Urban Peak is a shelter from the storm, a first home, a passion project and a calling. For many in our community, we are a vital piece of the city’s fabric. To me, Urban Peak represents what is best in all of us: a relentless commitment to changing trajectories, saving lives and creating lasting community impact.

As the CEO at Urban Peak, I am grateful and humbled. Grateful to work with amazing young people who walk through our doors and remind me that resiliency is not a buzz word, but an action. Humbled to be a member of the incredible Urban Peak team. Grateful for the opportunity to impact the thousands of lives we touch each year. Humbled to witness what ending youth homelessness really means.

We achieve our mission of igniting the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined and fulfilled lives with our continuum of services. Those include street outreach, a drop-in center, emergency shelter, housing, workforce development, education and employment, behavioral health and case management. Above all, we build trusting relationships with safe adults for our community’s most vulnerable population. For some of the 15 through 24-year-olds with whom we work, this is their first such relationship.

Our vision is that all Colorado youth have safe housing, supportive relationships and the opportunity for self-sufficiency and success. As our community evolves at a dizzying pace, it is more important than ever that we achieve this. To make this happen, it takes our youth, our staff, our volunteers, our board and you!

Our programs are working. Our impact is growing. Every day, we help youth get off the street and into our safe spaces. In our last fiscal year, 91 percent of youth moved on from Urban Peak housing to safe and stable housing of their own. They will not be on the street tomorrow, the next day or for a lifetime.

Urban Peak is a prevention model, not an intervention model. Together we prevent chronic homelessness by ending youth homelessness — one person at a time.

My first anniversary at Urban Peak is in sight, and I have enormous gratitude for my position as CEO. At least once a day, I find the chance to tell someone that I have the best job in the world. Thank you, friends, for everything you do for Urban Peak. Thank you for supporting the most vulnerable young people throughout Denver.

With gratitude,

Christina Carlson
CEO, Urban Peak
Urban Peak
Ignites the Spark!

vision
All Colorado youth have safe housing, supportive relationships and the opportunity for self-sufficiency and success.

mission
Urban Peak ignites the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives.

Urban Peak services are designed to meet the unique and diverse needs of all youth between the ages of 15 and 24 experiencing homelessness. In 2017, we served 1,339 different youth. Many of the youth we serve have experienced significant trauma, shocking pain and an early loss of innocence. Our primary goal is to empower them to overcome homelessness. We provide a continuum of services to homeless youth.

IMPACT
- Develop positive and safe relationships with trustworthy adults
- Facilitate healing and recovery
- Promote safety and social well-being
- Establish positive networks of support and community
- Build skills to support ongoing independence

we believe
that ending youth homelessness changes trajectories, saves lives and creates lasting community impact.
we believe
that with compassion, guidance and support, positive change and healing can happen.

Outreach
Urban Peak’s Outreach team spends time on the street meeting youth where they live. By providing food, hygiene materials and weather-appropriate clothing, the team builds trusting and safe relationships with youth who live and survive on the streets. Referrals to appropriate shelter, housing, behavioral health services and substance abuse treatment help get these youth off the street today and the support they need to be off the street tomorrow.

IMPACT
892 Youth served
6 Average number of contacts made between a homeless youth and an outreach worker
158 Youth assisted in obtaining critical identification documents
70 Youth placed in safe and stable housing who were first contacted through outreach

Drop-In Center
A refuge for youth experiencing homelessness, the Drop-In Center is a safe haven for youth between ages 18 and 24. Here, youth can meet their basic needs, including respite from the outdoors, a hot breakfast on weekdays, lockers to keep possessions safe, laundry services, showers and haircuts. Our team not only offers guidance and support, but teaches life skills the youth have never had a chance to learn in order to support them on a path to self-sufficiency.

IMPACT
874 Youth served
10,056 Meals provided
192 Drop-In Center youth accessing additional Urban Peak services (aside from Outreach)
“A HOT CUP OF COFFEE BROUGHT ME INTO THE DROP-IN CENTER, AND MY CASE MANAGER PROVIDED ME THE SUPPORT I NEEDED TO GET OFF THE STREETS FOR GOOD.”
we are committed
to creating and providing a culture of safety, responsibility and respect

Shelter
Urban Peak has Denver’s only licensed overnight shelter for youth ages 15 through 20. Open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, serving three meals a day, we offer a safe, welcoming environment and respect the rights and identities of the youth we serve. Youth work with case managers to create individualized service plans to help them progress toward stable housing, reunification with family or self-sufficiency. An onsite clinic partially staffed by volunteer physicians and nurses offers medical services and mental health assessments several mornings each week. The Shelter expands capacity by 25 percent from 40 to 50 beds in inclement weather or emergency conditions.

