

# Pigs for Kids

## Realities for Children

BOULDER COUNTY



Sponsored by Premier Members Credit Union  
By Gerry Lavin

Rock Creek Living and Premier Members Credit Union teamed up to support Realities for Children Boulder County on Tuesday, March 21st, by creating the first ever Pigs for Kids Sip and Paint Fundraising Event at Mudrock's Tap and Tavern.

Food and drinks were served and adults and children alike brought out their creativity to decorate piggy banks. The banks will be strategically displayed at participating local businesses to collect donations which will help fund college scholarships and other needs for youth in Boulder County transitioning out of foster care. Over \$600 was raised to support Realities for Children thanks to the generosity of all the participants.

"This was a unique event," said Sydney Bergen, Business Development Director for Realities for Children. Sydney said this was the first time a fundraising event was created around the decorating of the banks. "It took our Pigs for Kids (campaign) to the next level. We could do events like this for youth organizations, honor societies, Girl Scout troops and churches. It really was so much fun."

Realities for Children Boulder County is a non-profit agency providing support to at-risk, abused and neglected youth in Boulder County. Executive Director Eric Schulz pointed out that because of the unique way his organization collaborates with the business community, 100% of all the donations from this event and other fundraising events go

directly to the kids. "We partner with local businesses offering them marketing and promotional packages in exchange for membership. We also partner with other charities. We're all about collaboration and community."

Andrea Balazs, Community and Public Relations Director for Premier Members Credit Union, said PMCU is a proud member of Realities for Children. Andrea, who founded PMCU's Charitable Giving Program, said their employees overwhelmingly voted on partnering with Realities for Children over a year ago because they really believe in what they do. "We have strong connections with schools and youth in the area and we want to do our part." Andrea said this event exceeded her expectations. "We're so happy so many people came out to participate. It was awesome seeing people come with their kids and seeing their creative spirits come out."

Over 60 friends and neighbors participated. Anna Ruple brought her daughters Ellie (12) and Macie (6) along. "This turned out to be a great event for us," Anna said. "Everyone's occupied and engaged and having fun." Her daughter Ellie agreed.

"I liked that we could decorate and we met new people because people sat in the space right next to us."

"It was fun," Macie said.

Business Development Consultant for PMCU Steve Carr said it was a very successful event. "It was a great team effort. Rock Creek Living helped get the word out. Mudrock's did a great job in helping. It was a meaningful event to help out a good thing."

For more information about Realities for Children Boulder County visit: [rfcbc.org](http://rfcbc.org)

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