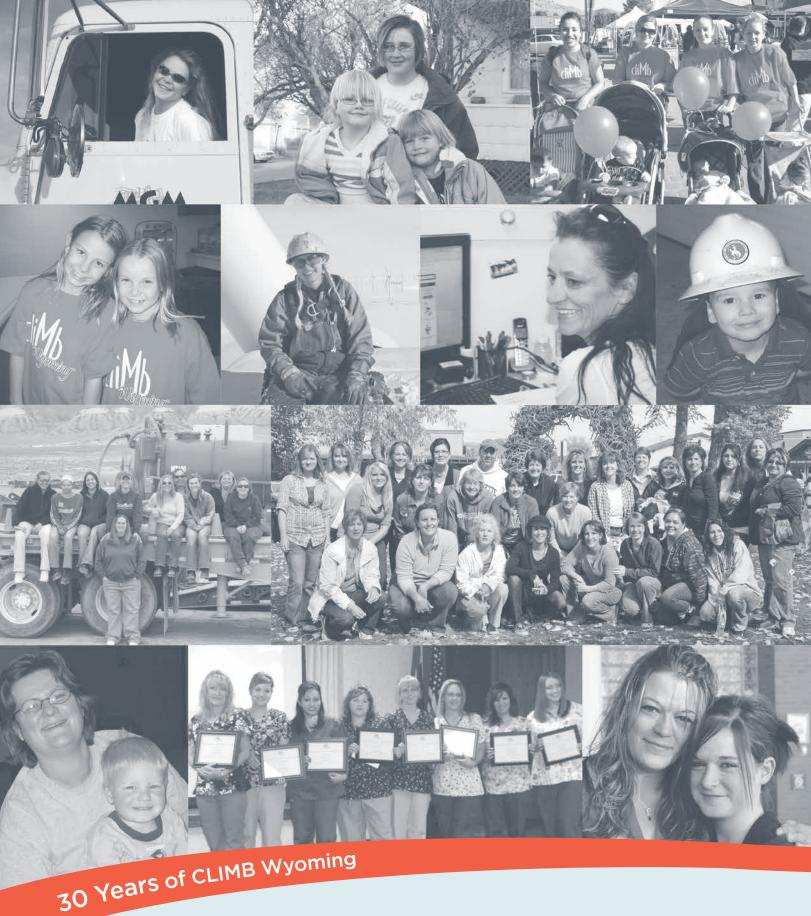


GIVING SINGLE MOTHERS Hope and a Future

2015 PROGRESS REPORT



OUR MISSION

CLIMB Wyoming is a non-profit organization that trains and places low-income single mothers in careers that successfully support their families.



A WORD FROM **OUR FOUNDER**

Hello Friends of CLIMB,

What an incredible year for CLIMB Wyoming! Enclosed in this progress report are the data and stories that we celebrate with you as your passion for and investment in our work continues to make transformative and lasting change for single-mother families in our great state.

On the cusp of our 30th year, we see how our approach intersects with new research and theories that provide more context to working with populations in poverty. We know that the structure and safety we create in our therapeutic model allows women who have been overwhelmed by the stresses of poverty to quickly work toward the goal of a job.

We are recognized by the Aspen Institute as a "Promising Program" using a two-generation (2Gen) approach. Core to the 2Gen approach is the existence of Social Capital: the family and friends that help influence success through trusted information, support and encouragement. CLIMB has created a program that serves groups of women for this very purpose-to help them build the social networks that will support them long after they complete the CLIMB program. Many of our graduates talk about the incredible long-term impact of the close friendships and networks they developed at CLIMB and tell us that these relationships are making all the difference in their family stability.

The coming year will be one of discovery for us. We will complete an analysis of over 10 years of mental health data and explore how to share more details about what we know so that other programs, agencies and families will benefit. And as we turn toward a future of sharing our expertise to make a greater impact, we remain fundamentally committed to offering a successful program to those in Wyoming who are most in need. We are honored every day to work alongside women who are brave enough to make hard decisions, have hard conversations and do hard work. We witness the incredible transformation as these women understand how to access the resources within them, and how a consistent job is a way back into a life with purpose and meaning.

