through hard times without adequate resources. Five years ago we were going through a rough patch and we were so thankful to find resources available in the community. The help HPI provided us gave us a hand up to get to a better place,” said Hanck.

According to Beck-Ferkiss, HPI has already assisted more clients so far this year than in all of 2008. HPI expects to provide a quarter of a million dollars in rental assistance this year.

HPI is hosting a “Thanx A Million” gratitude event at Old Town Square on **Friday, December 11, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.** to celebrate its \$1,000,000 milestone. HPI invites the public to attend and enjoy a piece of cake and good cheer in recognition of the community’s support.

For more information about Homelessness Prevention Initiative, visit [www.homelessnessprevention.net](http://www.homelessnessprevention.net) or call Sue Beck-Ferkiss, executive director at 970.407.7021.