

Mikkel Kelly  
Grants and PR Specialist  
[m.kelly@communityreachcenter.org](mailto:m.kelly@communityreachcenter.org)  
303-853-3421 | 303-521-1659

Contact: Lindy Lewis  
Marketing and Communications Manager  
[l.lewis@communityreachcenter.org](mailto:l.lewis@communityreachcenter.org)  
303.853.3679 | 720.219.1342



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **State Farm supports mental health professionals Community Reach Center accepts gift of masks and donuts to counter COVID-19 pandemic**

(May 21, 2020 – Westminster, Colorado) When Bruce Vezina, owner of a State Farm Insurance Agency in Westminster, saw an opportunity to support mental health services during the current COVID-19 pandemic, he was quick to act.

He phoned Community Reach Center CEO Rick Doucet and asked if his mental health agency could use a \$500 contribution. Doucet chose a large order of protective masks to be distributed to various locations as needed and a batch of donuts for good measure.

Vezina found the opportunity to help via State Farm’s “Good Neighbor Community Fund,” which underwrites a \$500 contribution to areas of need as deemed appropriate by local agencies. Vezina, who has served as a volunteer board member at Community Reach Center for 20 years, said he saw the fund as one way to help address the COVID-19 pandemic impacting the community and health workers.

“I definitely related to the signs around health care facilities that state “Heroes work here,” Vezina said. “Truly people are working so hard and at risk to provide care that is needed during this pandemic. I believe strongly that we owe them some recognition and a thank you, no matter how small the gesture. I hope this donation accomplishes that goal for Community Reach Center professionals.”

Rick Doucet thanked Vezina and his company, and said he was pleased to have the opportunity to put the contribution to best use and that staff members will very much appreciate the contribution.

Vezina said, “Community Reach has always been there when we needed support as a family and has been there for tens of thousands of people in need of mental health services since it opened in the late 1950s. The center is needed even more now as a place for those struggling to cope with the anxiety, fear and uncertainty this pandemic has created.”

“This is a challenging time for all of us,” Doucet added. “It is important to remember we all have a part to play. Job one is to practice social distancing, maintain good health habits and look after one another.”

Like many, Vezina is teleworking at home and hopes to reopen his Westminster office soon.



Program Manager Cameron Cannon accepts a delivery of donuts and masks From Lisa Puma, Clinical Director of Collaborative Community Services.

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Community Reach Center is a top-tier non-profit behavioral health and wellness provider established in 1957 that serves people of all ages at nine outpatient offices and more than 100 community-based sites throughout Adams and Broomfield counties in Colorado. The Center employs more than 500 highly skilled professionals committed to health and wellness, currently serving 22,000 individuals annually. It is one of the first community mental health providers in the U.S. to incorporate pediatric primary care into its care continuum with the purchase of Mountainland Pediatrics in Thornton, Colorado and Broomfield Pediatrics in Broomfield, Colorado. Community Reach operates the first and currently largest school-based therapy program in Colorado. It is the first mental health provider in Colorado to receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities – an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services.

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