Your investment in CLIMB makes this possible. We are so very grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Ray Fleming Dinneen, Psy. D.



THE NEED, OUR APPROACH, AND IMPACT

The uniquely comprehensive CLIMB program model was developed in 1986 to help move single mothers out of poverty. To date, the program has helped more than 1,900 families reach self-sufficiency, the effects of which will be felt for generations to come. To meet Wyoming's workforce needs, CLIMB trains women to enter a variety of occupations: construction and energy, health care, truck driving, office careers, and more.

The basis of the CLIMB model is a job training and placement program, but there is more to permanent life change than getting a job. Other skills are needed, skills that ensure successful relationships on the job and in the home. Essential elements of the CLIMB model include life skills, parenting skills and mental health services to address personal barriers that have impeded success in the past.



of employed single mothers

in the U.S. work in low-wage jobs with no benefits.

39%

of single mothers with children under age 18 lived in poverty in Wyoming in 2013.

of these mothers with children under age 5 lived in poverty.

children in Wyoming live in a family without a full-time, year-round employed parent.



GRADUATION RATE



89%

of single mothers who enter a CLIMB Wyoming program successfully graduate.



JOB PLACEMENT Salary, job opportunities and follow-up are coordinated with

participants and employers.



CLIMB GRADUATES Graduates stay connected and refer other single mothers to the program.



of U.S. children born to parents at the bottom of the income ladder remain at the bottom as adults.

For statistical source information, please visit www.climbwyoming.org.



(asper)

AT A GLANCE

Established 2004

Average participants/year 30

Number of moms served 384

Number of children served 696

Average monthly wage pre-program \$1,080

Average monthly wage post-program \$2,528

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Casper:

with children 33% with children 43%

US Census Bureau 2013



SUCCESS STORY Elisha

Number of Children:	1
Wage Before CLIMB:	Unemployed
Current Occupation:	Bus Driver Natrona County School District
Wage After CLIMB:	\$32,073

Elisha completed a CLIMB Truck Driving (CDL)/ Warehouse Tech training in 2015.

"I never would have thought that there are people in this world who care as much as the staff at CLIMB. They set me up for success from the minute I walked in the door, on fire and ready for change in my life. And I know the other participants in my program will be my friends for life.

Before CLIMB, I lost my son for 15 months and was struggling to make a happy home. I finally packed it all up and came to Casper not knowing anyone. Now I keep saying, 'pinch me, wake me up.' I love my job, stopped qualifying for food stamps, and am learning to live on my new income. I'll start college again this year to get my associate's degree in substance abuse counseling. This is the first time in my whole life I haven't wanted to run away." — Elisha



SUCCESS STORY *Christina*

Number of Children: 2 Wage Before CLIMB: **Current Occupation:** Wage After CLIMB:

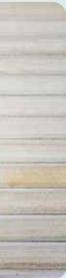
\$15,706 - Housekeeper **Outpatient Therapy Coordinator** Life Care Center \$28,080

Christina completed a CLIMB Health Care Information Technology training in 2012.

"When I found CLIMB, I was working in housekeeping and ending a relationship. I was distraught and didn't know how I could make it on my own. I was upset with my situation and thought it couldn't hurt to try something new.

At the Life Care Center, I've moved up and been promoted. I love being able to do stuff for my kids. My daughter went to science and art camps this year. She plays the violin. I'm able to provide all that and pave the way because I have a good job and can help her achieve her goals.