IMPACT
371 Youth served
18% Youth at the shelter younger than 18
14,466 Total number of nights spent at the shelter by individual youth
94% Minors exited shelter to a safe and stable living environment

Housing
Urban Peak owns three apartment complexes housing 68 youth at a time and also operates housing programs in scattered-site units throughout the metro area. Our program model is designed to meet the distinct needs of youth who are ready for stable, independent housing. Substance abuse or mental health treatment, intensive case management, adaptive living skills training for youth with physical or developmental disabilities and independent living skills support youth on their path to independence.

IMPACT
145 Youth served
100% Youth in housing received trauma-informed, strengths-based case management
75% Youth maintained housing for 6 months or more
91% Youth exited Urban Peak housing to permanent, safe and stable situations
“THE FIRST TIME I HAD MY OWN BED WAS WHEN I MOVED INTO MY OWN APARTMENT AT ROX’S PLACE.”
we are committed
to being a national model of innovation and best practice through intentional focus on continuous improvement and growth.

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**Education and Employment**

Our individual and small-group approach helps youth obtain a GED, re-enroll or re-engage in high school, complete remaining coursework needed to graduate, or apply for post-secondary educational opportunities. Our Job Readiness Training course includes hard- and soft-skills training including cover letter and resume development, job search and interviewing skills, job retention training, time and money management and individualized services based on need. All of these services are critical for youth to become self-sufficient and maintain safe and stable housing.

**IMPACT**

- **237** Youth served in education services
- **81** Youth served in employment services
- **23** GEDs earned
- **18** Professional training certificates received
- **56%** Youth enrolled in education and employment services who completed Job Readiness Training

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**Social Enterprise**

Peak Thrift, Urban Peak’s Social Enterprise thrift store, offers youth an opportunity to develop job skills and interact with the community with the guidance and support of store managers while contributing to Urban Peak’s mission.

**IMPACT**

- **45** Youth participated in volunteer, training or employment opportunities
- **16** Youth participated in federally subsidized work experiences
- **7** Youth hired on as Urban Peak employees
“I LOVE WORKING WITH YOUTH AT URBAN PEAK. I LOVE IT SO MUCH, I SOMETIMES DREAM ABOUT IT. IT’S A PRIVILEGE TO BE PART OF SOMETHING THAT IS SAVING LIVES EVERY DAY.”

- TAMISHA, FOSTER CARE CASE MANAGER
we believe
in the transformational power of acceptance

Volunteers
Volunteers are an integral piece of Urban Peak’s services, lending support on an ad-hoc, regular and even full-time basis. From professionals providing their expertise free of charge to regular groups serving meals at the Drop-In Center and Shelter, the generosity of our volunteers elevates our impact and strengthens the relationships between the community and the youth we serve. Volunteer opportunities are posted regularly on our website and Facebook page.

IMPACT
1,251 Volunteers in 2017
5,356 Hours spent by volunteers serving meals at the Shelter
227 Hours spent by volunteers providing GED tutoring
“WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE TODAY?”
- HEATHER, PEAK THRIFT ASSOCIATE
FISCAL YEAR 2017 FINANCIALS

REVENUE
- Government $1,737,057 37%
- Individuals 1,202,707 26%
- Foundations 880,689 19%
- Corporations 397,589 8%
- Other 240,467 5%
- In-Kind 123,535 3%
- Civic & Faith 119,742 3%
Total Revenue $4,701,785 100%

EXPENSES
- Program Services $3,659,215 73%
- Management & General 741,591 15%
- Resource Development 625,321 12%
Total Expenses $5,026,127 100%

ASSETS
- Cash & Equivalents $91,354
- Investments $423,600
- Accounts Receivable $387,470
- Prepaid Expenses $53,872
- Property & Equipment, net $5,107,530
Total Assets $6,063,826

LIABILITIES
- Accounts Payable $28,357
- Accrued Expenses $64,730
- Other Current Liabilities $14,338
- Notes Payable $2,617,413
Total Liabilities $2,724,838

NET ASSETS
- Unrestricted $3,064,421
- Temporarily Restricted $147,340
- Permanently Restricted $127,227
Total Net Assets $3,338,988

Total Liabilities & Net Assets $6,063,826
“YOU CAN BE WHOEVER YOU WANT HERE. IF SOMEONE SAYS OTHERWISE, WE WILL ALSO SAY OTHERWISE.”
– CALVIN, LGBTQ CASE MANAGER
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Shawna Rae Kemppainen, **Executive Director, Colorado Springs**  
Clayton Gonzales, **Director of Programs**  
Katherine Lawson, **Director of Development**  
Kelsey Antun, **Drop-In Center & Outreach Supervisor**  
Ben Kinghorn, **Shelter Supervisor, Overnight Shelter**  
Suzanne Kittelson, **Housing Supervisor**  
Chris Venable, **Manager of Social Enterprise**

**URBAN PEAK**

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Denver, CO 80205  
303.974.2800

**PEAK THRIFT**

4890 Pecos Street  
Denver, CO 80221  
720.484.5689

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