El Pomar Foundation Awards for Excellence Honor Nonprofit, Community Leaders

Colorado Springs, Colo. — Monday, November 25, 2019 — Local nonprofit The Place (a former affiliate of Urban Peak) and community leader Joe Woodford were honored at El Pomar Foundation’s Awards for Excellence presentation Pikes Peak Reception at Penrose House on Thursday, November 21.

The Place helps support youth experiencing homelessness through street outreach, a local shelter and a housing program. Through those services, The Place is able to provide its clients with family and life skills training, health and medical care, employment coaching, case management and education opportunities. Formerly known as Urban Peak Colorado Springs, The Place has been supporting the Pikes Peak Region’s vulnerable youth since 2000. Director Shawna Kemppainen says the organization’s goal is to “create a community where, if a young person falls into homelessness, they can find the resources they need to exit homelessness within 24 hours.”

The Place received a $25,000 grant for its commitment to bettering the lives of Coloradans. Watch the Awards for Excellence video about The Place:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e68IoZTv_gY&list=PLbsagK4L3aNAtSz_cUQg4HvWFndH7rSgb&index=2

Joe Woodford was presented the Russell T. Tutt Leadership Award in recognition of his distinguished service to the nonprofit sector and the state of Colorado. Mr. Woodford is a generous philanthropist, mentor and entrepreneur in the Pikes Peak Region and is currently a trustee for the Woodford Foundation for Limited Government.

Watch the Awards for Excellence video about Joe Woodford:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZe6RtN1Uiw&list=PLbsagK4L3aNAtSz_cUQg4HvWFndH7rSgb&index=2&t=0s

In its 30th year, Awards for Excellence annually recognizes the state’s highest performing nonprofit organizations. Since 1989, the program has awarded over $6.4 million in grants to more than 530 nonprofit organizations throughout Colorado. Organizations are selected by a committee of community leaders, council members from El Pomar’s Regional Partnerships program and El Pomar Fellowship Alumni. Watch the video celebrating the Awards for Excellence program’s 30-year history:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dI-Y3mKChuw

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately $22 million annually through grants and Community Stewardship programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and
humanities, and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937. To learn more about El Pomar Foundation please go to [www.elpomar.org](http://www.elpomar.org).

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