CLIMB gives you tools to make you feel like an independent single person. The staff set me up with the Wyoming Family Home Ownership Program, and I have been working with them for over a year and am getting ready to buy a house. CLIMB is really a lifetime service—the impact on my life just **keeps on going.**" – Christina







AT A GLANCE

Established 1986

Average participants/year 50

Number of moms served 779*

Number of children served 929**

Average monthly wage pre-program \$983

Average monthly wage post-program \$2,080

*since 1986 **since 2004

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Chevenne:

with children 36%

with children 58%

US Census Bureau 2013

THE CLIMB EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP

"CLIMB graduates are determined to succeed. They are dedicated and try incredibly hard in their jobs and are open to the feedback that will continue to help them succeed. I would reach out to CLIMB again the next time we have a job opening."

For employers, CLIMB Wyoming keeps going where other job training programs leave off, providing ongoing support and resources long after job placement.

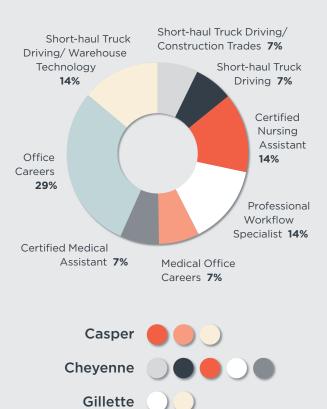
CLIMB employers witness firsthand how a new career changes the lives of single mothers and their children—just ask Deb English, human resources manager for the Mountain View Clinic in Casper. Deb has hired two CLIMB graduates for open positions in the busy physicians clinic. Each time, these women stood out among the other candidates.

"The CLIMB graduates immediately sent me a thank you card for taking the time to interview them," says Deb. "One called in every week to see where we were in the hiring process and reiterate her excitement about the position, and why she was a good fit."

Deb also appreciated CLIMB's hands-on approach after the job placement process. She found that CLIMB's support continued as she met with our staff to talk about how the graduates were doing and problem solve together.

No matter who you are, a transition into a new job can be overwhelming, carrying the expectation that you forge new relationships, assimilate into the workplace culture, and prove your ability in your new role. That's why CLIMB stays engaged with both employers and graduates during this critical transition. The result: a supportive, rewarding partnership that creates long-term success for single-mother families. —Deb English Mountain View Clinic, Casper

2015 CLIMB PROGRAM TRAININGS



Thanks to the following employers who partnered with CLIMB in FY15:

Casper

Admiral Beverage Corporation All About Family Big K Services Brake Supply Co. Casper Orthopedics Cedars Health Clinic Community Health Center of Central Wyoming Garden Square of Casper Greiner Halliburton Hunting Energy Services Hunting Titan IBC Construction ITC Electrical Technologies

Cheyenne -

4 Quarters Excavation A New Concept Optical Airgas Align Arrow Stage Lines Aspen Wind Assisted Living BioLife Plasma Services Cheyenne Eye Clinic Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Cheyenne Regional Medical Group Cheyenne Urological Croell Ready Mix Delta Dental of Wyoming Dirty Duds Employee On-Boarding Specialties Express Employment Professionals Farmer's Insurance Faith Financial LLC HealthWorks Knife River

Gillette -

Admiral Beverage Corporation Crook County School District DRM, Inc. Fusion Energy Services Igo Oil & Gas Services K&M Energy Kissack Water and Oil Service Knect Home Center

Laramie

Aspen Valley Heating and Air Developmental Preschool and Day Care Center HIVIZ Shooting Systems Mountain West Farm Bureau Pence and MacMillan, LLC Dr. Shevick, DDS University of Wyoming, College of Agriculture University of Wyoming, Alumni Association University of Wyoming, Bookstore

Sweetwater Area -

Anadarko Killer 8 Trucking Red Desert InstaCare Starbucks

Teton Area

Bank of Jackson Hole Blue Spruce Cleaners Core Pilates Green Turf Lawnscapes Jackson Hole Cycle and Saw Jenkins Lumber Painted Buffalo Inn Rendezvous Pointe Summit Insurance Services



Laramie

Teton

Sweetwater

Knife River		
Kustom Koncepts		
Life Care Center		
Mountain Plaza Assisted Living		
Mountain View Clinic		
NCSD #1		
Poplar Living Center		

Primrose Retirement Community Shepherd of the Valley Teton Buildings Woodward Machine Corporation Wyoming Health Fairs Wyoming Medical Center Wyoming Neurologic Association

Lowe's Distribution Center Magic City Enterprises ECO Recycling Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 192 RAM Trucking, Inc. Sierra Hills Assisted Living Sierra Trading Post Simon Contractors STS Construction Tom Segrave State Farm Insurance Agency Traders Uplift Walmart Distribution Center Warren Federal Credit Union WINhealth Wyoming Business Council Wyoming Institute of Population Health Zachry Group

Komatsu Equipment Magna Energy Service Metz Beverage MGM Enterprises Pete Lien & Sons Tisdale Creek Ranch, Inc.

University of Wyoming, Custodial Services University of Wyoming, Department of Human Resources University of Wyoming Parking and Transit

Laboratories, Inc. Wyoming Children's Law Center Wyoming State Geological Survey

University of Wyoming

Wyoming Analytical

Residence Life and Dining

Talco Trucking Teton Distributors Western Wyoming Beverages Wyoming Analytical Laboratories, Inc.

Teton County Parks and Recreation US Bank Wild Flour Bakery Wyoming Landscapes Yellow Iron Excavating





Gillette

AT A GLANCE

Established 2004

Average participants/year 20

Number of moms served 226

Number of children served 485

Average monthly wage pre-program \$1,178

Average monthly wage post-program \$3,220

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Gillette:

with children 46% with children 63%

US Census Bureau 2013



Zachariah (left) works with his mom Lori (right) at Pete Lien & Sons.

SUCCESS STORY Lori

Number of Children:	4
Wage Before CLIMB:	\$17,721 - Retail
Current Occupation:	Concrete Driver Pete Lien & Sons
Wage After CLIMB:	\$46,800

Zachariah's mom Lori completed a CLIMB Short-Haul Truck Driving (CDL) training in 2014.

"When my mom moved to Wyoming, she had \$20 to her name. We were four months behind on rent, two months behind on our truck payment, and had sold almost everything we had. My younger siblings and I told her to check out CLIMB and go for it. We all just about fell over with excitement when we found out she'd been accepted. We were really proud of her.

CLIMB wasn't just a truck driving school. It helped her deal with things she'd encountered in life that are more important than how to drive. Her job is very physical, but CLIMB equipped her emotionally, too. The biggest change in my mom is that CLIMB really improved her self-esteem.

Now we work together at Pete Lien & Sons. My mom is making so much progress financially. I attribute a lot of what we have now to CLIMB. And my mom—she's one of the strongest people I know." – Zachariah



SUCCESS STORY *Trudy*

Number of Children:	2
Wage Before CLIMB:	\$1,300 - Pa
Current Occupation:	Warehouse HIVIZ Shoot
Vage After CLIMB:	\$26,000

Trudy completed a CLIMB QuickBooks[™]/ Office Careers training in 2014.

"I am 52 and was recently divorced when I started CLIMB. My goal was simple: I just needed a way to take care of my family. But I ended up gaining about 10 years of knowledge while in the CLIMB program. Anybody can get a job, but with CLIMB I got a career where I'm making plans for the future. Now I wake up on Monday morning and can't wait to go to work!

I'm already in a supervisory position and received a raise within one month of employment. It's a wonderful feeling to be off welfare—it feels good to meet my kids' needs. **Our family is so good now—there's peace where there was none before. My kids aren't nervous anymore. Dinner is there, home is there.** I tell people interested in CLIMB that you have to be ready to give it 100 percent. In return, it will change your life." — Trudy

art-time Childcare Technician ting Systems





AT A GLANCE

Established 2004

Average participants/year 20

Number of moms served 219

Number of children served 381

Average monthly wage pre-program \$948

Average monthly wage post-program \$1,772

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Laramie:

with children 52%

with children 5

US Census Bureau 2013



Stephanie

35

YFARS OLD

.

3

CHILDREN

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Stephanie completed Casper's Certified Medical Assistant training in 2014.

"At CLIMB I learned that I am capable of doing a lot more that I used to. I trust myself and my decisions. At CLIMB I went through an emotional process that helped me heal. It was so important to build that foundation so that I could be healthy and my family could be healthy. I love my job! I work in family medicine

and have also trained as a scribe. I learn new things every day. In the future, I plan to go back to school to become a nurse.

My kids are doing a lot better now, too. Because I am less stressed about finances, they are more relaxed and focused on their own interests: music and football and running track. I am confident now and I am looking into buying a home!"



after

CLIMB

\$31,200/year

Health Center

no

yes

full-time, Community

FY15 IMPACT

IN FY15 TOTAL EARNINGS FOR GRADUATES increased from \$842,746 at intake to **\$2,124,335** at program completion.

AT PROGRAM START

49% of participants were unemployed

29% were employed part-time.

AT PROGRAM END

85% of graduates were employed full-time.

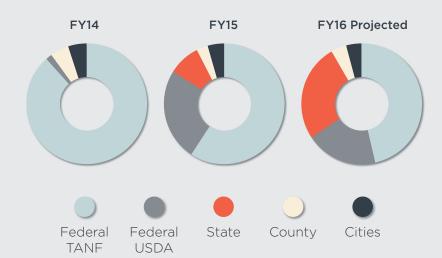
For every 100 families **CLIMB** serves Wyoming realizes an **ANNUAL SAVINGS** of

\$850,000

in Medicaid and TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) savings and eliminated incarceration and foster care costs.

75%

mothers.



\$21,775 **INCREASE IN ANNUAL** WAGES



\$14,775* **CLIMB** investment in Stephanie

*average cost/CLIMB participant is \$20,000



JOB TRAINING 50%



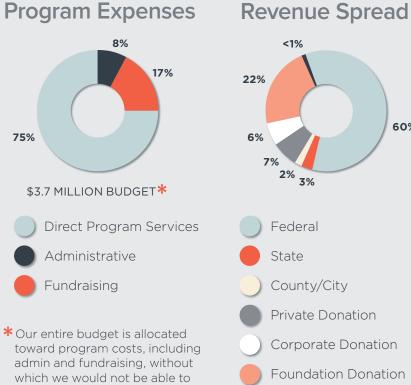
Return on investment

1.47:1 YEAR ONE

LIFETIME**

**assumes retirement at age 65 and no wage increase

FY15 FINANCIALS



deliver direct services to single

60%) Federal) County/City Private Donation Corporate Donation Foundation Donation Endowment

GOVERNMENT FUNDING DIVERSIFICATION

Over the past year, CLIMB has built new partnerships and secured new government funding opportunities to ensure that we have a sustainable and diverse public funding model.



Sweetwater Area

AT A GLANCE

Established 2007

Average participants/year 20

Number of moms served 130

Number of children served 278

Average monthly wage pre-program \$1.073

Average monthly wage post-program \$3,074

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Rock Springs:

with children 41%

with children 58%

US Census Bureau 2013



Sweetwater Program Reopens in Rock Springs

CLIMB Wyoming joined legislative, county and city officials from the Sweetwater community to celebrate reopening our doors in Rock Springs after a yearlong closure.

Financial support from Sweetwater County Commissioners, funding opportunities from the cities of Rock Springs and Green River, and ongoing support from private and corporate donors in the region diversified CLIMB's funding enough to restart the successful program.

Since departing the Sweetwater area in October 2014, CLIMB Wyoming has also secured two new public funding opportunities, including access to new state funding for job placement and training that was passed by the legislature in early 2015. The state funding will provide a match for CLIMB's private and corporate donations in the coming year.

State Senator Bernadine Craft says the community really came together to ensure that CLIMB has the local support it needs to be sustainable over the long term. "We are doing this so we never have the heartbreak of having to pull a program that changes lives from Sweetwater County."

The first of two annual CLIMB programs in Sweetwater County launch in 2016.

"The more people who have the opportunity to improve their station in life, the better off our community as a whole will be." - Carl Demshar, Rock Springs Mayor

Pictured above: Partners in the effort to reopen CLIMB Wyoming to serve the Sweetwater community celebrate CLIMB's return during a press conference on Thursday, July 30, 2015. Front row from left: Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce CEO Dave Hanks, Green River Mayor Pete Rust, Rock Springs Mayor Carl Demshar, Commissioner Don Van Matre and State Senator Bernadine Craft Back row from left: State Senator John Hastert, CLIMB Executive Director Ray Fleming Dinneen, Sweetwater County Commissioner Randy "Doc" Wendling, Rock Springs Councilman Tim Savage, Councilwoman Glennise Wendorf, Commissioner John Kolb, State Representatives JoAnn Dayton and John Freeman



SUCCESS STORY **Tiffany**

Number of Children: 1 Wage Before CLIMB: Unemployed **Current Occupation:**

Office Manager Wyoming Landscape \$32.760

Wage After CLIMB:

Tiffany completed a CLIMB Office Careers training in 2014.

"I always dreaded job interviews. They made me self-conscious, and I always got nervous and didn't know what to expect. I think I avoided them whenever I could. When I started CLIMB and the staff said that we'd be practicing interviews, I got really anxious. I did three 'mock interviews,' and they all felt like the real thing. When CLIMB staff and volunteer interviewers said I'd done great, that really gave me confidence.

When I went in for my real interview, it was easy. There were three people from the company asking me questions, and I wasn't even nervous. I just felt really well prepared. They didn't ask me anything that I wasn't ready to answer. CLIMB definitely challenged me to overcome my fears about the job application and hiring process. But there was a tremendous amount of support, too. It was a powerful combination for me." — Tiffany



Teton Area

AT A GLANCE

Established 2004

Average participants/year 20

Number of moms served 166

Number of children served 309

Average monthly wage pre-program \$1,225

Average monthly wage post-program \$2,245

Single-mother families living below poverty level in Teton County:

with children 32%

US Census Bureau 2013



Fiscal Year (October 2014-September 2015)

This year's CLIMB programs would not have been possible without generous contributions from many individuals and entities.

#1 Properties 71 Construction Carolyn and Rollin Abernethv Accentuate Whitney Agopian Penne and Scott Ainsworth Albany County Albany County Library Angela and Casey Alexander Alexis Drake, LLC Alpha Coal West, Inc. AmazonSmile Foundation ANB Bank - Cheyenne Rod and Sue Anderson Suzanne Anderson William Anderson Heidi and Carter Andrews Laurie Andrews Teresa Ankeny Nancy and Mark Anselmi Antler Inn. Clarene and Creed Law Aquilla Family Jessica Arcega Mary P. Armour Ryland and Mark Aronowitz Arp and Hammond Hardware Co. Meredith Asay and Ben Brandes AT&T Connie and Larry Atwell Aullman Living **Revocable Trust** Aztec Construction Co., Inc. Jim and Audrey **Bailey Foundation** Jimmie and **Catherine Bailey** Nancy and Lew Baker Jillian and John Balow Terry Baltz Bank of the West

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"At CLIMB, success isn't just about learning a trade or getting a job. It's about transforming lives for the future and changing the generational cycle of poverty, one family at a time."

RITA MEYER, ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER FOUNDATION

ED + JOB = \$ Scholarship
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Mark Houser Beth and Paul Howard Shay Howlin and Jeff Gruver



"Through CLIMB, children get to see their moms develop skills, take risks that they haven't taken before, and face their own fears and personal challenges in the pursuit of their goals. That's among the best investments you can make in children."

LAURA AND TED LADD, WILSON

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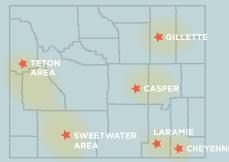
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